

Technical and Bibliographic Notes/Notes techniques et bibliographiques

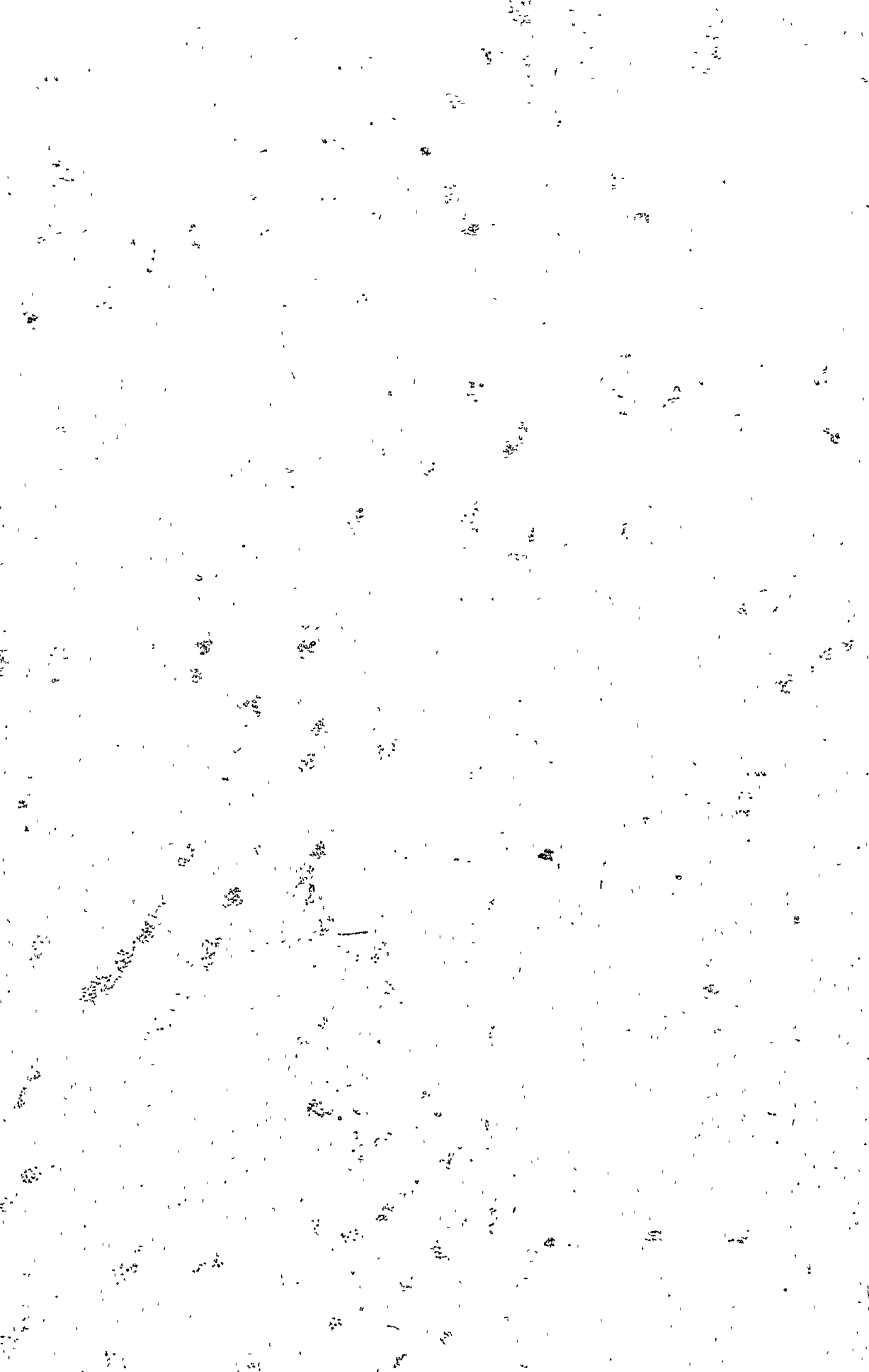
The Institute has attempted to obtain the best original copy available for filming. Features of this copy which may be bibliographically unique, which may alter any of the images in the reproduction, or which may significantly change the usual method of filming, are checked below.

L'Institut a microfilmé le meilleur exemplaire qu'il lui a été possible de se procurer. Les détails de cet exemplaire qui sont peut-être uniques du point de vue bibliographique, qui peuvent modifier une image reproduite, ou qui peuvent exiger une modification dans la méthode normale de filmage sont indiqués ci-dessous.

- | | |
|--|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Coloured covers/
Couverture de couleur | <input type="checkbox"/> Coloured pages/
Pages de couleur |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Covers damaged/
Couverture endommagée | <input type="checkbox"/> Pages damaged/
Pages endommagées |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Covers restored and/or laminated/
Couverture restaurée et/ou pelliculée | <input type="checkbox"/> Pages restored and/or laminated/
Pages restaurées et/ou pelliculées |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Cover title missing/
Le titre de couverture manque | <input type="checkbox"/> Pages discoloured, stained or foxed/
Pages décolorées, tachetées ou piquées |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Coloured maps/
Cartes géographiques en couleur | <input type="checkbox"/> Pages detached/
Pages détachées |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Coloured ink (i.e. other than blue or black)/
Encre de couleur (i.e. autre que bleue ou noire) | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Showthrough/
Transparence |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Coloured plates and/or illustrations/
Planches et/ou illustrations en couleur | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Quality of print varies/
Qualité inégale de l'impression |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Bound with other material/
Relié avec d'autres documents | <input type="checkbox"/> Includes supplementary material/
Comprend du matériel supplémentaire |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Tight binding may cause shadows or distortion
along interior margin/
La reliure serrée peut causer de l'ombre ou de la
distortion le long de la marge intérieure | <input type="checkbox"/> Only edition available/
Seule édition disponible |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Blank leaves added during restoration may
appear within the text. Whenever possible, these
have been omitted from filming/
Il se peut que certaines pages blanches ajoutées
lors d'une restauration apparaissent dans le texte,
mais, lorsque cela était possible, ces pages n'ont
pas été filmées. | <input type="checkbox"/> Pages wholly or partially obscured by errata
slips, tissues, etc., have been refilmed to
ensure the best possible image/
Les pages totalement ou partiellement
obscurcies par un feuillet d'errata, une pelure,
etc., ont été filmées à nouveau de façon à
obtenir la meilleure image possible. |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Additional comments:/
Commentaires supplémentaires: | |

This item is filmed at the reduction ratio checked below/
Ce document est filmé au taux de réduction indiqué ci-dessous.

10X	12X	14X	16X	18X	20X	22X	24X	26X	28X	30X	32X
									✓		



C A N A D A.

P A P E R S

RELATING TO THE

REMOVAL OF THE SEAT OF GOVERNMENT,

AND TO THE

ANNEXATION MOVEMENT.

Presented to both Houses of Parliament by Command of Her Majesty,
15TH APRIL, 1850.

LONDON:

PRINTED BY W. CLOWES AND SONS, STAMFORD STREET,
FOR HER MAJESTY'S STATIONERY OFFICE.

1850.



SCHEDULE.

CANADA.

DESPATCHES FROM GOVERNOR-GENERAL THE RIGHT HON. THE EARL OF ELGIN AND KINCARDINE.

Number in Series.	Date and Number.	SUBJECT	Page.
1	29 May, 1849 (55)	REMOVAL OF SEAT OF GOVERNMENT from Montreal. Enclosing copies of Address of House of Assembly, and Reply thereto on the Subject ALTERNATE SITTINGS OF PARLIAMENT at Toronto and Quebec proposed	2 2
2	11 June, 1849 (65)	REMOVAL OF SEAT OF GOVERNMENT. With PETITION TO HER MAJESTY from the City Council of Kingston, praying that the seat of Government may be fixed at that place	3
3	14 June, 1849 (68)	ALTERNATE SITTINGS OF PARLIAMENT at Toronto and Quebec. Transmitting Resolution of Legislative Council on proposal relative thereto	4
4	20 Aug. 1849 (99)	DISTURBANCES AT MONTREAL. Report of Occurrences on the occasion of the arrest of parties charged with the Destruction of the Parliament House	5
5	18 Nov. 1849 (113)	REMOVAL OF SEAT OF GOVERNMENT. With Extract Minute of Executive Council, embodying the decision of Government to alternate the sittings of Parliament at Quebec and Toronto The next Session of the Legislature to be held at Toronto	6 6
6	19 Nov. 1849 (114)	ADDRESS TO HER MAJESTY from the Warden and Officers of the Municipal Council of the Gore District, repudiating the doctrines advocating a SEPARATION OF THE NORTH AMERICAN PROVINCES from the Mother Country	7
7	3 Dec. 1849 (127)	ADDRESSES ENCLOSED FROM OFFICERS OF MILITIA and others, expressive of attachment to Her Majesty, and desire for MAINTENANCE OF THE CONNEXION BETWEEN THE COLONY AND THE MOTHER COUNTRY	8
8	3 Dec. 1849 (129)	ADDRESS TO THE PEOPLE OF CANADA, RECOMMENDING ANNEXATION TO THE UNITED STATES. Printed copy enclosed; together with copy of Minute of Council on the REMOVAL OF PERSONS HOLDING OFFICE WHO HAVE SIGNED THAT ADDRESS	10
9	14 Dec. 1849 (134)	RESOLUTIONS OF A PUBLIC MEETING AT THE TOWN OF LONDON, expressive of loyalty to Her Majesty and attachment to British connexion	14
10	28 Dec. 1849 (138)	ADDRESS TO PEOPLE OF CANADA ON ANNEXATION TO THE UNITED STATES. Reports Mr. J. G. Mackenzie's signature to have been affixed thereto	15
11	31 Dec. 1849 (141)	FURTHER ADDRESS TO PEOPLE OF CANADA, from the body styling itself the Montreal Annexation Association	15

SCHEDULE.

