

They have also had before them an extract from the Minutes of a meeting of the Treasury Board, held on the 14th January instant, in which the Board state their opinion that the Dominion may engage either to retain the following officers in their present positions or equivalent ones, or to grant them pensions equal to two-thirds of their present emoluments, viz.—

The Commissioner of Lands and Works,  
The Collector of Customs,  
The Auditor General, and  
The six Stipendiary Magistrates.

That as to the Colonial Secretary and the Attorney-General, the Board are of opinion that if neither the Imperial Government nor that of the Dominion can provide for them suitable employment otherwise, a similar pension may be guaranteed to them.

That the Board also think that in consideration of the loss and inconvenience from the office of Governor ceasing upon the union with Canada, half a year's salary be paid Governor Musgrave.

The Committee concur in the views expressed by the Treasury Board, and advise that they be communicated by Your Excellency to the Governor of British Columbia.

Certified.

WM. H. LEE,  
Clerk Privy Council.

copy—No. 30.)

GOVERNMENT HOUSE, BRITISH COLUMBIA,  
22nd November, 1870.

MY LORD,—In your letter to me of the 7th July, transmitting the terms of agreement between the Ministers of the Dominion and the delegates from British Columbia, the proposed union of this colony with Canada, Your Lordship stated that you had been requested by your responsible advisers to add the assurance that such provision shall be made for the retiring allowances of public officers in British Columbia as I may approve. And in the terms themselves, the sixth article undertakes that suitable pensions shall be provided for those officers whose position and emoluments derived therefrom could be affected by political changes on the admission of British Columbia into the Dominion.

2. Ample assurance is thus given for the provision of retiring allowances; but I have learnt from the delegates, since their return, that your Government is most anxious to avoid the necessity for them, if it be possible. They think, I am informed, that to many of the officers interested in this arrangement they may be able to afford employment satisfactory to them; and I should be glad if it should be found practicable in this way to aid your Government in finding a satisfactory solution for this question. For this purpose I now seek to know their views more in detail.

3. The officers who will be affected injuriously by the changes consequent upon Confederation are:

The Colonial Secretary, Mr. Hankin.  
The Attorney General, Mr. Phillips.  
The Commissioner of Lands and Works, Mr. Trutch.  
The Collector of Customs, Mr. Hamby.  
The Auditor General, Mr. Ker.  
And the Stipendiary Magistrates—  
Mr. Ball,  
Mr. O'Reilly,  
Mr. Sanders,  
Mr. Bushby,  
Mr. Pemberton,  
Mr. Spaulding.