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MEMORANDUM

OF HIS EXCELLENCY THE GOVERNOR GENERAL,

REFERRED TO IN THE FOLLOWING PAGES.

"Confidential Memorandum."

"The Governor General is sincerely desirous that in the administration of the affairs of the Province, the interests and feelings of that important section of the Inhabitants which is of French origin should meet with the fullest attention and consideration.

It would be very satisfactory to him therefore to have the means of including in his Executive Council some of those Gentlemen who enjoy in a high degree their esteem and confidence.

He has reason to believe that this object might under existing circumstances be accomplished with great advantage to the public, and on terms that would be fair both to them and the Members of the present Council.

The Governor General has too sincere a respect for the Gentlemen to whom he addresses himself, to ask their assent to any proposal involving a sacrifice of principle. But in inviting them to consider the practicability of such an arrangement as he has suggested, and to favor him with their sentiments thereupon, he desires to express his confident hope that objections founded on personal or party differences (if such exist) will yield to the dictates of Patriotism and Public duty.

Monklands, 23d February, 1847."

[Translated.]

RECAPITULATION

Of what passed between Messrs. PAPINEAU and CARON, between the 12th of March and the 6th of April, (1847,) upon the subject of a negociation relative to a Ministerial arrangement, commenced on the 12th of March, at Quebec, between the two Gentlemen above named, and continued at Montreal, by Mr. CARON with Mr. CAYLEY, since the last of these two dates.

The 12th of March, (1847), Mr. Papineau gave to Mr. Caron, at Quebec, communication of a certain Memorandum of His Excellency the Governor General having for its object to ascertain the possibility of forming an arrangement whereby admission into the Executive Council might be secured for some persons of french origin, enjoying the confidence of their countrymen.

Mr. Caron was informed that this document had been already communicated to Mr. Morin, at Montreal, and that that Gentleman had been of opinion that he could not give effect to its views; that there was reason to believe that Mr. Morin, before giving his reply, had not had time to ascertain opinions at Quebec upon the subject; that under this impression and in order to give to that City and to the District of Quebec, the opportunity of declaring its sentiments upon this important question, he, Mr. Papineau, had been authorized to bring on this Memorandum, and to communicate it to whomsoever he should think fit, that it was with this view he had shewn and finally left in the hands of Mr. Caron, until the morrow, the paper in question, in order that he might shew it to his friends; but that

he was not authorized to let it out of his possession, nor to permit a copy to be taken of it, and that it should be returned to Mr. Papineau before his departure for Quebec.

Mr. Caron was informed that this step was taken in order to learn whether under the circumstances it was possible to find the means of realising the intentions of His Excellency if those intentions were approved.

After this explanation it was understood that, by the afternoon of the following day, Mr. Caron should give his reply to Mr. Papineau on this subject.

The Memorandum thus left in the hands of Mr. Caron was by him communicated to as many persons as he was able to confer with, before the hour of his appointment with Mr. Papineau. Upon the arrival of that gentleman he was informed verbally, that in consequence of the little time allowed him and the few persons he had been able to consult, it was impossible to pronounce an opinion upon the possibility of the arrangement that His Excellency had in contemplation; and to avoid all misunderstanding Mr. Caron delivered to Mr. Papineau a note purporting to contain all that Mr. Caron had to reply to the communication which had been made to him. This note in substance acknowledges the good intentions of His Excellency, toward that part of the population which is of french origin; states that he would be much pleased if he could aid in giving effect to these intentions, but adds that he has not the necessary information to enable him to form an opinion upon the possibility of concluding an arrangement which should have that result. With this note the Memorandum of His Excellency was returned to Mr. Papineau who left Quebec on the following day. Some days later, Mr. Caron received a letter from Mr. Papineau, containing the same Memorandum that had been shewn to him at Quebec, and informing him that he, Mr. Papineau, had since received authority from His Excellency to send back the paper to Mr. Caron with leave to keep and make such use of it as he might think advisable with a view to attain the realization of the intentions therein declared.

The receipt of this communication was purely and simply acknowledged by Mr. Caron, in a note which referred to his former note, but adds nothing to it.

Subsequently, Mr. Caron received from Mr. Papineau a new letter which caused his journey to Montreal, the result of which will be found detailed in a second State of Facts which accompanies the present.

[*Translation.*]

RECITAL

Of what passed at Montreal on the 7th & 8th of April, (1847) through the intervention of Mr. CARON, upon the subject of the Ministerial negotiation opened at Quebec on the 12th of March with him by Mr. PAPINEAU, and continued at Montreal between Messrs. CAYLEY and CARON.

Arrived at Montreal on the 6th, Mr. Caron presented himself at the Government Offices, on the 7th, and finding Mr. Papineau absent, in the country, demanded an interview with some one of the Members of the Administration. Mr. Cayley was named to him as the person with whom the negotiation should be continued, and the same day the interview demanded took place between him and Mr. Caron.

Upon this occasion Mr. Caron represented in substance that the letter he had received from Mr. Papineau, bearing date the 1st of April instant, was of a nature requiring some explanations before he could possibly reply to it; that it was with the view of obtaining these explanations that he had come to Montreal and had solicited that interview; that the letter in question contained two distinct

offers or propositions; the first of which referring to the Memorandum of His Excellency, and to another letter written by Mr. Papineau, might be summed up as follows:

ERRATA.

“ With the situations of President of the Executive Council, of Attorney General for the Eastern division of the Province, and of the Commissioner of Crown Lands, which are placed at the disposal of yourself and friends, will you be able to find persons of your own origin, or enjoying the confidence of the population of your origin, who will consent to join the administration upon the conditions and for the ends mentioned in the Memorandum of His Excellency of which you have a copy.”

The second:

“ Will you yourself accept one of these situations, that of President of the Executive Council.”

That in order to be able to answer these inquiries, Mr. Caron desired to have categorical answers to the following questions which he had reduced to writing to prevent misconception.

1st Of the three situations offered, one only is vacant, that of President of the Council, the two others being still occupied; it is required to know whether those who hold these offices, and who will have to quit them, will be provided for otherwise under the Government, or not, and if they will be so provided for, in what manner will it be done?

2nd The person who now occupies the Lower Canada situation which is not offered to us, is he to continue to occupy that situation, or will he be (a) removed? (a) For “removed” read “changed”

3rd (b) To assist in making the arrangement in question, will the liberty and duty of proposing the names of those who should be parties to it, be assigned to any one, and to whom? (b) For “To assist in making” read “For the effecting of”

4th In submitting these names, is there any one, or more than one, whom it would be useless to propose, and if so, who are the persons?