DESPATCHES FROM THE RIGHT HONOURABLE EARL GREY, SECRETARY OF STATE.

Number in Series.	Date and Number.	SUBJECT.	Page.
1	11 July, 1849 (391)	REMOVAL OF SEAT OF GOVERNMENT. Acknowledging the Petition to Her Majesty from the City Council of Kingston	22
2	11 July, 1849 (392)	REMOVAL OF SEAT OF GOVERNMENT. { Acknowledging the ALTERNATE SITTINGS OF PARLIAMENT. { Addresses of the As- sembly and Legislative Council on the subject	22
3	14 Sept. 1849 (417)	DISTURBANCES AT MONTREAL,—as reported in Governor's Despatch, No. 99, 20th August,—evidences the necessity for the REMOVAL OF THE SEAT OF GOVERNMENT from that City	22
4	16 Nov. 1849 (433)	Mr. Mackenzie's appointment as Portuguese Consul. Inquires if there be any objection to	23
5	1 Jan. 1850 (442)	REMOVAL OF SEAT OF GOVERNMENT. Approval of Governor's determination to act on the opinion of the Assembly thereon	23
6	9 Jan. 1850 (448)	ADDRESSES RELATIVE TO ANNEXATION TO THE UNITED STATES. Conveying the expression of Her Majesty's Commands on the course to be pursued in respect thereto	23
7	18 Feb. 1850 (468)	ADDRESS ON ANNEXATION TO THE UNITED STATES. Mr. Mackenzie's signature thereto disqualifies him for the office of Consul for the Portuguese Government	24

[1]

CANADA.

**Despatches from Governor-General the Right Honourable
the Earl of Elgin and Kincardine.**

2 PAPERS *relative to the* REMOVAL *of the* SEAT *of* GOVERNMENT,

CANADA.

No. 1.

(No. 55.)

No. 1.

COPY of a DESPATCH from Governor-General the Right Hon. the Earl of
ELGIN AND KINCARDINE to Earl GREY.

Government House, Montreal, May 29, 1849.

(Received June 19, 1849.)

(Answered July 11, 1849, No. 392, page 22.)

MY LORD,

I HAVE the honour to transmit herewith for your Lordship's information, the copy of an address presented to me by the Legislative Assembly on the subject of the removal of the seat of government from Montreal, with a copy of my reply. This address was founded on resolutions moved in the Assembly by the Honourable Mr. Sherwood, an eminent member of the Conservative party, and Attorney-General for Canada West, in my late administration.

I have, &c.,

The Right Hon. Earl Grey,
&c. &c. &c.

(Signed) ELGIN AND KINCARDINE.

Encl. 1 in No. 1.

Enclosure 1 in No. 1.

To his Excellency the Right Honourable JAMES Earl of ELGIN and KINCARDINE, K.T., Governor-General of British North America, and Captain-General and Governor-in-Chief in and over the Provinces of Canada, Nova Scotia, New Brunswick, and the Island of Prince Edward, and Vice-Admiral of the same, &c., &c., &c.

MAY IT PLEASE YOUR EXCELLENCY,

WE, Her Majesty's dutiful and loyal subjects, the Legislative Assembly of the Province of Canada, in Provincial Parliament assembled, humbly beg leave to approach your Excellency with feelings of respect, and to represent—

That the time has arrived when a different and much more satisfactory arrangement may be made as regards the place of convening Parliament than at present exists.

That it was the cause of complaints on the part of many of the inhabitants of Upper Canada, that the Parliament was, in 1843, removed altogether from within the limits of their province.

That it was suggested at that time, as each province had enjoyed the advantages of having a separate legislature within its limits, from the first establishment of its representative form of government, down to the time of the union, that after the union it would be an act of common justice only for the representative of the Sovereign to convene Parliament alternately at Toronto, in Upper Canada, and at Quebec, in Lower Canada; but the Legislature to whom the subject was submitted thought otherwise, and advised Montreal as the place to be selected, which advice was received and acted on. Within a very short period of time, however, we have seen the building in Montreal occupied by the Legislative Council and Legislative Assembly, rented and fitted up as it was, at a great expense to the country, wilfully burnt before our eyes, and the libraries belonging to the respective houses, and their records and proceedings consumed with it.

That such then, being the state of the case, and with the view of removing every obstacle that may have a tendency to hinder, or in any way interfere with the well working of the union, we most respectfully beg leave to recommend to your Excellency to adopt the suggestion referred to, that after the present session, your Excellency will be pleased to convene the Parliament alternately at Toronto and Quebec, during periods not exceeding four years at each place. The first sitting under this arrangement to be held at such of the two places mentioned as your Excellency in your discretion may deem most advisable for the general good. That the plan now submitted to your Excellency is not without precedents in other countries, and that it can now more easily than at any antecedent period be carried out, inasmuch as all former records and proceedings in Parliament have been destroyed.

That each branch of the legislature will now have to commence anew again, and with a view to alternate sittings as herein recommended, their records and proceedings ought henceforward to be made out in duplicate, so that one copy may be deposited in the vaults of the Parliament House at Toronto, and the other within the walls of the Citadel of Quebec, where they will be secure from the ravages of fire, and from the attacks of external and internal foes.

That the Parliament buildings at each of the cities of Toronto and Quebec are the property of the province; that they are commodious and comfortable, and can be made ready for the reception of the legislature at comparatively small expense. That under this arrangement the members of the legislature will have a better opportunity of ascertaining and understanding by

Saturday, May 26, 1849.

Ordered—

That the Resolution adopted by the House yesterday, on the subject of holding alternate Parliaments at the cities of Toronto and Quebec, be communicated to his Excellency, the Governor-General by such Members of the Executive Council who are members of this House.

(Attest)

CHARLES DE LERY,
Clerk of the Legislative Council.

(No. 99.)

No. 4.

COPY of a DESPATCH from Governor-General the Right Hon. the Earl of ELGIN AND KINCARDINE to Earl GREY.

Government House, Montreal, August 20, 1849.

(Received September 4, 1849.)

(Answered September 14, 1849, No. 417, p. 22.)

MY LORD,

I HAVE the honour to transmit herewith, for your information, the copy of a letter which has been addressed to the Provincial Secretary by the Police Magistrates for the City of Montreal, reporting the occurrence of disturbances on the occasion of the arrest of certain persons charged with having demolished and set fire to the Parliament House in April last.

I have, &c.,

The Right Hon. Earl Grey,
&c. &c. &c.

(Signed)

ELGIN AND KINCARDINE.

Enclosure in No. 4.

Encl. in No. 4.

SIR,

Government House, Montreal, August 16, 1849.

WE have the honour to report, for the information of the Governor-General, that warrants for the arrest of persons charged with having demolished and set fire to the Parliament House were issued, and were yesterday placed in the hands of the high constable of the city for execution.

From the time it was known that arrests were to be made great excitement prevailed in the city, the general idea being that the arrest of a very large number of persons was contemplated.

It was thought in consequence necessary to communicate the apprehension of disturbances of the peace to Lieut.-General Rowan, who was pleased to order a picket of 100 men to be posted at the Government House, near the Court House, where the prisoners were to be examined, in order to prevent any attempt at rescue, and to hold a troop of cavalry in readiness to escort the prisoners to gaol. A picket of 100 men, with a half battery of artillery, were in readiness to turn out in support, if necessary, and all the troops in garrison were confined to barracks during the day.

The arrests were made without any difficulty; one attempt at rescue was made which was promptly resisted by the troops.

The excitement increased towards the evening.

At half-past nine o'clock, P.M., it was reported that a large mob was collected opposite Mr. Stafford's shop, in Notre Dame-street; one of the magistrates proceeded to the spot to ascertain their intention and object; it appeared that the party assembled had some ill feeling towards Mr. Tully, a member of the City Council, who was then in the House, and towards whom they seemed inclined to direct their hostility.

