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FURTHER CORRESPONDENCE

WITH THE

GOVERNMENT OF CANADA

IN CONNECTION WITH THE

APPOINTMENT OF THE JOINT HIGH COMMISSION

AND THE

TREATY OF WASHINGTON.

(IN CONTINUATION OF PAPER PRESENTED APRIL, 1872.)

Presented to both Houses of Parliament by Command of Her Majesty,
May, 1872.



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FURTHER CORRESPONDENCE

WITH THE

GOVERNMENT OF CANADA

IN CONNECTION WITH THE

APPOINTMENT OF THE JOINT HIGH COMMISSION AND THE TREATY OF WASHINGTON.

The LORD LISGAR to The EARL OF KIMBERLEY.

(No. 95.)

Government House, Ottawa, April 15, 1872.

(Received May 3, 1872.)

MY LORD,

WITH reference to your Lordship's Despatch, No. 58,* of March 18, 1872, I have now the honour to forward, herewith, a copy of a Minute of the Privy Council of the Dominion, from which your Lordship will perceive that the Ministers announce their intention of proposing to the Canadian Parliament the measures necessary to give effect to those clauses of the Treaty of Washington which relate to Canada.

CANADA.

* Vide Command Paper, April, 1872, page 14.

15th April, 1872.

I have, &c.,
(Signed) LISGAR.

The Earl of Kimberley,
&c. &c. &c.

Enclosure.

COPY of a REPORT of a COMMITTEE of the HONOURABLE the PRIVY COUNCIL, approved by His Excellency the GOVERNOR-GENERAL, on the 15th day of April, 1872.

Enclosure.

The Committee of the Privy Council have had under their consideration the Earl of Kimberley's Despatch to your Excellency, dated the 18th ultimo, communicating the views of Her Majesty's Imperial Government on the proposition submitted in the Report of the Privy Council, transmitted in your Excellency's Despatch of 22nd January last.

From the Despatch it appears that Her Majesty's Government are of opinion that the most convenient course will be that it should be provided in the Acts to be passed by the Dominion Parliament to give effect to the Treaty, that such Acts should only come into force upon the issue of a Proclamation by the Governor-General in Council bringing them into operation; that on their part Her Majesty's Government will engage that when the Treaty shall have taken effect by the issue of such Proclamation, they will propose to Parliament to guarantee a Canadian Loan of £2,500,000. Such Loan to be applied to the purposes indicated by the Council, namely, the construction of the railroad through British territory from Canada to the Pacific, and the improvement and enlargement of the Canadian canals; and to be raised at the same time and in equal proportions with the Canadian unguaranteed Loan for the same objects, on the understanding that Canada abandon all claims on England on account of the Fenian Raids.

The Earl of Kimberley further observes that Her Majesty's Government will enable the Canadian Government to assure the Dominion Parliament that any recommendation made by Canada to terminate the Articles of the Treaty numbered 18 to 25 inclusive, and likewise Article 30, in conformity with Article 33, will be acted on; that they have no hesitation in declaring that the greatest deference would be paid to the expression of the wishes of the Dominion, signified by Addresses from both Houses of the Dominion Parliament, and that those wishes would certainly be attended to, subject of course to the necessary reservation of Her Majesty's discretion to take into consideration, in the interests of the whole Empire, the state of Her relations with Foreign Powers at the particular juncture.

The Committee of the Privy Council feel that although Her Majesty's Government have been unable to accede to their proposition in full, it is nevertheless their duty, in the interests both of Canada and the Empire at large, to accept the modified proposition of the Earl of Kimberley, and they will accordingly be prepared to propose to the Canadian Parliament the measures necessary to give effect to those clauses of the Treaty relative to Canada.

(Certified) WM. H. LEE,
Clerk, Privy Council, Canada.

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