5th Among those who enter office in accordance with the proposed arrangement, is it absolutely necessary that I should count as one?

Mr. Caron observed that these questions were put with the view of enabling him to reply to the first proposition (that relative to the arrangement); that to be in a condition to reply to the second proposition (that relating to himself personally), he desired an answer to the two following questions:

1st With the situation destined for me (the Presidency of the Council), shall I retain that which I now occupy (that of Speaker of the Legislative Council)?

2nd Is it to be understood that I take the situation of President of the Council in any case, whether the arrangement in contemplation take place or should fail?

Mr. Cayley having observed, that although he was nearly prepared to reply to these different questions, yet as they had been reduced to writing, he desired to obtain a copy, in order that he might make his replies in writing, and

The copy demanded having been furnished to him, Mr. Cayley, some time afterwards sent to Mr. Caron the following replies:

1st In Mr. Papineau's letter to Mr. Caron of the 1st April, that Gentleman places his office of Commissioner of Crown Lands unconditionally at the disposal of Mr. Caron and his friends taking office.

The office of Attorney General East is to be vacated by raising Mr. Smith to the Bench.

2nd Upon Mr. Caron, and his friends, taking the offices proposed, the seventh office is to be placed at the disposal of His Excellency, to be filled with the advice of the other six Councillors.

3rd By Mr. Caron, to whom Mr. Papineau's letter is addressed.

4th The offer which has been made through Mr. Papineau to Mr. Caron and his friends, is based upon the invitation made to the French Canadians by the Governor General, which contained no exception.

5th *Yes*.—The present arrangement contemplates that the Speaker of the Legislative Council should be a Member of the Government.

6th It is contemplated that the Executive office to be taken by Mr. Caron, should be held in conjunction with the Speakership.

7th A reply to this question is waived pending the present negotiations.

These replies having been sent to Mr. Caron by Mr. Cayley, it was arranged that there should be another interview between them on the following morning.

This second interview took place accordingly. Mr. Caron ascertained that Mr. Cayley had nothing to add to or alter in the replies given by him on the previous day.

Mr. Caron drew up after this interview the narrative of what had passed between Mr. Cayley and him ; this narrative was approved by Mr. Cayley, and is that which precedes.

At a final interview which took place on the morning of the 9th April, Mr. Cayley having pressed for an early decision upon considerations of a Public Character, it was observed by Mr. Caron that some difficulties might be found to exist from the fact that according to the terms of the proposition, no nomination to the seventh seat would be made until the Gentlemen representing the French Canadian interests had taken office, thus committing them to a selection in which possibly they might not concur.

In reply to which Mr. Cayley remarked that no difficulty of this kind had been raised by his Colleagues or himself in the invitation made to Mr. Caron to name to certain offices, but that he begged Mr. Caron to observe that although the invitation was final on the part of the Members of the Government, Mr. Caron and his friends were not precluded from making a counter proposition which in their opinion would attain the object pointed out in His Excellency's Memorandum.

[*Translation.*]

Montreal, 9th April, 1847.

SIR,

I thought of leaving to-night, but have been unable to do so ; the delay has furnished me with time and the opportunity of consulting with persons to a greater extent than I had before done, engaged as I have been since my arrival in this City.

Striving, as I this morning told you I was, to arrive at a conclusion the soonest possible, I have to tell you that in a very short time I should be able to give you an answer upon the business in which we have been engaged these few days past, if you could tell me by a *Yes* or a *No* whether the elevation of Mr. Smith

to the Bench is a condition without which the arrangement for which we have labored becomes irrevocably impossible.

ERRATA.

I leave to-morrow morning at four o'clock; I cannot postpone my departure, or would willingly do so.

Have the goodness to let me have an answer to this note by to-morrow's post.

Meanwhile, I subscribe myself with much esteem and consideration,

Sir,

Your very humble and very obedient servant,
(Signed,) ED. CARON.

The Honble. Mr. Cayley.

Montreal, 10th April, 1847.

SIR,

I have the honor to acknowledge your note of the 9th April, but which unfortunately I did not receive until after four o'clock this afternoon.

In reply to your question whether the elevation of Mr. Smith to the Bench is an essential condition to the proposed arrangement, I have the honor to state that it is not proposed to vacate the office of Attorney General East in any other mode than by raising that Gentleman to the Bench.

I have the honor to remain,

Sir,

Your most humble and obedient servant,
(Signed,) W. CAYLEY.

Hon. E. R. Caron.

[*Translation.*]

Quebec, 13th April, 1847.

SIR,

I have the honor to acknowledge the receipt of your note dated the 10th replying to mine of the 9th instant. In so doing I profit by the occasion to assure you that I proceed with the utmost celerity to bring to a conclusion the affair with which we have latterly occupied ourselves, and to which the note in question makes allusion, and also to reiterate to you the assurance of the high consideration with which I have the honor to be

Sir,

Your very humble and very obedient servant,
(Signed,) ED. CARON.

The Honble. Wm. Cayley.

Communication transmitted by the Honble. E. R. Caron to Mr. Cayley.

After his return from Montreal, Mr Caron wrote to a third party a letter ^(a) to be communicated to Mr. Cayley, and which in substance goes to say: that at Montreal and at Quebec Mr. Caron found his friends well disposed to second him in the arrangement he was commissioned to bring about; so much so that he would have been ready to make to Mr. Cayley the counter proposition that Mr. Caron had been invited to make in their last interview; but that according ^(b) to his view of the form in which that proposition was to be presented, it was necessary that he should be ready to furnish the names of three persons who, with him, should compose the Administration for Lower Canada; that Mr Caron was sure of one of these three persons; that, as to the second, who was absolutely necessary to him, he could not enter into communication with him, unless he should be in a condition to tell him, in proposing that he should take part in the Administration, what were the basis and the conditions of his arrangement.

(a) For "to" read "which was to"

(b) For "to his view of the form in which that proposition, &c." read "to the form under which he had understood that the proposition, &c."

ERRATA.

That of two difficulties that hitherto Mr. Caron had encountered, he could say that one, that of Mr. Smith, had disappeared; that he was sure the arrangement would not fail upon that ground; that as to the other difficulty, that relative to Mr. Daly, he could say nothing positive; that all he could say was that he hoped to remove it; that probably the keeping Mr. Daly would not be insisted upon; that Mr. Caron was persuaded that a proposition made in this manner would not be acceded to by him to whom it would be offered; that he ought to be ready to say to him, here is the arrangement, here are the basis and the conditions upon which it is founded: will you take part in it?

