



LOWER CANADA.

COPY of a DESPATCH from Lord *Aylmer* to  
the SECRETARY of STATE for the COLONIES, in  
Reply to Mr. Secretary Rice's Despatch of  
27 September 1834.

(*Mr. Hume.*)

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*Ordered, by The House of Commons, to be Printed,*  
*24 July 1835.*

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LOWER CANADA.

RETURN to an Address of the Honourable The House of Commons,  
dated 16 July 1835;—for,

COPY of a DESPATCH from Lord *Aylmer* to the SECRETARY of STATE for  
the Colonies, in Reply to Mr. Secretary *Rice*'s Despatch of 27 September 1834.

Colonial Department, Downing-street, }  
24 July 1835.

G. Grey.

COPY of a DESPATCH from Governor Lord *Aylmer* to Mr. Secretary *Spring Rice*,  
dated Castle of St. Lewis, Quebec, 23d November 1834.

SIR,

IMMEDIATELY on receiving your Despatch of the 27th September (of which  
Captain Mackinnon was the bearer), authorizing the issue from the military chest of  
a sum not exceeding 31,000*l.* to be applied to the payment of the arrears due upon  
the estimate for the expenses of the Civil Government and the administration of  
justice in this Province for the year ending in the month of October 1833, I assembled  
the Executive Council, and referred to them the details of the measure.

I have now the honour of transmitting their Report, to which I take leave to call  
your attention, and, without stopping to submit any remarks upon it, I hasten to  
offer on my own part, and I am sure I may confidently add, on the part of all the  
officers of Government in this Province, my thanks, and their thanks, for the  
seasonable relief which has been afforded by the issue, upon the responsibility of  
His Majesty's Ministers (so generously incurred on this occasion), of the means of  
paying the balance due upon the Estimate of the year 1833.

The benefit of this relief will be felt, when it is recollected that some of the public  
officers have 20 months, and even those who have benefited to the greatest extent  
by the partial issues already made, have 17 months of salary now due to them, and  
that, with few exceptions, those individuals are altogether dependent upon their  
salaries for the means of existence. Under the privations to which the public  
officers have been exposed, they have generously abstained from urging their dis-  
tresses upon the consideration of the Executive Government; and it is within my  
own knowledge, that many of them have been compelled to part with articles of  
furniture and plate, and even their watches, to procure the bare necessaries of life.  
To such extremity has the public service been driven, that I have, for some time  
past, been in daily apprehension of a dissolution of the King's Government in the  
Province, from the want of means to carry on its ordinary operations.

I am now, for the moment, relieved from this apprehension; but I take leave  
most earnestly to represent to His Majesty's Government the necessity of guarding  
against the recurrence of so critical a state of affairs, by the adoption of some certain  
mode of providing for the wants of His Majesty's Government.

I am not yet acquainted with the course which it may be the intention of  
His Majesty's Government to adopt for the adjustment of the existing financial  
difficulties with the House of Assembly; but should the ensuing Session terminate  
without any adequate provision being made for defraying the expenses of the Civil  
Government and the administration of justice, the same embarrassments from which  
we have just been relieved must inevitably recur.

I have, &c.  
(signed) *Aylmer.*

To His Excellency the Right Honourable Lord *Aylmer*, K.C.B. Captain-General and Governor-in-Chief of the Province of *Lower Canada*, &c.

REPORT of a Committee of the whole Council: Present, the Honourable Mr. Smith, Mr. Deléry, Mr. Stewart and Mr. Cochran, on Your Excellency's reference in Council of Mr. Secretary Spring Rice's Despatch of 27th September last.

May it please Your Excellency,

THE Committee proceeding upon your Excellency's reference in Council of Mr. Spring Rice's Despatch of 27th September last, have deliberated upon it with all the care and attention which the importance and urgency of the subject demand; and with the view to carry the directions of the Secretary of State into effect, according to their spirit and intention, and in such a manner as to afford to the Government and its Officers that relief which the Secretary of State authorizes to be granted;

Your Excellency is instructed to make an advance from the Extraordinary Funds of the Mother Country, to meet such extreme cases of pressure as may require your interposition, and may not admit of delay until the entire question is disposed of. So far as this part of the instruction may appear to restrain your Excellency in the application of the intended relief to those cases only where the pressure will not admit of delay, the Committee do not hesitate to submit to your Excellency their unanimous opinion, that the limitation cannot be acted upon without instituting an inquiry into the circumstances of individual cases, which would not be practicable, if it were fitting.