On the return of the magistrate it was deemed necessary to call out the picket stationed at the Government House, and a detachment of cavalry, and the streets were cleared.

Shortly before this a report was made that a mob had started for the purpose of attacking the house of the Hon. M. Lafontaine.

A magistrate was instantly despatched thither with troops.

In the mean time an attack had actually been made on the house, when immediately a magistrate was despatched with a troop of cavalry to the spot.

On his arrival there he learnt that the house had been assailed with stones from a mob in the street which flanks it, who then forced the gate, entered the grounds, and discharged a volley of stones and one shot at the house.

The party within returned the fire, which was answered by a volley of seven or eight shots.

The mob was heard to say, "We are too weak, we must go back for more force," and retired. A party of troops were left in charge of the house for the night.

241

4 PAPERS relative to the REMOVAL of the SEAT of GOVERNMENT,

CANADA.

of the united Government should be placed within the limits of that province, and their assent was undoubtedly given upon that understanding; accordingly, the seat of the Canadian Government was fixed at Kingston by the late Lord Sydenham after the "most mature deliberation" (as stated in the Despatch of the Colonial Secretary, Lord Stanley, dated in February, 1842), and where it remained for three years until removed to Montreal.

We further beg humbly to inform Your Majesty, that a large and valuable tract of land in this city, now lying vacant, was procured by Lord Sydenham in order to erect thereon the necessary provincial buildings, which tract still remains public property, and is now available for the purpose for which it was purchased: That the inhabitants and Corporation of Kingston, under the assurance that the town was permanently fixed upon as the seat of Government, expended large sums of money in erecting public and private buildings to provide for the increased population, which expenditure, upon the removal to Montreal, occasioned serious and ruinous losses to many citizens, and has ever since caused great embarrassment to the Corporation.

This Council humbly express to Your Majesty their opinion, that had the seat of Government been allowed to remain at Kingston, a far better opportunity would have been afforded for carrying out the main objects of the Union, which are understood to have been gradually to remove sectional interests, to amalgamate the population, and make the united province one people, "British in fact as well as in name." That one branch of the Provincial Legislature having recently expressed an opinion in favour of alternate seats of Government at Quebec and Toronto (a scheme which has since been unanimously condemned by the other branch of Parliament), we humbly crave Your Majesty's attention to a message from Sir Charles Metcalfe to the Legislative Assembly of Canada, dated the 6th day of October, 1843, when that nobleman communicated the instructions of Your Majesty's Government in these words:—"The former capitals, Quebec and Toronto, being alike too remote from the centre of the province, and the plan of alternate sessions at one or the other of these last mentioned, or any other places, being deemed objectionable and impracticable, on account of its manifest and extreme inconvenience."

We most humbly beg to state to Your Majesty, that the rapidly increasing population of Canada tends almost entirely to the west, which circumstance will, in a short period, cause the census of Upper Canada to be equal to, if not greater than that of Lower Canada, and that Kingston, from its central situation at the junction of the great chain of lakes with the River St. Lawrence; at the head of the communication with the River Ottawa by the Rideau Canal; its accessibility at all seasons of the year; the great strength of its position and fortifications, with its public buildings, superior to any in the province for Government purposes, recently offered by your petitioners to his Excellency Lord Elgin for such purposes, and immediately available, is peculiarly eligible for the seat of the Canadian Government.

Your petitioners, therefore, humbly beg, in view of these various circumstances, most strongly, but most respectfully to urge upon the attention of Your Majesty, that the loyal and peaceable inhabitants represented by your petitioners have strong and undeniable claims for a restoration to Kingston of the seat of Government, and which they humbly solicit may be restored accordingly.

And that heaven may bless Your Majesty, long to rule over an united empire, your petitioners will ever humbly pray.

FRAS. M. HILL, Mayor.

No. 3:

(No. 68.)

No. 3.

COPY of a DESPATCH from Governor-General the Right Hon. the Earl of ELGIN AND KINCARDINE to Earl GREY.

Government House, Montreal, June 14, 1849.

(Received July 2, 1849.)

(Answered July 11, 1849, No. 392, page 22.)

MY LORD,

* Page 2.

WITH reference to my Despatch, No. 55,* of the 29th May, I have the honour to transmit herewith a copy of a resolution of the Legislative Council on the project of holding alternate Parliaments at Quebec and Toronto.

I have, &c.,

The Right Hon. Earl Grey, (Signed) ELGIN AND KINCARDINE.
&c. &c.

Encl. in No. 3.

Enclosure in No. 3.

Legislative Council, Friday, May 25, 1849.

Resolved—

That it is the opinion of this House that it would be extremely inconvenient and expensive to hold alternate Parliaments at Quebec and Toronto, inasmuch as such an arrangement would keep the public mind unsettled and uneasy under the constant influence of local and personal feeling; and therefore this House cannot withhold its opinion that any such measures would prove injurious to the best interests of the whole Province.

Saturday, May 26, 1849.

Ordered—

That the Resolution adopted by the House yesterday, on the subject of holding alternate Parliaments at the cities of Toronto and Quebec, be communicated to his Excellency, the Governor-General by such Members of the Executive Council who are members of this House.

(Attest)

CHARLES DE LERY.

Clerk of the Legislative Council.

(No. 99.)

No. 4.

COPY of a DESPATCH from Governor-General the Right Hon. the Earl of
ELGIN AND KINCARDINE to Earl GREY.

Government House, Montreal, August 20, 1849.

(Received September 4, 1849.)

(Answered September 14, 1849, No. 417, p. 22.)

MY LORD,

I HAVE the honour to transmit herewith, for your information, the copy of a letter which has been addressed to the Provincial Secretary by the Police Magistrates for the City of Montreal, reporting the occurrence of disturbances on the occasion of the arrest of certain persons charged with having demolished and set fire to the Parliament House in April last.

I have, &c.,

The Right Hon. Earl Grey,
&c. &c. &c.

(Signed)

ELGIN AND KINCARDINE.

Enclosure in No. 4.

Encl. in No. 4.

SIR,

Government House, Montreal, August 16, 1849:

WE have the honour to report, for the information of the Governor-General, that warrants for the arrest of persons charged with having demolished and set fire to the Parliament House were issued, and were yesterday placed in the hands of the high constable of the city for execution.

From the time it was known that arrests were to be made great excitement prevailed in the city, the general idea being that the arrest of a very large number of persons was contemplated.

It was thought in consequence necessary to communicate the apprehension of disturbances of the peace to Lieut.-General Rowan, who was pleased to order a picket of 100 men to be posted at the Government House, near the Court House, where the prisoners were to be examined, in order to prevent any attempt at rescue, and to hold a troop of cavalry in readiness to escort the prisoners to gaol. A picket of 100 men, with a half battery of artillery, were in readiness to turn out in support, if necessary, and all the troops in garrison were confined to barracks during the day.

The arrests were made without any difficulty; one attempt at rescue was made which was promptly resisted by the troops.

The excitement increased towards the evening.

At half-past nine o'clock, P.M., it was reported that a large mob was collected opposite Mr. Stafford's shop, in Notre Dame-street; one of the magistrates proceeded to the spot to ascertain their intention and object; it appeared that the party assembled had some ill feeling towards Mr. Tully, a member of the City Council, who was then in the House, and towards whom they seemed inclined to direct their hostility.

On the return of the magistrate it was deemed necessary to call out the picket stationed at the Government House, and a detachment of cavalry, and the streets were cleared.

Shortly before this a report was made that a mob had started for the purpose of attacking the house of the Hon. M. Lafontaine.

A magistrate was instantly despatched thither with troops.

In the mean time an attack had actually been made on the house, when immediately a magistrate was despatched with a troop of cavalry to the spot.

On his arrival there he learnt that the house had been assailed with stones from a mob in the street which flanks it, who then forced the gate, entered the grounds, and discharged a volley of stones and one shot at the house.

The party within returned the fire, which was answered by a volley of seven or eight shots.

The mob was heard to say, "We are too weak, we must go back for more force," and retired. A party of troops were left in charge of the house for the night.

6 PAPERS *relative to the REMOVAL of the SEAT of GOVERNMENT,*

CANADA.

Information of the construction of barricades reached the magistrate at the Government House at ten o'clock, when he called out the troops and proceeded to demolish them, which was easily done.

From this time the city was tranquil. At five o'clock on the following morning the police report having found barricades erected in the same street. All the attempts at barricades were most insignificant, and apparently thrown together for no practical object.

It was necessary to continue the same military precautions during the night of the 16th, in consequence of the excitement caused by the inquest then being held on the body of the man who died from wounds received in the attack on Mr. Lafontaine's house. Small mobs, composed of the lowest class, collected at several parts of the town, but were dispersed. Mr. Drolet, who gave evidence against one of the men arrested for arson, was attacked and severely beaten, and a number of blocks of wood, used for paving the street, were thrown together in Notre Dame-street, in humble imitation of a barricade. They were soon knocked down by the troops.