(a) For "before he could" read "in order to address, &c." That on this account Mr. Caron found himself in this perplexity: (a) before he could address himself to the person of whom he had need, (b) he must know how he stood with regard to Mr. Daly, in order to be able to state it; whilst to obtain an answer from Mr. Cayley upon this point, it was necessary that Mr. Caron should be able to say whether the person whom he desired to address (c) would take part in the arrangement or not.

(b) For "he must know" read "he wanted to know how, &c."

(c) For "would take part in the arrangement or not" read "would form part of the arrangement or not."

That the same difficulty existed as to the third person that Mr. Caron had to see, who would not accept without knowing the names of all included in the arrangement; that for these reasons Mr. Caron desired, by return of post, to be assured that in yielding the point respecting Mr. Smith, Mr. Caron would be certain to gain that of Mr. Daly; with the understanding that the thing should be done in the best possible manner; that upon this article Mr. Caron must be firm; that (d) when he should know Mr. Cayley's views he would communicate with two Gentlemen to whom he wished to address himself, and if they accepted his offers, Mr. Caron would convey to Mr. Cayley a final reply, in which Mr. Caron would communicate to the latter the names of his French Canadian Members of the Administration, in adding that those who were to compose it, had accepted or consented to act under (e) the expectation that it would be possible for them to obtain the services of Mr. * * * * or the services of any other person of British extraction (f) upon whom they should agree.

(d) For "when he should know Mr. Cayley's views he would communicate with two Gentlemen, &c." read "when he should know the thing from Mr. Cayley he would settle with the two Gentlemen, &c."

(e) For "the expectation" read "the understanding"

(f) For "upon whom they should agree" read "upon whom it could be agreed"

(g) For "concessions" read "concession"

Mr. Caron added that he was ready to lend himself to whatever could be suggested to avoid hurting the delicacy of all the parties, but that he must have given to him the latitude necessary to enable him to act, and he terminated by saying that with the (g) concessions that he demanded, he saw nothing to prevent the arrangement being brought to a conclusion.

[Translation.]

Mr. Cayley has the honor to acknowledge the receipt of a Memorandum written by Mr. Caron, giving the substance of a letter dated 14th April addressed by Mr. Caron to a third party, for the purpose of being communicated to Mr. Cayley.

Mr. Cayley begs in the first place to point out an error into which Mr. Caron appears to have fallen, in supposing that the invitation to him to make a counter proposition was intended as an invitation to furnish the names of three Gentlemen who with himself should compose the Administration for Lower Canada, and begs to express his doubts whether the passage in question will bear any such construction.

While assuring Mr. Caron of the gratification which the Members of the Government have derived from the announcement made by him that he has found his friends both at Montreal and Quebec strongly disposed to assist him in his efforts to effect the arrangement which he had undertaken, Mr. Cayley cannot avoid expressing his regret and that of his colleagues at finding that a difficulty from another quarter has sprung up, calculated to disappoint hopes so justly conceived, and bring the negotiations to an unsuccessful termination. Mr. Caron states that a Gentleman whose assistance and concurrence are essential to any arrangement to be effected, cannot be communicated with nor his views ascertained

until a point connected with Mr. Daly is conceded by the Administration, in plain terms, until Mr. Daly is declared by his Colleagues ineligible to hold office under the proposed arrangement. Before making a reply to this demand, Mr. Cayley begs to bring to Mr. Caron's recollection two prominent features in the Memorandum placed by the Governor General in the hands of Mr. Morin, and on which the present overture has been based; first, that an union was invited on terms that should be fair to the present Members of the Council as well as to the party to whom the invitation was addressed; and secondly, that personal objections were to be waived. In an earnest desire to satisfy and carry out the terms of this proposition, the Members of the Council, while retaining three seats, offered to place three at the disposal of Mr. Caron and his friends, without making any personal exception, and to leave the nomination to the seventh seat, to the Council of six, to be selected from amongst Gentlemen of British extraction in Lower Canada; thus clearly indicating that Mr. Daly's office had been placed by that Gentleman at the disposal of His Excellency. Mr. Cayley is now informed that these conditions are not sufficiently precise and satisfactory, and cannot be submitted to the Gentleman before adverted to, unless accompanied by a distinct concession regarding Mr. Daly, namely, his proscription from office.

In reply, Mr. Cayley has to observe that the Members of the Council having on their part frankly conceded any privilege which they might be supposed to possess of making personal exceptions, cannot be expected to yield that right to the gentlemen to whom the present overture has been made.

In giving this negative it is unnecessary for Mr. Cayley to make more than a passing allusion to the character of the advance in the negotiation to be secured by the proposed sacrifice of Mr. Daly, namely, that of placing the proposition in a palatable form for acceptance or rejection by the Gentleman whose concurrence in any arrangement has been stated to be indispensable; again it is not to be overlooked that, had the proposition been so far favorably entertained as to permit Mr. Caron to name his colleagues the announcement was to be accompanied by the recommendation of a fourth Gentleman so pointedly referred to, and formally introduced as to render a dissent on the part of the present Administration all but tantamount to a rejection of the coalition.

It is hardly necessary for Mr. Cayley to state that the concessions demanded have never been contemplated by the Members of the present Government, and would be wholly inconsistent with a proper regard to the interests of the British Inhabitants of Lower Canada, and the position of an Administration honored with the confidence of the Head of the Government and supported by the Parliament of the Province.

In thus giving a final negative to the demands advanced by Mr. Caron, Mr. Cayley is aware that the negotiations are brought to an unsuccessful termination. He trusts, however, that what has passed will not be wholly unproductive of beneficial results, that it may tend in a measure to remove doubts as to the character and extent of the overtures made by the Executive Council, and the nature of some of the difficulties which have successfully interfered to prevent their accomplishment. It will at all events set at rest a question which for some time past has agitated the public mind.

Quebec, 6th May, 1847.

[*Translation.*]

Mr. Caron has the honor to acknowledge the receipt of the Memorandum of Mr. Cayley, dated "Montreal, April 1847," which has only reached him by the post this morning.

In reply Mr. Caron takes the liberty to observe, that it is possible he may have been in error as to the form in which he was invited to make the counter

ERRATA.

proposition mentioned in the Memorandum of the 9th April; but he does not himself believe that he was mistaken in the matter, and thinks that certain facts recalled to the memory of Mr. Cayley may cause him to agree with Mr. Caron upon the point.