It is sufficient for the Committee to observe that the salaries and contingent expenses of 1833, have been in arrear for more than twelve months; that all the officers of Government had performed, during that year, the duties for which their salaries were assigned to them; that those salaries were necessary for their subsistence; that general distress, and in some cases severe sacrifice of property, attended with circumstances derogatory to the proper respectability of Government, have resulted from these salaries having been withheld; and that the contingent expenditures for the public departments for the indispensable services of Government, and for actual advances made by public officers for those services, upon their own credit, have been due for the same time, and remain now to be paid.

Under these circumstances, the Committee do not think that the relief which your Excellency is instructed to give, can be limited by a distinction of cases. They feel that His Majesty's Provincial Government have cause to be deeply grateful to the Secretary of State for granting that relief, at a moment of difficulty which could not longer have been borne by the Public Officers, and when no further advances or sacrifices could be expected from them for carrying on the services of their several departments.

But at the same time, seeing that the relief thus afforded is but temporary, and drawn from an extraordinary source; that the public salaries and contingencies of another year are due since the 1st October last; that the pressure now alleviated for a time must speedily return; and that no reasonable security or ground of expectation exists, that it will not again from time to time recur; the Committee would fain hope that His Majesty's Government may see fit to avert the necessity of again resorting to an extraordinary application of the funds of the Parent State, by adopting some permanent measure to secure the King's service in this province from the probable danger of yearly interruption, which, while it exposes the officers of Government to destitution, introduces general confusion into public affairs, and brings His Majesty's Government itself into contempt in the eyes of the people.

The Committee now recommend that the various heads of expense, both salaries and contingencies, borne upon the estimate of 1833, excepting new items of expense, or such as had not been provided for under the Appropriation Act of 1832, should be paid out of the sum of 31,000*l.* now placed at your Excellency's disposal.

They have accordingly caused two Schedules to be prepared and annexed to this Report:

No. 1. Showing the Balances of Salaries unpaid for the year 1833.

No. 2. Showing the Balances due for Contingent Expenses of public Departments for the same year;—and

They recommend that warrants do issue for the several balances stated in those Schedules.

The Committee have to observe, that in forming the Schedule of Unpaid Contingencies they have been guided by the accounts actually rendered and audited, or of which the amount has been sufficiently ascertained by the Inspector-General of Accounts; they have therefore been compelled to omit the sum of 1,350*l.*, the balance of the sum of 7,200*l.* estimated in 1833 for the contingencies of the Assembly, inasmuch as neither this Committee nor the Inspector-General have before them, or have access to, any accounts or documents whatsoever to ascertain the balance of expenditure for 1833 actually incurred on this head, and remaining undischarged.

The Committee have also left out of the Schedule No. 1. the salary of the Receiver-General and the salary and fixed allowances of the Commissioner of the Jesuits' Estates, as these several accounts are authorized to be deducted by those officers from the gross amount of the revenues collected by them, before they are brought to account with the public.

The Committee have only further to add, that in including in Schedule No. 1. the full amount of pensions borne upon the Estimate, they have been influenced by the entire conviction, that in almost all cases to be found upon this list the pensions hitherto enjoyed by the parties have been relied upon, and is now required, as a necessary portion of their ordinary means of subsistence.

All which is respectfully submitted to Your Excellency's wisdom.

Council Chambers, }  
22 November 1834. }

By Order,

(signed) *Wm Smith*, Chairman.

SCHEDULE, No. 1.

BALANCES of SALARIES for the Year 1833, unpaid.