On the 17th the inquest continued its sitting, and the coroner requested a party of troops to protect the witnesses, which was granted.

The town was placarded with inflammatory notices of the funeral of the man who died of his wounds. The same military arrangements were made for the night; the guard increased at Mr. Lafontaine's house; and the mayor, who had issued a proclamation against assemblages, was on duty with the city police and two city councillors during the night, and Lieut.-General Rowan visited the different posts.

No disturbance took place. On the 18th strong military detachments were ready to turn out in the event of riot.

The Hon. Jas. Leslie, Secretary,
&c. &c. &c.

(Signed)

C. WETHERALL, Special Magistrate.
W. K. McCOURT.
W. ERMATINGER, J. P.

No. 5.

(No. 113.)

No. 5.

COPY of a DESPATCH from Governor-General the Right Hon. the Earl of
ELGIN AND KINCARDINE to Earl GREY.

Government House, Toronto. November 18, 1849.

(Received December 19, 1849.)

(Answered January 1, 1850, No. 442, p. 23.)

MY LORD,

* Page 22.

1. WITH reference to your Lordship's Despatch, No. 417,* of the 14th September, in which you express the opinion, that the spirit of insubordination existing in the city of Montreal, would appear to render it a very unfit place for the seat of the Provincial Government, and for the meeting of the Legislature, I have the honour to report, that I have resolved on the advice of my Council, and after full and anxious deliberation, to act on the recommendation of the House of Assembly, conveyed in the address of which a copy was transmitted to your Lordship in my Despatch, No. 55, of the 29th May, and with that view to summon the Provincial Parliament for the next session at Toronto.

† Page 2.

2. Exception is taken to the system of alternating Parliaments on various grounds, chiefly on that of its alleged inconvenience and expense. It is to be observed, however, on this head, that buildings which with moderate additions and repairs may be fitted for the uses of Parliament and of the departments of State, exist both at Toronto and Quebec, while the St. Lawrence and its canals afford the greatest facilities for the cheap and expeditious conveyance of the records of Government between these two points. Looking at these facts and to the considerations of public policy advanced in the address of the Assembly, I am disposed to believe that the advantages attending this arrangement will be found in practice to outweigh its inconveniences.

3. I enclose a copy of the Minute of the Executive Council embodying the decision of this Government on the subject of the removal of the seat of Government.

I have, &c.,

The Right Hon. Earl Grey,
&c. &c.

(Signed) ELGIN AND KINCARDINE.

Enclosure in No. 5.

CANADA.

Encl. in No. 5.

EXTRACT from a REPORT of a COMMITTEE of the Honourable the EXECUTIVE COUNCIL on Matters of State, dated October 18, 1849, approved by his Excellency the Governor-General in Council on the same day.

THE Committee of the Executive Council have had under consideration upon your Excellency's reference, the Resolution of the Honourable the Legislative Council, and also the Address of the Honourable the Legislative Assembly of last Session, on the subject of the place at which the future Sessions of the Provincial Parliament should be holden, together with your Excellency's answer to the latter; and the Committee most respectfully beg leave to report, that after the best consideration that they have been able to give the matter, they see no sufficient grounds arising out of anything that has transpired since the prorogation of Parliament, to lead them to a different conclusion upon this question from that arrived at by the popular branch of the Legislature in their Address. The Committee therefore respectfully advise your Excellency that the recommendation of the House of Assembly, that Parliament be in future convened alternately at Toronto and Quebec during periods not exceeding four years at each place, be adopted and acted upon.

As it would be manifestly most inconvenient to have the public archives and the departments of the State at a different place from that at which the Parliament is to sit, the Committee conceive that the adoption of the views of the House of Assembly in this particular, leads of necessity to the removal of those archives and departments to the place at which Parliament is to be assembled. They therefore conceive it to be expedient that the place where it may be your Excellency's pleasure to summon Parliament for the next session should be decided upon, and the necessary steps taken for the removal of the public departments thither with as little delay as possible. And they are respectfully of opinion that, under all circumstances, it will be most expedient that such removal should in the first instance be to the city of Toronto, for the period of the constitutional duration of the present Parliament, and that the quadrennial periods of alternation be commenced with the removal to Quebec, at the expiration of that time.

The Committee would also recommend that, in order to prevent any misapprehension as to the full intention of the Government and Parliament to carry out strictly the principle of an alternate periodical residence in each section of the Province, estimates be prepared and submitted to Parliament at the next session, for making such alterations and additions in and to the public buildings, both at Toronto and Quebec, as may be necessary for the accommodation of the Representative of the Sovereign, the departments of State, and both houses of Parliament in each of those cities.

The Committee are also of opinion, that the Honourable the Commissioners of Public Works be charged with the removal of the public archives and property to Toronto, and with the making the necessary temporary arrangements there for the reception and accommodation of your Excellency, the public departments, and both houses of the Provincial Parliament, and that accountable warrants, to an amount not exceeding in the whole the sum of 3,000*l.*, be from time to time issued to them, to cover the necessary expense of such removal and arrangements.

With respect to the expense of removing the public officers, their families and effects, the Committee would advise that the course followed on the removal from Kingston, in 1844, be adopted on the present occasion, that the payment of such expense out of the public funds should be favourably recommended by your Excellency to Parliament at the next session, and that in the meantime these different parties be informed that transport will be provided for them by the Commissioners of Public Works, with whom they must communicate on the subject; and that, should the Legislature not approve of its being done at the public expense, the respective amounts paid on their account will be deducted from their salaries falling due on the 1st of July next.

The Committee also respectfully recommend, that the substance of this Minute be communicated by Mr. Secretary Leslie to the heads of the different public departments, for the information of themselves, their officers, and clerks.

(Certified)

J. JOSEPH, C. E. C.

(No. 114.)

No. 6.

No. 6.

COPY of a DESPATCH from Governor-General the Right Hon. the Earl of ELGIN AND KINCARDINE to Earl GREY.

Government House, Toronto, November 19, 1849.

(Received December 19, 1849.)

(Answered January 9, 1850, No. 448, page 23.)

MY LORD,

I HAVE the honour to transmit herewith, in order that it may be laid at the foot of the Throne, an Address to Her Majesty the Queen, from the warden and councillors of the Municipal Council of the Gore District.

I have, &c.,

The Right Hon. Earl Grey,
&c.

(Signed) ELGIN AND KINCARDINE.

245
8 PAPERS *relative to the* REMOVAL of the SEAT of GOVERNMENT,

CANADA.

Encl. in No. 6.

Enclosure in No. 6.

MOST GRACIOUS SOVEREIGN,

WE, Your Majesty's most dutiful and loyal subjects, the Warden and Councillors of the Municipal Council of the District of Gore, in Council assembled,

Having seen a document issued from, or by a portion of the inhabitants of the city of Montreal, advocating the separation of Your Majesty's North American provinces from their connexion with the parent state, would embrace the present opportunity of repudiating, in the strongest manner, the doctrines and views propounded therein.

We feel it our duty, representing, as we do, the inhabitants of this loyal district, to express our determination to oppose, by all means in our power, any movement of such a traitorous tendency. Your Majesty's Government having conceded to us the entire management of our local affairs, and all the blessings of British constitutional Government, we desire no more, can we imagine that annexation to the adjoining republic will have any tendency to remove any or all of the evils of what kind soever, real or imaginary, under which these provinces at present labour.

(Signed)

SAMUEL CLARKE,

Warden, Gore District.

Council Chamber, City of Hamilton,
November 1, 1849.

No. 7.

(No. 127.)

No. 7.

COPY of a DESPATCH from Governor-General the Right Hon. the Earl of ELGIN AND KINCARDINE to Earl GREY.

Government House, Montreal, December 3, 1849.

(Received December 31, 1849.)

(Answered January 9, 1850, No. 448, page 23.)

MY LORD,

I HAVE the honour to transmit herewith copies of addresses which I have received from the officers of militia and others, in various parts of Lower Canada, expressive of their dutiful attachment to Her Majesty, and of their desire for the maintenance of the connexion between the colony and the mother country.

I have, &c.,

The Right Hon. Earl Grey,
&c. &c.

(Signed) ELGIN AND KINCARDINE.

Encl. 1 in No. 7.

Enclosure 1 in No. 7.

MONSIEUR,

Pointe Levy, 30. Octobre, 1849.

JE prends la liberté de vous adresser l'adresse des officiers du 8^{me} bataillon de Dorchester à son Excellence le Gouverneur Général protestant contre le manifeste des annexionistes de Montréal, et exprimant le desir des signataires de demeurer fermement attachés au Gouvernement de Sa Majesté Britannique. Vous voudrez bien la remettre à son Excellence et lui témoigner pour moi le respect le plus profond de

Votre très humble et très obéissant servateur,

E. DALAIRE, Lieut.-Col., 8 B. R.D

A son Excellence le très-Honorable Comte d'ELGIN ET KINCARDINE, etc., etc., etc.