At all events, Mr. Caron is of opinion that the Memorandum in question is quite open to the interpretation he has put upon it, since upon its face it appears it was written only in consequence of difficulties presented by Mr. Caron to the adoption of the mode suggested by Mr. Cayley for filling the seventh seat, and in order to provide the means of avoiding those difficulties.

It is under this impression that the letter of the 14th April was written, the sole object of which was to obtain a decisive answer respecting Mr. Daly, that is to say, whether he was or not to take an active part under the new arrangement, and not whether he should be proscribed and declared ineligible to hold office, a pretension that Mr. Caron has never put forth, neither he nor his friends to his knowledge. The answer that Mr. Caron sought, he wanted, for the reasons given, to communicate not to one only of the persons of whom he had need, as Mr. Cayley seems to have understood, (a) but to two Gentlemen whom he had to see, and of whom one was of British extraction; the intention of Mr. Caron in soliciting the answer in question, not being to render more palatable to those Gentlemen the propositions he had to make to them, but simply that he might be in a condition to (b) make known the Colleagues with whom they would have to act if they accepted the situations offered to them.

(a) For "but to two" read "but to the two"

(b) For "make known the Colleagues" read "make known to them the, &c."

Mr. Caron begs Mr. Cayley to remark that the only concession insisted upon in the letter of the 14th April was that relative to Mr. Daly.

(c) For "readily believes this" read "consents to believe it"

Mr. Caron is informed that the Members of the Government have never had it in contemplation to make this concession. Mr. Caron (c) readily believes this since Mr. Cayley tells him so, although he had always understood that Mr. Daly would not be an obstacle to the arrangement.

Mr. Caron rejoices at the determination taken by the Members of the Administration to do nothing which should not be conformable to the interests of that part of the population of Lower Canada, which is of British extraction, but at the same time he has to assure Mr. Cayley that if the arrangement which has failed had been carried into effect, the interests of that important and respectable portion of our population would not have been neglected, and that even already measures had been taken to the end that those interests should be ably and suitably represented in the Administration, that might have been formed.

Whilst granting to the Members of the Administration all the credit which they deserve for the frankness with which they have renounced any privilege they might have to make personal exceptions, Mr. Caron regrets to learn that the point upon which he has felt himself compelled to insist with a frankness equal to their own, has been regarded by Mr. Cayley and his Colleagues as a difficulty of such a nature that it imposed upon them the obligation of refusing their assent to an arrangement which had caused them to conceive hopes which Mr. Cayley says were so just, and which he regrets to see disappointed.

Whilst participating in this regret, Mr. Caron hopes with Mr. Cayley that what has passed will not be wholly lost; that advantages will result from it, amongst which may be reckoned that of removing all doubts as to the extent and the character of the overtures made to Mr. Caron by the Members of the Government, as well as upon the nature and the validity of the reason which has prevented these overtures from leading to a satisfactory result.

Since Mr. Cayley has foreseen that his last communication would have the effect of putting an end to the negotiations, it remains only for Mr. Caron to take leave of Mr. Cayley as negociator, and to renew the assurance of his high consideration.

EXPLANATORY MEMORANDUM.

16th June, 1847.

The following correspondence, by the desire of the several Writers taking part in it, is added to the foregoing :

The Letters exchanged between Mr. Caron and Mr. Papineau, were omitted in the first publication, a *résumé* of their contents having been drawn up by Mr. Caron, and agreed to as an introduction to the correspondence between Mr. Caron and Mr. Cayley. The Letter of the 8th April was omitted as being marked private and confidential. It is now added at the suggestion of Mr. Caron, as well as the notes of the 3rd and 7th May, to complete the Chain.

[Translation.]

Quebec, 13th March, 1847

SIR,

Since the conversation that I had the honor of having with you yesterday, and the communication you gave me of the *Memorandum* of His Excellency of which you were the bearer, I have reflected much upon the subject, and have seen as many friends as I could encounter in the course of the morning ; obliged to keep the promise that I have made you to tell you something to day, I regret to be unable to do more than to inform you that no one appreciates more than myself the sentiments of justice and benevolence with regard to the population of our origin expressed by His Excellency in the document you have imparted to me, and also that no one is more disposed than myself to contribute by all the means in my power to give effect to these benevolent intentions—but that the realization of the project of His Excellency, and the possibility of the arrangement that he suggests, depend upon circumstances upon which I have not the necessary *data* to be in a state to give an opinion.

Permit me to profit by this occasion to assure you of the high consideration with which I have the honor to subscribe myself,

Sir,
Your very Humble and Obedient Servant,
(Signed) R. E. CARON.

To the HON. D. B. PAPINEAU.

[Translation.]

Montreal, 17th March, 1847.

SIR,

His Excellency the Governor General not having been able to obtain a favorable answer to overtures made to the French Canadian Party here in Montreal, considered that he had nothing left to do upon this matter. Nevertheless, he has not any objection to the Executive Council trying to give effect to his benevolent intentions, and in consequence I am authorized to send back to you the Memorandum which was placed in the hands of the Honorable Mr. Morin, in order that you may be able to inform me if in your section of the Province, men of our origin can be found who would consent without any sacrifice of principle

to enter into the present administration. I need not tell you that this Letter is only a necessary consequence of the conversation that I had with you at Quebec. But then I could only shew you the *Memorandum* without thinking myself authorized to leave it with you.

I therefore now send it to you in order that you may make such use of it as you may think likely to realise if possible the intentions that His Excellency had when he wrote it, and that my Colleagues and myself would desire to see carried into effect through your intervention.

(Signed)

D. B. PAPINEAU.

The Hon. R. E CARON,
Quebec.

[*Translation.*]

Quebec, 20th March, 1847.

SIR,

I have the honor to acknowledge the receipt of your Letter dated the 17th instant, containing the *Memorandum* of His Excellency the Governor General of which you had given me communication at Quebec, and which you have since been authorized to replace in my hands, that such use may be made of it as I shall think likely to realise if possible the intentions that His Excellency had when he wrote it, and that you and your Colleagues desire to see carried out through my intervention.

In acknowledging the receipt of this communication, I refer you to the note that I sent you on Saturday last. As to my personal dispositions, and as respects the use I shall make of the Document you have transmitted to me, you may reckon on my discretion.

I have the Honor to be with much esteem,
Sir,

Your very Humble and very Obedient Servant,

(Signed)

R. E. CARON.

The Hon. D. B. PAPINEAU.

[*Translation.*]

Montreal, 1st April, 1847.

