

C A N A D A.

Correspondence relative to the Affairs of CANADA.

Ordered, by The House of Commons, to be Printed, 15 August 1839.

(No. 124.)

COPY of a DESPATCH from Lieutenant Governor Sir *George Arthur*, K. C. H.
to the Marquess of *Normanby*.

My Lord,

Government House, Toronto,
24 May 1839.

UPPER
CANADA.

I HAVE the honour to transmit to your Lordship the accompanying address to Her Majesty, from several gentlemen, inhabitants of this province, who have acted in the capacity of commissioners for the construction of the St. Lawrence Canal, complaining of the aspersions cast upon them by certain paragraphs in that part of the Earl of Durham's Report on the Affairs of British North America, which relates to Upper Canada; and maintaining that their conduct in the discharge of their public duty, as such commissioners, has furnished no just grounds for the High Commissioner's conclusions, which they consider to be of a nature calculated to injure them undeservedly in the public estimation.

Sir G. Arthur to
the Marquess of
Normanby,
24 May 1839.

Circumstances which every person must regret, no matter where the fault lay, obliged the Earl of Durham to conclude abruptly his personal investigation of matters connected with the state of Upper Canada, and, with all his Lordship's desire to do what was right and just, he has, unavoidably perhaps, fallen into some inaccuracies, founded on erroneous information.

This observation applies, I sincerely believe, to the remarks contained in the Earl of Durham's Report which have given rise to the present representation; and I am persuaded that his Lordship would have readily relieved the commissioners from the imputation which they feel so deeply, had it been possible for them to have appealed to him.

The commissioners were all gentlemen of high integrity of character, who, I am convinced, would neither have been themselves parties to any job, in the offensive acceptance of that term, nor have consciously allowed any abuse on the part of the contractors.

I have, &c.
(signed) *Geo. Arthur*.

To the Queen's Most Excellent Majesty.

May it please Your Majesty,

WE, Your Majesty's faithful and loyal subjects, inhabitants of the Province of Upper Canada, humbly request permission to bring under Your Majesty's consideration an injurious passage in the Report recently made by Your Majesty's "High Commissioner for the Adjustment of certain important Questions depending in the Provinces of Lower and Upper Canada, respecting the form and future Government of the said Provinces."

In the 68th page of that Report, as printed and laid before Parliament, his Lordship the High Commissioner, in noticing the measures taken by the Legislature of the Upper Province for overcoming the natural impediments of the navigation of the River St. Lawrence, takes occasion to make the following remarks:

"It then commenced the great ship canal, called the Cornwall Canal, with a view of enabling ships of considerable draught to avoid the Long Saut Rapids; and this work was at an immense outlay brought very far towards a completion. It is said that there was