Nous soussignés Lieutenant-Colonel et Officiers de Milice du 8^{me} bataillon du regiment de Dorchester, désirons faire connaître à votre Excellence les sentimens de regrets et de désapprobation que nous avons éprouvés à la lecture d'une adresse au peuple du Canada, ayant pour but la séparation du Canada d'avec la Grande Bretagne et l'annexion aux Etats Unis d'Amérique. Nous croyons devoir assurer votre Excellence que nous nous opposerons par tous les moyens possibles à toute agitation tendante à renverser la constitution et que nous serons toujours prêts à marcher à la défense de la Constitution sous laquelle nous avons l'honneur de servir.

St. Henri, se 29^e jour d'Octobre, 1849.

(Here follow 29 signatures.)

and to the ANNEXATION MOVEMENT.

MONSIEUR,

S. Anne de la Pocatière, 4 Novembre, 1849.

CANADA.

J'ai l'honneur de vous prier au noms de mes concitoyens de vouloir bien présenter à son Excellence le Gouverneur Général l'adresse ci-inclus.

J'ai l'honneur d'être, Monsieur,

Votre très humble et obeissant serviteur,

L' Honorable J. Leslie, Montréal.

D. S. MARGUIS.

A son Excellence le très Honorable Comte d'ELGIN ET KINCARDINE, etc., etc., etc.

Nous les soussignés Officiers de Milice commandants le 4^{me} bataillon du régiment de Kamouraska, et les habitants de la paroisse de S^{te}. Anne de la Pocatière dans le comté de Kamouraska, nous empressons de protester hautement contre un certain manifeste publié dernièrement à Montréal adressé au peuple du Canada, lequel document, sous le specieux prétexte de demander une séparation paisible du Canada d'avec la Grande Bretagne, ne tend à rien moins qu'à troubler la paix publique, et servir les vues séditeuses d'une minorité de démagogues. Nous saisissons cette occasion pour prier votre Excellence de vouloir bien agréer l'expression de notre sincère attachement à notre très Gracieuse Souveraine, et de compter sur notre loyauté si jamais le devoir nous appelle à la défense de notre constitution.

S^{te}. Anne de la Pocatière, 3 Novembre, 1849.

(Here follow 35 signatures.)

SIR,

Quebec, November 3, 1849.

I HAVE the honour to transmit a memorial of the Lieutenant-Colonel and officers of the 1st battalion of the county of Dorchester, assuring his Excellency of their opposition to the annexation, and of their loyalty towards the British Empire, which I pray you will be pleased to submit to his Excellency the Governor-General.

I have, &c.,

Hon. J. Leslie, Provincial Secretary,
&c. &c. &c.

F. LEMIEUX.

A son Excellence Lord ELGIN, Gouverneur-Général de la Province du Canada, etc., etc., etc.

Nous soussignés, les Officiers et la Lieutenant-Colonel du premier bataillon du régiment du comté de Dorchester, désirons manifester à votre Excellence,

Que nous avons vu avec chagrin certaines entreprises originées à Montréal, relativement à un projet d'annexion de cette province aux Etats voisins;

Que voulant rester fideles et sincèrement attachés au Gouvernement de Sa Majesté en cette province, nous repoussons loyalement l'esprit et les tendances de ces entreprises;

Que nous sommes disposés à maintenir par nos paroles et nos actes les sentiments de notre loyauté, en même tems que nous sommes également disposés à les rappeler à nos subordonnés tel que les devoirs de notre position l'exigent;

Que nous reconnoissons plus que jamais les bienfaits de la Couronne Britannique, envers ce pays, et que par conséquent, outre tant d'autres motifs puissants de lui rester attachés nous aimons à dire que loin de chercher aujourd'hui à rompre les liens de notre union, c'est plutôt le tems de les resserrer d'avantage.

St. Joseph Pointe Levy, 2 Novembre, 1849.

(Here follow 38 signatures.)

SIR,

Quebec, October 20, 1849.

I HAVE the honour to enclose herewith an address to his Excellency the Governor-General from several field-officers of militia, in Quebec, expressive of our firm attachment to Our Most Gracious Sovereign and our assurance of support in defence of the Constitution, which I have to request you will be pleased to place before his Excellency as early as possible; and with an assurance of my respect for his Excellency personally as well as in his capacity of representative of our Sovereign,

I have, &c.,

Hon. James Leslie, Provisional Secretary,
&c. &c. &c.

J. G. IRVINE, Lieut-Col.
Dep. Quartermaster Gen. of Militia.

P.S. May I beg the favour of an acknowledgement of the address, that I may communicate its reception to my brother officers?

J. G. I.

10 PAPERS relative to the REMOVAL of the SEAT of GOVERNMENT,

CANADA.

To his Excellency the Right Hon. the Earl of ELGIN AND KINCARDINE.

MAY IT PLEASE YOUR EXCELLENCY,

WE the undersigned officers of militia and lieutenant-colonels commanding battalions of the regiments of Quebec, desire to convey to your Excellency our deep concern and regret on reading a document lately issued by a number of persons in Montreal addressed to the people of Canada, having for its object the severance of this province from the British Empire.

And as it is our duty, so shall we oppose by every means in our power, any agitation having a tendency to subvert the constitution.

And we further beg leave respectfully to assure your Excellency of our firm attachment to our most Gracious Sovereign, and that we are, and ever shall be, ready to stand forward in defence of the glorious constitution under which it is our happiness to serve.

[Here follow 11 signatures.]

Quebec, Oct. 20, 1849.

Encl. 2 in No. 7.

Enclosure 2 in No. 7.

SIR,

Secretary's Office, Toronto, Nov. 28, 1849.

I HAVE laid before the Governor-General, the loyal protestation of the field officers of militia of Quebec, against the attempts lately made with a view to the dismemberment of the powerful and glorious empire of which this fine province forms an important part; and I am commanded by his Excellency to express to those gentlemen the lively satisfaction with which he has received this new proof of the attachment of Her Majesty's Canadian subjects towards the British Crown, and of a due appreciation, on their part, of the advantages secured to them under their present political state, which requires but the cordial co-operation of her inhabitants to make Canada one of the happiest and most prosperous countries of the world.

I have, &c.

Lieut.-Colonel Irvine,
&c. &c.

J. LESLIE, Secretary.

[Mem. Answers similar to the above were given in French, (*mutatis mutandis*) to the three preceding addresses.]

No. 8.

(No. 129.)

No. 8.

COPY of a DESPATCH from Governor-General the Right Hon. the Earl of ELGIN AND KINCARDINE to Earl GREY.

Government House, Toronto, December 3, 1849.

(Received Dec. 31, 1849.)

(Answered January 9, 1850, No. 448, page 23.)

MY LORD,

Encl. 1, page 11.

I HAVE the honour to transmit herewith the printed copy of an address to the people of Canada, which appeared some weeks ago in Montreal, and has been extensively circulated, recommending separation from Great Britain, and annexation to the United States, as the remedy for certain ills under which the province is alleged to suffer. Among the signatures to this document are those of two Queen's Counsel, and of some gentlemen holding commissions as justices of the peace and officers of militia. I have considered it to be my duty to cause a circular letter to be addressed to these gentlemen with the view of ascertaining whether their names have been attached to it with their consent. Some have answered this inquiry in the negative, some in the affirmative, while others have denied the right of the Government to put the question, and declined to reply to it. I have resolved, with the advice of the Executive Council, to remove from such offices as are held during the pleasure of the Crown, the gentlemen who have admitted the genuineness of their signatures and those who have refused to disavow them. The Minute of Council which I enclose herewith, gives the ground of this decision.

Encl. 2, page 13.

I have, &c.

The Right Hon. Earl Grey,
&c. &c.

(Signed) ELGIN AND KINCARDINE.

Enclosure 1 in No. 8.

CANADA.

MONTREAL ANNEXATION MANIFESTO!

Encl. 1 in No. 8.

TO THE PEOPLE OF CANADA.

THE number and magnitude of the evils that afflict our country, and the universal and increasing depression of its material interests, call upon all persons animated by a sincere desire for its welfare to combine for the purpose of inquiry and preparation, with a view to the adoption of such remedies as a mature and dispassionate investigation may suggest.

Belonging to all parties, origins, and creeds, but yet agreed upon the advantage of co-operation for the performance of a common duty to ourselves and our country, growing out of a common necessity, we have consented, in view of a brighter and happier future, to merge in oblivion all past differences, of whatever character, or attributable to whatever source. In appealing to our fellow colonists to unite with us in this our most needful duty, we solemnly conjure them, as they desire a successful issue and the welfare of their country, to enter upon the task, at this momentous crisis, in the same fraternal spirit.