SIR,

Permit me to refer you to my Letter of the 17th of last Month, in which I transmitted to you the *Memorandum* of His Excellency, and to your's of the 13th of the same Month, in which you declare your readiness to do all in your power to carry into effect his benevolent intentions. The moment has arrived, in my opinion, for you to come forward, and to offer your services and to enter the Executive Council as President of the Council. By means of arrangements among the Members of the Council, which, we have reason to believe will be approved by His Excellency, we could place at the disposition of our Countrymen the office of Attorney General, and I may say also that of the Commissioner of Crown Lands, if they object to see me there. There is also vacant the place of Assistant Provincial Secretary.

Without wishing to examine or decide up to what point the French Canadians, as such, form, or ought to form a political party, there is a fact notorious and undeniable, which cannot be called in question, and which it seems to me that neither the governing nor the governed ought to lose sight of in Ministerial

arrangements. This fact is, that at the time of the cession of Canada to Great Britain, we existed as a distinct community; that the members of this community possessed laws, usages, institutions, a language, a religion, establishments of different kinds which did not exist in the Empire to which we had been ceded, or differed totally. That moreover all these things, at least the greater portion of them, have been formally and solemnly guaranteed to us by the highest authority of the Empire, the omnipotent Parliament, the supreme power. That in consequence, as long as we shall be attached to the right we have to preserve these and maintain them intact, it is the duty of all and of every one of us so to act, that in all the combinations that can follow and result from the strife of political parties, and which will always be unavoidable in a representative and constitutional government, there should always be in every administration a number, greater or smaller, of individuals belonging to our origin, to watch over the protection of our social rights, independently of our political rights. Their activity or their supineness can only be the result of the influence and of the momentary or passing preponderance of political parties, so much subjected to incessant fluctuations. And in such a state of things, I am convinced that every reasonable man cannot but approve the conduct of those who will profit by the offer made by His Excellency, and which will permit them to work efficaciously for the welfare of the whole society.

I have the honor to be, Sir,
 With all possible esteem,
 Your very Humble and Obedient Servant,
 (Signed,) D. B. PAPINEAU.

The Hon. R. E. CARON, *Quebec.*

[*Translation.*]

Quebec, 3rd April, 1847.

SIR,

I can only to day acknowledge the receipt of your Letter of the 1st April. I shall make a point of replying to it with the least possible delay.

In the meantime, I have the honor to be,
 Sir,
 Your very Humble and Obedient Servant,
 (Signed) R. E. CARON.

The Hon. D. B. PAPINEAU.

[PRIVATE & CONFIDENTIAL.]

Council Room, April 8.

MY DEAR SIR,

On looking over the Memorandum which I had the pleasure of placing in your hands in reply to your questions, I am not aware that I can add much to render more clear the views therein expressed, which my colleagues entertain with reference to the points raised by your questions. In regard to the first and second, I may observe—first, that we see no other mode of creating a vacancy in the office of Attorney General, East, than that established by British practice, of raising the present occupant to the Bench.

With reference to the second question, namely—the mode of dealing with the seventh seat at the Council Board, to be filled by a gentleman of Lower Canada, not of French origin, I may further observe, that should the other

Members of Council not concur by a majority in their recommendation to the Governor General, it is proposed that His Excellency's voice shall decide the selection; and the nomination thus made shall be the nomination of the Council.

I return your Memorandum, which appears accurately to give the substance of what has taken place. There is one clerical error (on the second page) which can readily be corrected. I shall be obliged to you for a copy of the memorandum.

I have the honor to be,
My dear Sir,
Your's faithfully,
W. CAYLEY.

I was much pleased to find how fully my colleagues responded to my own feelings with reference to what fell from yourself in speaking of Mr. Aylwin.

Montreal, 3rd May.

SIR,

I have now the honor to enclose my reply to your memorandum of the 27th April, and await your reply and permission to communicate to those who take an interest in the subject, the several memoranda that have been exchanged between us relative to the late negotiations.

Mr. Parent is in possession of your letter of the 14th April.

I have the honor to be,
Sir,
Your most obedient Servant,
W. CAYLEY.

HON. R. E. CARON.

[*Translated.*]

Quebec, 7 May, 1847.

SIR,

I have the honor to transmit to you my reply to your last communication, received yesterday.

This reply, forming part of our Correspondence, can be, as well as all that has preceded it, communicated, as has been hitherto done, to those who have an interest in knowing it, or that it may be advisable to consult.

I have the honor to be,
Sir,
Your very humble and obédient servant,
(Signed,) R. E. CARON,

The Hon. W. CAYLEY,
&c. &c. &c.
Montreal.

2

MEMORANDUM

OF HIS EXCELLENCY THE GOVERNOR GENERAL,

REFERRED TO IN THE FOLLOWING PAGES.

“ Confidential Memorandum.”

“ The Governor General is sincerely desirous that in the administration of the affairs of the Province, the interests and feelings of that important section of the Inhabitants which is of French origin should meet with the fullest attention and consideration.

It would be very satisfactory to him therefore to have the means of including in his Executive Council some of those Gentlemen who enjoy in a high degree their esteem and confidence.

He has reason to believe that this object might under existing circumstances be accomplished with great advantage to the public, and on terms that would be fair both to them and the Members of the present Council.

The Governor General has too sincere a respect for the Gentlemen to whom he addresses himself, to ask their assent to any proposal involving a sacrifice of principle. But in inviting them to consider the practicability of such an arrangement as he has suggested, and to favor him with their sentiments thereupon, he desires to express his confident hope that objections founded on personal or party differences (if such exist) will yield to the dictates of Patriotism and Public duty.

Monklands, 23d February, 1847.”

[*Translated.*]

RECAPITULATION

Of what passed between Messrs. PAPINEAU and CARON, between the 12th of March and the 6th of April, (1847,) upon the subject of a negotiation relative to a Ministerial arrangement, commenced on the 12th of March, at Quebec, between the two Gentlemen above named, and continued at Montreal, by Mr. CARON with Mr. CAYLEY, since the last of these two dates.

The 12th of March, (1847), Mr. Papineau gave to Mr. Caron, at Quebec, communication of a certain Memorandum of His Excellency the Governor General having for its object to ascertain the possibility of forming an arrangement whereby admission into the Executive Council might be secured for some persons of french origin, enjoying the confidence of their countrymen.

