

anxious endeavour to call to your councils and to employ in the public service those persons, who by their position and character, have obtained the general confidence and esteem of the inhabitants of the Province." Military affairs, emigration and the land question require serious attention. Municipal institutions demand immediate and special consideration. In Upper Canada, finances and the Clergy Reserves are pressing questions. Her Majesty is determined to maintain the connexion between the United Kingdom and the American Colonies.

- CXLIII. Lord John Russell to Poulett Thomson, October 14, 1839. 522

Must refuse any explanation of "Responsible Government" which would imply a surrender to the petitions and addresses. The Imperial Parliament has already expressed its opinion on the matter (No. CXXIV.). There can be no proposals entertained on the subject. Cabinet government impossible in a colony. Colonial Councils cannot advise the Crown of England. Impossible to reconcile the responsibility of the Governor to the Crown with a responsibility on his part to his Council. Impossible also to define the power of the Governor and the privileges of the Assembly. The only rule is "a wise moderation" by each.

- CXLIV. Lord John Russell to Poulett Thomson, October 16, 1839. 524

The tenure of subordinate colonial offices during the pleasure of the Crown has generally come to mean a tenure during good behaviour. This must cease. Any sufficient motive of public policy or a change in the person of the Governor will in future be sufficient reason for changes in officials. The judges are excepted. Pensions and indemnities may be necessary, but the rule must be enforced as often as the public good demands it.

- CXLV. Poulett Thomson to Lord John Russell with the Address and Resolutions from the Lower Canadian Special Council in favour of Union, November 18, 1839. 525

Special Council of Lower Canada adopts plan for union. There is naturally much diversity of opinion owing to the Rebellions, but almost everyone sees the necessity for change.

- CXLVI. Poulett Thomson to a Friend, November 20 and December 8, 1839. 528

Describes his successes, in favour of the union, in Lower Canada. Has fears for a similar result in Upper Canada—the country of factions, where the "Constitutional party is as bad or worse than the other, in spite of all their professions of loyalty." The finances, the House of Assembly—in fact, everything in Upper Canada—in a chaotic state.

- CXLVII. Poulett Thomson to the Legislature of Upper Canada, December 7, 1839. 529

Outlines the Government's plans for union. Delay in proposal not due to wavering, but to a desire to consult the Upper Canadian Legislature in order that the union may be as just as possible. Thomson asks the