The reversal of the ancient policy of Great Britain, whereby she withdrew from the colonies their wonted protection in her markets, has produced the most disastrous effects upon Canada. In surveying the actual condition of the country, what but ruin or rapid decay meets the eye! Our provincial Government and civic corporations embarrassed; our banking and other securities greatly depreciated; our mercantile and agricultural interests alike unprosperous; real estate scarcely saleable upon any terms; our unrivalled rivers, lakes, and canals, almost unused; whilst commerce abandons our shores; the circulating capital, amassed under a more favourable system, is dissipated, with none from any quarter to replace it! Thus, without available capital, unable to effect a loan with foreign states or with the mother country, although offering security greatly superior to that which readily obtains money both from the United States and Great Britain, when other than colonists are the applicants. Crippled, therefore, and checked in the full career of private and public enterprise, this possession of the British Crown—our country—stands before the world in humiliating contrast with its immediate neighbours, exhibiting every symptom of a nation fast sinking to decay.

With superabundant water power, and cheap labour, especially in Lower Canada, we have yet no domestic manufactures; nor can the most sanguine, unless under altered circumstances, anticipate the home growth, or advent from foreign parts, of either capital or enterprise, to embark in this great source of national wealth. Our institutions, unhappily, have not that impress of permanence which can alone impart security and inspire confidence; and the Canadian market is too limited to tempt the foreign capitalist.

Whilst the adjoining States are covered with a net-work of thriving railways, Canada possesses but three lines, which, together, scarcely exceed 50 miles in length, and the stock in two of which is held at a depreciation of from 50 to 80 per cent.—a fatal symptom of the torpor overspreading the land.

Our present form of provincial Government is cumbrous, and so expensive as to be ill suited to the circumstances of the country; and the necessary reference it demands to a distant Government, imperfectly acquainted with Canadian affairs, and somewhat indifferent to our interests, is anomalous and irksome. Yet, in the event of a rupture between two of the most powerful nations of the world, Canada would become the battle-field and the sufferer, however little her interests might be involved in the cause of quarrel or the issue of the contest.

The bitter animosities of political parties and factions in Canada, often leading to violence, and, upon one occasion, to civil war, seem not to have abated with time; nor is there, at the present moment, any prospect of diminution or accommodation. The aspect of parties becomes daily more threatening towards each other, and, under our existing institutions and relations, little hope is discernible of a peaceful and prosperous administration of our affairs, but difficulties will, to all appearance, accumulate until government becomes impracticable. In this view of our position, any course that may promise to efface existing party distinctions and place entirely new issues before the people, must be fraught with undeniable advantages.

Among the statesmen of the mother country—among the sagacious observers of the neighbouring republic—in Canada—and in all British North America—amongst all classes, there is a strong pervading conviction that a political revolution in this country is at hand. Such forebodings cannot readily be dispelled, and they have, moreover, a tendency to realize the events to which they point. In the meanwhile, serious injury results to Canada from the effect of this anticipation upon the more desirable class of settlers, who naturally prefer a country under fixed and permanent forms of government to one in a state of transition.

Having thus adverted to some of the causes of our present evils, we would consider how far the remedies ordinarily proposed possess sound and rational inducements to justify their adoption:—

1. "The revival of protection in the markets of the United Kingdom."

This, if attainable in a sufficient degree, and guaranteed for a long period of years, would ameliorate the condition of many of our chief interests; but the policy of the empire forbids the anticipation. Besides, it would be but a partial remedy. The millions of the mother country demand cheap food; and a second change from protection to free trade would complete that ruin which the first has done much to achieve.

2. "The protection of home manufactures."

Although this might encourage the growth of a manufacturing interest in Canada, yet, without access to the United States market, there would not be a sufficient expansion of that interest, from the want of consumers, to work any result that could be admitted as a "remedy" for the numerous evils of which we complain.

249

12 PAPERS *relative to the* REMOVAL *of the* SEAT *of* GOVERNMENT,

CANADA.

3. "A Federal Union of the British American Provinces."

The advantages claimed for that arrangement are free trade between the different provinces, and a diminished governmental expenditure. The attainment of the latter object would be problematical, and the benefits anticipated from the former might be secured by legislation under our existing system. The markets of the sister provinces would not benefit our trade in timber, for they have a surplus of that article in their own forests; and their demand for agricultural products would be too limited to absorb our means of supply. Nor could Canada expect any encouragement to her manufacturing industry from those quarters. A Federal Union, therefore, would be no remedy.

4. "The independence of the British North American colonies as a Federal Republic."

The consolidation of its new institutions from elements hitherto so discordant—the formation of treaties with foreign powers—the acquirement of a name and character among the nations—would, we fear, prove an over-match for the strength of the new republic. And, having regard to the powerful confederacy of States conterminous with itself, the needful military defences would be too costly to render independence a boon, whilst it would not, any more than a Federal Union, remove those obstacles which retard our material prosperity.

5. "Reciprocal free trade with the United States, as respects the products of the farm, the forest, and the mine."

If obtained, this would yield but an instalment of the many advantages which might be otherwise secured. The free interchange of such products would not introduce manufactures to our country. It would not give us the North American continent for our market. It would neither so amend our institutions as to confer stability nor ensure confidence in their permanence; nor would it allay the violence of parties, or, in the slightest degree, remedy many of our prominent evils.

6. Of all the remedies that have been suggested for the acknowledged and insufferable ills with which our country is afflicted, there remains but one to be considered. It propounds a sweeping and important change in our political and social condition, involving considerations which demand our most serious examination. This remedy consists in a "Friendly and peaceful separation from British connexion, and a union upon equitable terms with the great North American confederacy of sovereign States."

We would premise, that towards Great Britain we entertain none other than sentiments of kindness and respect. Without her consent we consider separation as neither practicable nor desirable. But the colonial policy of the parent state, the avowals of her leading statesmen, the public sentiments of the empire, present unmistakable and significant indications of the appreciation of colonial connexion. That it is the resolve of England to invest us with the attributes, and compel us to assume the burdens of independence, is no longer problematical. The threatened withdrawal of her troops from other colonies—the continuance of her military protection to ourselves only on the condition that we shall defray the attendant expenditure, betoken intentions towards our country, against which it is weakness in us not to provide. An overruling conviction, then, of its necessity, and a high sense of the duty we owe to our country, a duty we can neither disregard nor postpone, impel us to the idea of separation; and whatever negotiations may eventuate with Great Britain, a grateful liberality on the part of Canada should mark every proceeding.

The proposed Union would render Canada a field for American capital, into which it would enter as freely for the prosecution of public works and private enterprise as into any of the present States. It would equalize the value of real estate upon both sides of the boundary, thereby probably doubling at once the entire present value of property in Canada, whilst, by giving stability to our institutions and introducing prosperity, it would raise our public, corporate, and private credit. It would increase our commerce both with the United States and foreign countries, and would not necessarily diminish to any great extent our intercourse with Great Britain, into which our products would for the most part enter on the same terms as at present. It would render our rivers and canals the highway for the immigration to, and exports from, the West, to the incalculable benefit of our country. It would also introduce manufactures into Canada as rapidly as they have been introduced into the Northern States; and to Lower Canada especially, where water privileges and labour are abundant and cheap, it would attract manufacturing capital, enhancing the value of property and agricultural produce, and giving remunerative employment to what is at present a comparatively non-producing population. Nor would the United States merely furnish the capital for our manufactures. They would also supply for them the most extensive market in the world, without the intervention of a Custom-House officer. Railways would forthwith be constructed by American capital as feeders for all the great lines now approaching our frontiers; and railway enterprise in general would doubtless be as active and prosperous among us as among our neighbours. The value of our agricultural produce would be raised at once to a par with that of the United States, while agricultural implements and many of the necessaries of life, such as tea, coffee, and sugar, would be greatly reduced in price.

The value of our timber would also be greatly enhanced by free access to the American market, where it bears a high price, but is subject to an onerous duty. At the same time there is every reason to believe that our shipbuilders, as well at Quebec as on the Great Lakes, would find an unlimited market in all the ports of the American continent. It cannot be doubted that the shipping trade of the United States must greatly increase. It is equally manifest that, with them, the principal material in the construction of ships is rapidly diminishing, while we

possess vast territories, covered with timber of excellent quality, which would be equally available as it is now, since under the free trade system our vessels would sell as well in England after annexation as before.

The simple and economical State Government, in which direct responsibility to the people is a distinguishing feature, would be substituted for a system at once cumbrous and expensive.

In place of war and the alarms of war with a neighbour, there would be peace and amity between this country and the United States. Disagreement between the United States and her chief, if not only, rival among nations would not make the soil of Canada the sanguinary arena for their disputes, as under our existing relations must necessarily be the case. That such is the unenviable condition of our state of dependence upon Great Britain is known to the whole world, and how far it may conduce to keep prudent capitalists from making investments in the country, or wealthy settlers from selecting a fore-doomed battle-field for the home of themselves and their children, it needs no reasoning on our part to elucidate.