Mr. Caron was informed that this document had been already communicated to Mr. Morin, at Montreal, and that that Gentleman had been of opinion that he could not give effect to its views; that there was reason to believe that Mr. Morin, before giving his reply, had not had time to ascertain opinions at Quebec upon the subject; that under this impression and in order to give to that City and to the District of Quebec, the opportunity of declaring its sentiments upon this important question, he, Mr. Papineau, had been authorized to bring on this Memorandum, and to communicate it to whomsoever he should think fit, that it was with this view he had shewn and finally left in the hands of Mr. Caron, until the morrow, the paper in question, in order that he might shew it to his friends; but that

he was not authorized to let it out of his possession, nor to permit a copy to be taken of it, and that it should be returned to Mr. Papineau before his departure for Quebec.

Mr. Caron was informed that this step was taken in order to learn whether under the circumstances it was possible to find the means of realising the intentions of His Excellency if those intentions were approved.

After this explanation it was understood that, by the afternoon of the following day, Mr. Caron should give his reply to Mr. Papineau on this subject.

The Memorandum thus left in the hands of Mr. Caron was by him communicated to as many persons as he was able to confer with, before the hour of his appointment with Mr. Papineau. Upon the arrival of that gentleman he was informed verbally, that in consequence of the little time allowed him and the few persons he had been able to consult, it was impossible to pronounce an opinion upon the possibility of the arrangement that His Excellency had in contemplation; and to avoid all misunderstanding Mr. Caron delivered to Mr. Papineau a note purporting to contain all that Mr. Caron had to reply to the communication which had been made to him. This note in substance acknowledges the good intentions of His Excellency, toward that part of the population which is of french origin; states that he would be much pleased if he could aid in giving effect to these intentions, but adds that he has not the necessary information to enable him to form an opinion upon the possibility of concluding an arrangement which should have that result. With this note the Memorandum of His Excellency was returned to Mr. Papineau who left Quebec on the following day. Some days later, Mr. Caron received a letter from Mr. Papineau, containing the same Memorandum that had been shewn to him at Quebec, and informing him that he, Mr. Papineau, had since received authority from His Excellency to send back the paper to Mr. Caron with leave to keep and make such use of it as he might think advisable with a view to attain the realization of the intentions therein declared.

The receipt of this communication was purely and simply acknowledged by Mr. Caron, in a note which referred to his former note, but adds nothing to it.

Subsequently, Mr. Caron received from Mr. Papineau a new letter which caused his journey to Montreal, the result of which will be found detailed in a second State of Facts which accompanies the present.

[*Translation.*]

RECITAL

Of what passed at Montreal on the 7th & 8th of April, (1847) through the intervention of Mr. CARON, upon the subject of the Ministerial negociation opened at Quebec on the 12th of March with him by Mr. PAPINEAU, and continued at Montreal between Messrs. CAYLEY and CARON.

Arrived at Montreal on the 6th, Mr. Caron presented himself at the Government Offices, on the 7th, and finding Mr. Papineau absent, in the country, demanded an interview with some one of the Members of the Administration. Mr. Cayley was named to him as the person with whom the negociation should be continued, and the same day the interview demanded took place between him and Mr. Caron.

Upon this occasion Mr. Caron represented in substance that the letter he had received from Mr. Papineau, bearing date the 1st of April instant, was of a nature requiring some explanations before he could possibly reply to it; that it was with the view of obtaining these explanations that he had come to Montreal and had solicited that interview; that the letter in question contained two distinct

offers or propositions; the first of which referring to the Memorandum of His Excellency, and to another letter written by Mr. Papineau, might be summed up as follows:

“ With the situations of President of the Executive Council, of Attorney General for the Eastern division of the Province, and of the Commissioner of Crown Lands, which are placed at the disposal of yourself and friends, will you be able to find persons of your own origin, or enjoying the confidence of the population of your origin, who will consent to join the administration upon the conditions and for the ends mentioned in the Memorandum of His Excellency of which you have a copy.”

The second:

“ Will you yourself accept one of these situations, that of President of the Executive Council.”

That in order to be able to answer these inquiries, Mr. Caron desired to have categorical answers to the following questions which he had reduced to writing to prevent misconception.

1st Of the three situations offered, one only is vacant, that of President of the Council, the two others being still occupied; it is required to know whether those who hold these offices, and who will have to quit them, will be provided for otherwise under the Government, or not, and if they will be so provided for, in what manner will it be done?

2nd The person who now occupies the Lower Canada situation which is not offered to us, is he to continue to occupy that situation, or will he be ~~removed~~?

changed

3rd To assist in making the arrangement in question, will the liberty and duty of proposing the names of those who should be parties to it, be assigned to any one, and to whom?

4th In submitting these names, is there any one, or more than one, whom it would be useless to propose, and if so, who are the persons?

5th Among those who enter office in accordance with the proposed arrangement, is it absolutely necessary that I should count as one?

Mr. Caron observed that these questions were put with the view of enabling him to reply to the first proposition (that relative to the arrangement); that to be in a condition to reply to the second proposition (that relating to himself personally), he desired an answer to the two following questions:

1st With the situation destined for me (the Presidency of the Council), shall I retain that which I now occupy (that of Speaker of the Legislative Council)?

2nd Is it to be understood that I take the situation of President of the Council in any case, whether the arrangement in contemplation take place or should fail?

Mr. Cayley having observed, that although he was nearly prepared to reply to these different questions, yet as they had been reduced to writing, he desired to obtain a copy, in order that he might make his replies in writing, and

The copy demanded having been furnished to him, Mr. Cayley, some time afterwards sent to Mr. Caron the following replies:

1st In Mr. Papineau's letter to Mr. Caron of the 1st April, that Gentleman places his office of Commissioner of Crown Lands unconditionally at the disposal of Mr. Caron and his friends taking office.

The office of Attorney General East is to be vacated by raising Mr. Smith to the Bench.

2nd Upon Mr. Caron, and his friends, taking the offices proposed, the seventh office is to be placed at the disposal of His Excellency, to be filled with the advice of the other six Councillors.

3rd By Mr. Caron, to whom Mr. Papineau's letter is addressed.

4th The offer which has been made through Mr. Papineau to Mr. Caron and his friends, is based upon the invitation made to the French Canadians by the Governor General, which contained no exception.

5th *Yes*.—The present arrangement contemplates that the Speaker of the Legislative Council should be a Member of the Government.

6th It is contemplated that the Executive office to be taken by Mr. Caron, should be held in conjunction with the Speakership.

7th A reply to this question is waived pending the present negotiations.

These replies having been sent to Mr. Caron by Mr. Cayley, it was arranged that there should be another interview between them on the following morning.

This second interview took place accordingly. Mr. Caron ascertained that Mr. Cayley had nothing to add to or alter in the replies given by him on the previous day.