OFFICE.	Period.	Amount, Sterling.	OFFICE.	Period.	Amount, Sterling.
		£. s. d.			£. s. d.
Governor-in-Chief	9 Months to 30 Sept. 1833	3,375 - -	Brought forward	- - -	12,341 13 7
Civil Secretary	6 Months	250 - -	Crier to Courts at Montreal	9 Months	15 - -
Assistant ditto	9 Months	150 - -	Tipstaff to ditto	- " -	13 10 -
Assistants in Office of ditto	- " -	273 - -	Crier and Tipstaff at Three Rivers	- " -	18 15 -
Keeper of the ditto of ditto	- " -	33 15 -	Keeper of Court House, Quebec	- " -	40 10 -
Messenger of ditto	- " -	33 15 -	Ditto - - - Montreal	- " -	54 - -
Extra ditto of ditto	- " -	30 14 3	Ditto - - - Three Rivers	- " -	27 - -
Auditor of Land Patents	- " -	150 - -	Ditto Gaol and Court House, New Carlisle	- " -	27 - -
Three Residents on the Island of Anticosti	- " -	131 5 -	Ditto - - - at Percé	- " -	27 - -
Inspector General of Public Accounts, including allowance for Clerk	- " -	300 - -	Ditto Court Hall at Sherbrooke	- " -	13 10 -
Five Members of Executive Council	- " -	300 - -	Ditto Gaol at Quebec	- " -	93 15 -
Registrar and Clerk of ditto, including allowance for stationery, printing, &c.	- " -	412 10 -	Ditto - ditto Montreal	- " -	93 15 -
Assistant Clerk	- " -	136 10 -	Allowance to ditto for Turnkeys, Quebec	- " -	54 - -
Messenger and Keeper of the Apartments	- " -	37 10 -	Ditto - ditto - Montreal	- " -	54 - -
Door Keeper and Office Servant	- " -	37 10 -	Keeper of Gaol at Three Rivers	- " -	41 5 -
Chief Justice of the Province	6 Months	750 - -	Allowance for two Turnkeys	- " -	54 - -
Chief Justice of Montreal	- " -	550 - -	Keeper of the Gaol at Sherbrooke	- " -	18 15 -
Six Puisne Judges	- " -	2,700 - -	Physician attending the Gaol at Quebec	- " -	150 - -
Provincial Resident Judge, Three Rivers	- " -	450 - -	Ditto - - - Montreal	- " -	150 - -
Two Provincial Judges	- " -	500 - -	Ditto - - - Three Rivers	- " -	60 - -
Circuit allowance	- " -	256 5 -	Surveyor-General	- " -	337 10 -
Judge of the Court of Vice-Admiralty	- " -	100 - -	First Clerk to ditto	- " -	136 10 -
Attorney-General	- " -	229 6 4	Second ditto - ditto	- " -	112 10 -
Solicitor-General	- " -	147 8 -	Allowance for Stationery and Office Servant	- " -	45 - -
Sheriff of Quebec	9 Months	75 - -	Adjutant-General of Militia	- " -	337 10 -
Ditto Montreal	- " -	75 - -	Deputy ditto	- " -	202 10 -
Ditto Three Rivers	- " -	56 5 -	Two Provincial Aides-de-Camp	- " -	270 - -
Ditto Gaspé	- " -	52 10 -	Clerk in the Office of the Adjutant-General	- " -	92 2 9
Ditto St. Francis	- " -	37 10 -	Messenger in ditto	- " -	45 - 11
Allowances to Sheriffs of Quebec, Montreal and Three Rivers for executioners	- " -	60 15 -	Grand Voyer of the district of Quebec	- " -	112 10 -
Allowance to Sheriff of Gaspé for travelling expenses	- " -	7 10 -	Ditto - - - Montreal	- " -	126 3 4
Coroner of Quebec	- " -	75 - -	Ditto - - - Three Rivers	- " -	73 14 6
Ditto Montreal	- " -	75 - -	Surveyor of Highways at Gaspé	- " -	37 10 -
Ditto Three Rivers	- " -	37 10 -	Inspector of Chimnies at Three Rivers	- " -	18 15 -
Ditto Gaspé	- " -	37 10 -	Clerk of the Terrars of the King's Domain	- " -	67 10 -
Clerk of the Court and Clerk of Peace, Gaspé, and allowance for travelling expenses	- " -	45 - -	Translator of Public Documents	- " -	37 10 -
Clerks of the Crown for Quebec, Montreal and Three Rivers	- " -	75 - -	Rent of Office for registering Grants of Crown Lands	- " -	54 - -
Clerk Court of Appeals	- " -	90 - -	Messenger to the Provincial Secretary	- " -	22 10 -
Allowance to ditto for stationery	12 Months	6 - -	Rent of Building used as Offices for the Civil Departments of Government	12 Months	500 - -
Usher of Court of ditto	9 Months	20 5 -	Keeper of ditto	9 Months	30 - -
Interpreter of Courts at Quebec	- " -	30 - -	Clerk to Receiver-General	12 Months	100 - -
Ditto - - - Montreal	- " -	30 - -	Pensions	- " -	1,510 12 -
Ditto - - - Three Rivers	- " -	18 15 -	Salaries of the Officers of the Legislature	9 Months	3,775 8 6
High Constable, Quebec	- " -	27 - -	Master of Grammar School at Quebec	12 Months	200 - -
Ditto - - - Montreal	- " -	27 - -	Rent of School-house	- " -	90 - -
Ditto - - - Three Rivers	- " -	20 5 -	Master of Grammar School at Montreal	- " -	200 - -
Crier of Courts at Quebec	- " -	15 - -	Rent of School-house	- " -	54 - -
Tipstaff, ditto	- " -	13 10 -	Secretary of Royal Institution, for contingencies, and Clerk	- " -	36 - -
Carried forward - £.		12,341 13 7	TOTAL, Sterling - - £.		21,972 5 7