But other advantages than those having a bearing on our material interests may be foretold. It would change the ground of political contest between races and parties, allay and obliterate those irritations and conflicts of rancour and recrimination which have hitherto disfigured our social fabric. Already in anticipation has its harmonious influence been felt—the harbinger may it be hoped of a lasting oblivion of dissensions among all classes, creeds, and parties in the country. Changing a subordinate for an independent condition, we would take our station among the nations of the earth. We have now no voice in the affairs of the Empire, nor do we share in its honours or emoluments. England is our parent state, with whom we have no equality, but towards whom we stand in the simple relation of obedience. But as citizens of the United States the public service of the nation would be open to us—a field for high and honourable distinction on which we and our posterity might enter on terms of perfect equality.

Nor would the amicable separation of Canada from Great Britain be fraught with advantages to us alone. The relief to the Parent State from the large expenditure now incurred in the military occupation of the country—the removal of the many causes of collision with the United States, which result from the contiguity of mutual territories so extensive, the benefit of the larger market which the increasing prosperity of Canada would create, are considerations which, in the minds of many of her ablest statesmen, render our incorporation with the United States a desirable consummation.

To the United States also the annexation of Canada presents many important inducements. The withdrawal from the borders of so powerful a nation, by whom in time of war the immense and growing commerce of the lakes would be jeopardized,—the ability to dispense with the costly but ineffectual revenue establishment over a frontier of many hundred miles,—the large accession to their income from our Customs,—the unrestricted use of the St. Lawrence, the natural highway from the Western States to the ocean,—are objects for the attainment of which the most substantial equivalents would undoubtedly be conceded.

FELLOW COLONISTS :

We have thus laid before you our views and convictions on a momentous question, involving a change which, though contemplated by many of us with varied feelings and emotions, we all believe to be inevitable,—one which it is our duty to provide for and lawfully to promote.

We address you without prejudice or partiality,—in the spirit of sincerity and truth,—in the interest of our common country,—and our single aim is its safety and welfare. If to your judgment and reason our object and aim be at this time deemed laudable and right, we ask an oblivion of past dissensions; and from all, without distinction of origin, party or creed, that earnest and cordial co-operation in such lawful, prudent, and judicious means as may best conduct us to our common destiny.

[969 signatures.]

Enclosure 2 in No. 8.

Encl. 2 in No. 8.

EXTRACT from a REPORT of a COMMITTEE of the Honourable the EXECUTIVE COUNCIL, dated 1st December, 1849, and approved of by His Excellency the Governor-General on the same day.

THE Committee of the Executive Council have had under consideration, on your Excellency's reference, certain letters addressed to Mr. Secretary Leslie by individuals holding commissions during the pleasure of the Crown, whose names appeared to an Address to the people of Canada, which was lately published in several of the newspapers of the province, and in which address, separation from the British Empire and annexation to the United States of America, are recommended as a remedy for certain evils under which the province is therein alleged to be labouring. These letters are in reply to inquiries made by Mr. Secretary Leslie, as to whether the name of the parties referred to had been attached to the Address by themselves, or with their consent. The Committee of Council observe, that some of the parties called on for explanation by Mr. Secretary, complain of this as an invasion by the Executive Government of their constitutional rights as British subjects. The Committee of Council, however, see nothing in the step thus taken partaking of such a character. There can be no doubt, in the opinion of the Committee of Council, that your Excellency must feel bound by a sense of duty as well to our beloved Sovereign and to the empire at large, as to the entire people of Canada, not only to maintain the connection with the parent state by the fullest exercise of all the powers conferred on you by Her Majesty, but to discourage by all the means constitutionally within your control any attempt calculated to impair it. In the performance of this duty, there can be no desire to question any one upon mere abstract specula-

14 PAPERS relative to the REMOVAL of the SEAT of GOVERNMENT,

CANADA.

tions regarding different forms of Government. It is for parties to satisfy themselves to what extent they may proceed with such speculations without the risk of compromising themselves by a breach of the laws of the land. When, however, an individual arrives at the deliberate conclusion that what he deems the evils under which his country labours, requires not merely a reformation of the Constitution, but its entire overthrow; and when such person entertains this opinion, not as a mere speculative theory possibly to be realized in some remote and undefined future, but actually takes measures directly intended to bring about such revolutionary change, it appears to the Committee perfectly obvious, that apart from all consideration or inquiry as to consequences of a still more serious character, such party should not be permitted to remain in the anomalous and invidious position of holding a commission during the pleasure of a sovereign power which he desires to subvert. The object of Mr. Secretary Leslie's letter was to ascertain whether the respective parties, being holders of such commission, had placed themselves in the position referred to. And the Committee find from the answers, that in some instances the signatures have been admitted; in others, they have been denied; while in others again the parties have failed to answer directly. Under these circumstances the Committee of Council would respectfully recommend that those gentlemen who have admitted their having been parties to the Address in question, and likewise those who have failed to give a direct denial of their having been so, should be removed from all offices held by them during the pleasure of to the Crown. And that the Honourable Mr. Leslie, Her Majesty's Provincial Secretary; do give the necessary directions herein accordingly.

(Certified) J. JOSEPH, C. E. C.

No. 9.

(No. 134.)

No. 9.

COPY of a DESPATCH from Governor-General the Right Hon. the Earl of ELGIN AND KINCARDINE to Earl GREY.

Government House, Toronto,
December 14, 1849.

(Received January 10, 1850.)

(Answered, February 9, 1850, No. 448, page 23.)

MY LORD,

I HAVE the honour to transmit herewith, for your Lordship's information, the copy of Resolutions unanimously adopted at a public meeting of the inhabitants of the town of London, expressive of loyalty to Her Majesty and attachment to British connexion.

(Signed)

I have, &c.,
ELGIN AND KINCARDINE.

The Right Hon. Earl Grey,
&c. &c. &c.

Encl. in No. 9.

Enclosure in No. 9.

SIR,

London, C. W., October 19, 1849.

IN compliance with a resolution passed at a public meeting of the inhabitants of this town, I have the honour to hand you a copy of the resolutions which were unanimously adopted on that occasion.

I have, &c.,
(Signed)

CHARLES HUTCHINSON,
Secretary of the Meeting.

The Hon. J. Leslie,
Provincial Secretary.

At a public meeting of the inhabitants of London, C. W., on the 19th October, 1849, convened by Thomas C. Dixon, Esq., Mayor, in compliance with a requisition numerous signed, the followingly requisitions were unanimously carried:—

1st.—That we view with surprise and regret the late movement in Montreal, suggesting a separation from the mother-country, and advocating a union with the United States.

2nd.—That our allegiance to our beloved Queen and attachment to the British Empire, are subjects of principle and feeling, and are not to be weighed in the scales of uncertain interests and speculations.

3rd.—That a calm comparison of the alleged advantages and disadvantages shows that it is not desirable, even on the grounds urged by its advocates.

4th.—That a copy of these resolutions be forwarded to the Secretary of this province.

(No. 138.)

No. 10.

CANADA

No. 10.

COPY of a DESPATCH from Governor-General the Right Hon. the Earl of ELGIN AND KINCARDINE to Earl GREY.

Government House, Montreal,
December 28, 1849.

(Received January 23, 1850.)

(Answered February 18, 1849, No. 468, page 24.)

MY LORD,

IN reply to your Lordship's Despatch No. 433, of the 16th November, I think it right to state that the signature of Mr. J. G. Mackenzie is affixed to the document transmitted in my Despatch No. 129,* of the 3rd instant, in which separation from Great Britain and annexation to the United States of America is recommended as the remedy for certain evils under which this province is alleged to suffer; and that it was affixed thereto with his consent, as appears from a letter from him to the Provincial Secretary, of which I enclose a copy. I am not aware of any other objection to the confirmation of that gentleman's appointment as Portuguese Consul at Montreal.

* Page 10.

I have, &c.,
(Signed) ELGIN AND KINCARDINE.

The Right Hon. Earl Grey,
&c. &c. &c.

Enclosure in No. 10.

Encl. in No. 10.

SIR,

Montreal, November 2, 1849.

I HAVE the honour to acknowledge the receipt of your communication, dated 30th ult., requesting, by order of the Governor-General, to know whether my name, which has appeared in a document recommending annexation to the United States, had been placed there with my consent. In reply, I do not hesitate to declare that my signature was placed there not only deliberately, but cheerfully and voluntarily, conscientiously believing as I do that the best interests, ultimately, alike of this my adopted as well as that of the mother country, would be benefited by the change.

The Honourable James Leslie,
Provincial Secretary.

I have, &c.,
(Signed) J. G. MACKENZIE.

(No. 141.)

No. 11.

No. 11.

COPY of a DESPATCH from Governor-General the Right Hon. the Earl of ELGIN AND KINCARDINE to Earl GREY.

Government House, Toronto,
December 31, 1849.

(Received January 25, 1850.)