Mr. Caron drew up after this interview the narrative of what had passed between Mr. Cayley and him; this narrative was approved by Mr. Cayley, and is that which precedes.

At a final interview which took place on the morning of the 9th April, Mr. Cayley having pressed for an early decision upon considerations of a Public Character, it was observed by Mr. Caron that some difficulties might be found to exist from the fact that according to the terms of the proposition, no nomination to the seventh seat would be made until the Gentlemen representing the French Canadian interests had taken office, thus committing them to a selection in which possibly they might not concur.

In reply to which Mr. Cayley remarked that no difficulty of this kind had been raised by his Colleagues or himself in the invitation made to Mr. Caron to name to certain offices, but that he begged Mr. Caron to observe that although the invitation was final on the part of the Members of the Government, Mr. Caron and his friends were not precluded from making a counter proposition which in their opinion would attain the object pointed out in His Excellency's Memorandum.

[*Translation.*]

Montreal, 9th April, 1847.

SIR,

I thought of leaving to-night, but have been unable to do so; the delay has furnished me with time and the opportunity of consulting with persons to a greater extent than I had before done, engaged as I have been since my arrival in this City.

Striving, as I this morning told you I was, to arrive at a conclusion the soonest possible, I have to tell you that in a very short time I should be able to give you an answer upon the business in which we have been engaged these few days past, if you could tell me by a *Yes* or a *No* whether the elevation of Mr. Smith

to the Bench is a condition without which the arrangement for which we have labored becomes irrevocably impossible.

I leave to-morrow morning at four o'clock ; I cannot postpone my departure, or would willingly do so.

Have the goodness to let me have an answer to this note by to-morrow's post.

Meanwhile, I subscribe myself with much esteem and consideration,

Sir,
Your very humble and very obedient servant,
(Signed,) ED. CARON.

The Honble. Mr. Cayley.

Montreal, 10th April, 1847.

SIR,
I have the honor to acknowledge your note of the 9th April, but which unfortunately I did not receive until after four o'clock this afternoon.

In reply to your question whether the elevation of Mr. Smith to the Bench is an essential condition to the proposed arrangement, I have the honor to state that it is not proposed to vacate the office of Attorney General East in any other mode than by raising that Gentleman to the Bench.

I have the honor to remain,

Sir,
Your most humble and obedient servant,
(Signed,) W. CAYLEY.

Hon. E. R. Caron.

[*Translation.*]

Quebec, 13th April, 1847.

SIR,
I have the honor to acknowledge the receipt of your note dated the 10th replying to mine of the 9th instant. In so doing I profit by the occasion to assure you that I proceed with the utmost celerity to bring to a conclusion the affair with which we have latterly occupied ourselves, and to which the note in question makes allusion, and also to reiterate to you the assurance of the high consideration with which I have the honor to be

Sir,
Your very humble and very obedient servant,
(Signed,) ED. CARON.

The Honble. Wm. Cayley.

Communication transmitted by the Honble. E. R. Caron to Mr. Cayley.

After his return from Montreal, Mr Caron wrote to a third party a letter to be communicated to Mr. Cayley, and which in substance goes to say: that at Montreal and at Quebec Mr. Caron found his friends well disposed to second him in the arrangement he was commissioned to bring about; so much so that he would have been ready to make to Mr. Cayley the counter proposition that Mr. Caron had been invited to make in their last interview; but that according to ~~his view of~~ the form in which that proposition was to be presented, it was necessary that he should be ready to furnish the names of three persons who, with him, should compose the Administration for Lower Canada; that Mr Caron was sure of one of these three persons; that, as to the second, who was absolutely necessary to him, he could not enter into communication with him, unless he should be in a condition to tell him, in proposing that he should take part in the Administration, what were the basis and the conditions of his arrangement.

he understood the

That of two difficulties that hitherto Mr. Caron had encountered, he could say that one, that of Mr. Smith, had disappeared; that he was sure the arrangement would not fail upon that ground; that as to the other difficulty, that relative to Mr. Daly, he could say nothing positive; that all he could say was that he hoped to remove it; that probably the keeping Mr. Daly would not be insisted upon; that Mr. Caron was persuaded that a proposition made in this manner would not be acceded to by him to whom it would be offered; that he ought to be ready to say to him, here is the arrangement, here are the basis and the conditions upon which it is founded: will you take part in it?

That on this account Mr. Caron found himself in this perplexity: before he could address himself to the person of whom he had need, he must know how he stood with regard to Mr. Daly in order to be able to state it; whilst to obtain an answer from Mr. Cayley upon this point, it was necessary that Mr. Caron should be able to say whether the person whom he desired to address would take part in the arrangement or not.

That the same difficulty existed as to the third person that Mr. Caron had to see, who would not accept without knowing the names of all included in the arrangement; that for these reasons Mr. Caron desired, by return of post, to be assured that in yielding the point respecting Mr. Smith, Mr. Caron would be certain to gain that of Mr. Daly; with the understanding that the thing should be done in the best possible manner; that upon this article Mr. Caron must be firm; that when he should know Mr. Cayley ~~was~~ he would communicate with two Gentlemen to whom he wished to address himself, and if they accepted his offers, Mr. Caron would convey to Mr. Cayley a final reply, in which Mr. Caron would communicate to the latter the names of his French Canadian Members of the Administration, in adding that those who were to compose it, had accepted or consented to act under the expectation that it would be possible for them to obtain the services of Mr. * * * * or the services of any other person of British extraction ~~upon whom they should agree.~~ *might be agreed upon.*

Mr. Caron added that he was ready to lend himself to whatever could be suggested to avoid hurting the delicacy of all the parties, but that he must have given to him the latitude necessary to enable him to act, and he terminated by saying that with the concessions that he demanded, he saw nothing to prevent the arrangement being brought to a conclusion.

[Translation.]

Mr. Cayley has the honor to acknowledge the receipt of a Memorandum written by Mr. Caron, giving the substance of a letter dated 14th April addressed by Mr. Caron to a third party, for the purpose of being communicated to Mr. Cayley.

Mr. Cayley begs in the first place to point out an error into which Mr. Caron appears to have fallen, in supposing that the invitation to him to make a counter proposition was intended as an invitation to furnish the names of three Gentlemen who with himself should compose the Administration for Lower Canada, and begs to express his doubts whether the passage in question will bear any such construction.