## SCHEDULE, No. 2.

BALANCES due for CONTINGENT EXPENSES of PUBLIC DEPARTMENTS for the Year ended 13th October 1833.

OFFICES.	Balance due, Sterling.	OFFICES.	Balance due, Sterling.
	£. s. d.		£. s. d.
Civil Secretary, for Printing and Stationery - - -	140 13 7	Brought forward - - -	6,447 17 10
Ditto - Postages - - -	1,246 15 3	Prothonotaries at Three Rivers	29 7 3
Provincial Secretary - - -	281 18 6	Ditto - - St. Francis -	27 10 -
Fuel for Public Offices - - -	- - -	Clerks of the Peace at Quebec -	458 10 4
Care of Building used for Public Offices - - -	12 - 9	Ditto - - Montreal -	400 13 8
Crown Law Officers - - -	1,700 - -	Ditto - - Three Rivers	274 19 10
Sheriff of Quebec - - -	782 1 -	Ditto - - Gaspé -	25 - -
Ditto - Montreal - - -	830 2 4	Ditto - - St. Francis -	7 14 9
Ditto - Three Rivers - - -	280 - -	Service of Subpoenas at Quebec -	36 14 -
Ditto - Gaspé - - -	50 - -	Ditto - - Three Rivers -	22 14 2
Ditto - St. Francis - - -	68 6 1	Payments of needy Witnesses at Montreal - - -	130 8 4
Coroner of Quebec - - -	240 4 -	Ditto - - Three Rivers -	48 10 6
Ditto - Montreal - - -	120 9 4	Surveyor General for Postages -	10 - -
Ditto - Three Rivers - - -	26 12 4	Adjutant General of Militia for Postages, Printing and Stationery - - -	164 9 8
Clerk of the Crown, Quebec - - -	62 3 2	Repairs to Public Buildings -	893 12 4
Ditto - - Montreal - - -	136 18 9	Per centage to Inspector of King's Domain - - -	144 12 8
Ditto - - Three Rivers - - -	26 2 3		
Prothonotaries at Quebec - - -	94 11 1		
Ditto - - Montreal - - -	348 19 5		
Carried forward - - -	6,447 17 10	TOTAL, Sterling - - - £.	9,122 15 4

Quebec,  
22 November 1834. }(signed) W<sup>m</sup>. Smith,  
Chairman.