

to the contrary, the Executive Council should receive all possible information and be consulted wherever possible. But its right to regard gubernatorial despatches as unprivileged was stoutly and continuously resisted. The same applied to the Governor's right to show to his executive any communications which he might receive from private individuals. The Governor's correspondence, public as well as private, was always to be regarded as his own to be used at his own discretion except in so far as the Colonial Office itself might set limits thereto. . . . The matter was also raised in Prince Edward Island. The Colonial Office was careful to mark out not only the path of right but also of expediency. Confidentially it advised the Governor as follows:

1. Public Despatches may, as a general rule, be communicated to the Executive Council and (if the Executive Council think proper) to the Assembly.
2. Confidential Despatches are not to be communicated unless by the Secretary of State's permission, and that permission may be given, according to the circumstances, either for communication to the Executive Council only, or to the Assembly as well.
3. But the Governor has in the last resort a discretion, even as to communicating public despatches. This reservation is necessary because circumstances, unknown to the Secretary of State, may render in the Governor's judgment such communications undesirable.

In communication with Head at an earlier period, the Colonial Secretary had been explicit in denying the right of the Executive Council to demand to see either the despatches "out" or the despatches "home":-