While assuring Mr. Caron of the gratification which the Members of the Government have derived from the announcement made by him that he has found his friends both at Montreal and Quebec strongly disposed to assist him in his efforts to effect the arrangement which he had undertaken, Mr. Cayley cannot avoid expressing his regret and that of his colleagues at finding that a difficulty from another quarter has sprung up, calculated to disappoint hopes so justly conceived, and bring the negotiations to an unsuccessful termination. Mr. Caron states that a Gentleman whose assistance and concurrence are essential to any arrangement to be effected, cannot be communicated with nor his views ascertained

until a point connected with Mr. Daly is conceded by the Administration, in plain terms, until Mr. Daly is declared by his Colleagues ineligible to hold office under the proposed arrangement. Before making a reply to this demand, Mr. Cayley begs to bring to Mr. Caron's recollection two prominent features in the Memorandum placed by the Governor General in the hands of Mr. Morin, and on which the present overture has been based; first, that an union was invited on terms that should be fair to the present Members of the Council as well as to the party to whom the invitation was addressed; and secondly, that personal objections were to be waived. In an earnest desire to satisfy and carry out the terms of this proposition, the Members of the Council, while retaining three seats, offered to place three at the disposal of Mr. Caron and his friends, without making any personal exception, and to leave the nomination to the seventh seat, to the Council of six, to be selected from amongst Gentlemen of British extraction in Lower Canada; thus clearly indicating that Mr. Daly's office had been placed by that Gentleman at the disposal of His Excellency. Mr. Cayley is now informed that these conditions are not sufficiently precise and satisfactory, and cannot be submitted to the Gentleman before adverted to, unless accompanied by a distinct concession regarding Mr. Daly, namely, his proscription from office.

In reply, Mr. Cayley has to observe that the Members of the Council having on their part frankly conceded any privilege which they might be supposed to possess of making personal exceptions, cannot be expected to yield that right to the gentlemen to whom the present overture has been made.

In giving this negative it is unnecessary for Mr. Cayley to make more than a passing allusion to the character of the advance in the negotiation to be secured by the proposed sacrifice of Mr. Daly, namely, that of placing the proposition in a palatable form for acceptance or rejection by the Gentleman whose concurrence in any arrangement has been stated to be indispensable; again it is not to be overlooked that, had the proposition been so far favorably entertained as to permit Mr. Caron to name his colleagues the announcement was to be accompanied by the recommendation of a fourth Gentleman so pointedly referred to, and formally introduced as to render a dissent on the part of the present Administration all but tantamount to a rejection of the coalition.

It is hardly necessary for Mr. Cayley to state that the concessions demanded have never been contemplated by the Members of the present Government, and would be wholly inconsistent with a proper regard to the interests of the British Inhabitants of Lower Canada, and the position of an Administration honored with the confidence of the Head of the Government and supported by the Parliament of the Province.

In thus giving a final negative to the demands advanced by Mr. Caron, Mr. Cayley is aware that the negotiations are brought to an unsuccessful termination. He trusts, however, that what has passed will not be wholly unproductive of beneficial results, that it may tend in a measure to remove doubts as to the character and extent of the overtures made by the Executive Council, and the nature of some of the difficulties which have successfully interfered to prevent their accomplishment. It will at all events set at rest a question which for some time past has agitated the public mind.

Quebec, 6th May, 1847.

[*Translation.*]

Mr. Caron has the honor to acknowledge the receipt of the Memorandum of Mr. Cayley, dated "Montreal, April 1847," which has only reached him by the post this morning.

In reply Mr. Caron takes the liberty to observe, that it is possible he may have been in error as to the form in which he was invited to make the counter

proposition mentioned in the Memorandum of the 9th April; but he does not himself believe that he was mistaken in the matter, and thinks that certain facts recalled to the memory of Mr. Cayley may cause him to agree with Mr. Caron upon the point.

At all events, Mr. Caron is of opinion that the Memorandum in question is quite open to the interpretation he has put upon it, since upon its face it appears it was written only in consequence of difficulties presented by Mr. Caron to the adoption of the mode suggested by Mr. Cayley for filling the seventh seat, and in order to provide the means of avoiding those difficulties.

It is under this impression that the letter of the 14th April was written, the sole object of which was to obtain a decisive answer respecting Mr. Daly, that is to say, whether he was or not to take an active part under the new arrangement, and not whether he should be proscribed and declared ineligible to hold office, a pretension that Mr. Caron has never put forth, neither he nor his friends to his knowledge. The answer that Mr. Caron sought, he wanted, for the reasons given, to communicate not to one only of the persons of whom he had need, as Mr. Cayley seems to have understood, but to two Gentlemen whom he had to see, and of whom one was of British extraction; the intention of Mr. Caron in soliciting the answer in question, not being to render more palatable to those Gentlemen the propositions he had to make to them, but simply that he might be in a condition to make known the Colleagues with whom they would have to act if they accepted the situations offered to them.

Mr. Caron begs Mr. Cayley to remark that the only concession insisted upon in the letter of the 14th April was that relative to Mr. Daly.

Mr. Caron is informed that the Members of the Government have never had it in contemplation to make this concession. Mr. Caron readily believes this since Mr. Cayley tells him so, although he had always understood that Mr. Daly would not be an obstacle to the arrangement.

Mr. Caron rejoices at the determination taken by the Members of the Administration to do nothing which should not be conformable to the interests of that part of the population of Lower Canada, which is of British extraction, but at the same time he has to assure Mr. Cayley that if the arrangement which has failed had been carried into effect, the interests of that important and respectable portion of our population would not have been neglected, and that even already measures had been taken to the end that those interests should be ably and suitably represented in the Administration, that might have been formed.

Whilst granting to the Members of the Administration all the credit which they deserve for the frankness with which they have renounced any privilege they might have to make personal exceptions, Mr. Caron regrets to learn that the point upon which he has felt himself compelled to insist with a frankness equal to their own, has been regarded by Mr. Cayley and his Colleagues as a difficulty of such a nature that it imposed upon them the obligation of refusing their assent to an arrangement which had caused them to conceive hopes which Mr. Cayley says were so just, and which he regrets to see disappointed.

Whilst participating in this regret, Mr. Caron hopes with Mr. Cayley that what has passed will not be wholly lost; that advantages will result from it, amongst which may be reckoned that of removing all doubts as to the extent and the character of the overtures made to Mr. Caron by the Members of the Government, as well as upon the nature and the validity of the reason which has prevented these overtures from leading to a satisfactory result.

Since Mr. Cayley has foreseen that his last communication would have the effect of putting an end to the negotiations, it remains only for Mr. Caron to take leave of Mr. Cayley as negotiator, and to renew the assurance of his high consideration.