MY LORD,

WITH reference to my Despatch, No. 129,* of the 3rd instant, I have the honour to transmit herewith, for your Lordship's perusal, the printed copy of a further "Address to the people of Canada," from the body styling itself the Montreal Annexation Association.

* Page 10.

I have, &c.,
(Signed) ELGIN AND KINCARDINE.

The Right Hon. Earl Grey,
&c. &c. &c.

Enclosure in No. 11.

Encl. in No. 11.

ADDRESS of the MONTREAL ANNEXATION ASSOCIATION to the PEOPLE of CANADA.

FELLOW COLONISTS,

WHEN those whom we have the honour to represent undertook to recommend to you, in the address to the people of Canada, published in October last, the consideration of the peaceable separation of this province from Great Britain, and its annexation to the United States, they were fully aware of the responsibility which they assumed, and were, therefore, anxious to adopt only such measures as would be perfectly safe for those whose co-operation they sought

CANADA.

to enlist. They were ready to suffer whatever odium might for a time be cast on the movers in such a project; but they were resolved to do nothing which could cause civil commotion or personal calamity. Prepared to maintain the right of every people to choose that government which they believe most calculated to promote their own happiness and prosperity, they would not ask assent to any proposition which, followed out, might bring those who thought with them into armed conflict with those who differed from them. Conscious of obeying no other motives than those springing from patriotism disinterested and sincere, it was yet not without some hesitation that they committed themselves to a course which, although just and lawful, might divide them from many of their fellow-subjects, and from associations long endeared to them. The vast interest at stake—the welfare of themselves, their fellow-countrymen, and their posterity—urged them to proceed; and the favourable reception accorded to the expression of their opinion, has shown that they did not make a false estimate of the circumstances by which they were surrounded, nor of the good sense, justice, and liberality of the people of Great Britain. If we refer for a moment to the condemnation passed on the address by certain public writers of this province, (who, we are convinced, do not express the sentiments of the great body of the people,) we do so in no spirit of triumph. But it is of importance, for the advancement of the change we seek, to keep steadily before the public of Canada the fact, that this condemnation has not been confirmed by those in whose behalf it was professedly pronounced. Men in this colony, who arrogated the right of speaking for the Government and people of Great Britain, declared that we asked an impossibility, something to which Great Britain would never consent, which she would put down at all costs, even at that of bloodshed. They even urged the infliction of punishment—such as arbitrary power is able to visit on the guiltless expression of opinion without waiting to learn if those in whose behalf they would persecute, were really offended. We now stand in a totally different position from that which was occupied by the signers of the original address. The most influential organs of public opinion in the mother-country, as well as the understood organs of its Government, have spoken with as much distinctness as was possible in reply to an unofficial demand. We now know with certainty that for which we had before only well-founded belief—that the people of Great Britain acknowledge the right of the inhabitants of this province to choose for themselves, and to establish the government which they deem best adapted to secure prosperity, and comfort the greatest number. We here place a few of these declarations on record, not as our title to rights which we did not possess before, but as valuable acknowledgments of their existence:—

(From the London Times, October 31.)

“There was a time when so singular a document as this would have exposed its authors to the penalties of high treason, and the colony in which it was broached to the calamities of civil war; when every Englishman would have boiled with indignation at the presumption which complained of English dominion, and at the temerity which proposed to carry the presumption of language into action. But those days have passed away. We have been taught wisdom by experience; and the most valuable, as well as the most costly of our lessons, has been taught by the barren issue of a precipitate conflict with a province, which from remonstrances proceeded to rebellion, and crowned rebellion with independence. We should not go to war for the sterile honour of maintaining a reluctant colony in galling subjection; we should not purchase an unwilling obedience by an outlay of treasure or of blood. If, indeed, with colonial dependence or independence there were indissolubly bound up metropolitan prosperity or decay; if it were tolerably clear that the preservation of our colonial empire would ensure the preservation of metropolitan greatness, and that the latter would wane with the extinction of the former—then such suggestions as the Montreal Address contains would find no place in the discussions, no sympathy in the feelings, of the people in England. They would one and all identify their own interests and prosperity with that which their forefathers were content to regard for and by itself, viz., the supremacy of English power. But the difference between them and their forefathers is, that they will count and ponder on that more vulgar balance of profit and loss which was forgotten by the generation which hailed the commencement and lamented the conclusion of the great American war. Is the retention of Canada profitable, will its loss be hurtful, to England? is the question which Englishmen of the present day will put to themselves, as the converse of this question is that which Canadians are already discussing on their side. Meanwhile—ere this question be solved—let us congratulate ourselves on the reflection that the document which we have quoted proves that the political training which England gives to her colonists is one which need neither make them ashamed of her, nor her of them; and that the future which awaits men thus trained can never be obscure nor dishonourable.”

(From the London Times, November 2.)

“We retract nothing that we have said on the tone, the temper, and the gravity of the document. By whomsoever it was proposed, by whomsoever concocted, it reflects great credit on the skill, tact, and adroitness of its authors.”

(From the London Weekly Dispatch.)

“This movement is a fine and cheering example which is wonderfully well-timed for the world's instruction. Here is no bluster and bravado. No vituperations are uttered for past wrongs. No appeal is made to the god of battles. A violent separation is not proposed; nor even one which shall be involuntary on the part of Great Britain. We are treated like

(No. 433.)

No. 4.

CANADA.

No. 4.

COPY of a DESPATCH from Earl GREY to the Right Hon. the Earl of
ELGIN AND KINCARDINE.

MY LORD, Downing-street, November 16, 1849.

THE Portuguese Minister at this Court having requested Her Majesty's Government to grant the necessary exequatur to enable Mr. J. G. Mackenzie to be Portuguese Consul at Montreal, to enter upon the duties of his office, I have to desire that you will inform me whether you are aware of any objection to the confirmation of this gentleman's appointment.

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

The Right Hon. the Earl of Elgin and Kincardine,
&c. &c. &c.

(No. 442.)

No. 5.

No. 5.

COPY of a DESPATCH from Earl GREY to the Right Hon. the Earl of
ELGIN AND KINCARDINE.

MY LORD, Downing-street, January 1, 1850.

I HAVE had the honour to receive your Lordship's Despatch and its Enclosure of the 18th November, No. 113,* reporting that you had resolved, on the advice of your Council, and after full and anxious deliberation, to act on the recommendation of the House of Assembly on the subject of the place at which the future sessions of the Provincial Parliament should be held, and summon the next Parliament to meet at Toronto.

As the Assembly in their Address, of which you transmitted me a copy on the 29th of last May, proposed this arrangement, I have only to express my hope that it may prove successful, and my approbation of your Lordship's determination to act upon the opinion expressed to you by the representatives of the people of Canada.

I have, &c.,
(Signed) GREY

The Right Hon. the Earl of Elgin and Kincardine,
&c. &c. &c.

(No. 448.)

No. 6.

No. 6.

COPY of a DESPATCH from Earl GREY to the Right Hon. the Earl of
ELGIN AND KINCARDINE.

MY LORD, Downing-street, January 9, 1850.

I HAVE to acknowledge your Despatches of the dates and numbers quoted in the margin.

2. I have laid these Despatches before Her Majesty, and also the Addresses of the Warden and Councillors of the Municipal Council of the district of Gore; of the Lieut.-Colonel and Officers of Militia of the 1st and of the 8th Battalions of the Regiment of Dorchester; of the Officers of the 4th Battalion of the Regiment of Kamouraska, and the Inhabitants of the parish of St. Anne de la Pocatière; and of the Officers of Militia and Lieut.-Colonel commanding Battalions of the Regiment of Quebec; enclosed in the two first of these Despatches, which Her Majesty has been pleased to receive very graciously. It has afforded Her Majesty great satisfaction to receive these expressions of that loyalty and attachment to the British Crown which she trusts is generally felt by Her Canadian subjects.

3. With regard to the Address to the people of Canada in favour of severing the province from the British dominions for the purpose of annexing it to the United States, which forms the subject of the 3rd of these Despatches, I have to inform you that Her Majesty approves of your having dismissed from Her service those who have signed a document which is scarcely short of treasonable

No.
114, Nov. 19, 1849.
127, Dec. 3, 1849.
129, Dec. 3, 1849.
134, Dec. 14, 1849.

18 PAPERS *relative to the* REMOVAL *of the* SEAT *of* GOVERNMENT,

CANADA.

"And whereas, recent occurrences in the said province of Canada indicate a strong and growing desire on the part of the people thereof to avail themselves of the advantages of the foregoing offer, and to apply for admission among the sovereign States of this Union;

"Therefore, Resolved by the Senate and House of Representatives,—That, believing the admission of Canada into this Union to be a measure intimately connected with the permanent prosperity and glory of both countries, the Government of the State of Vermont is earnestly desirous to see such re-union effected, without a violation, on the part of the United States, of the amicable relations existing with the British Government, or of the law of nations.

"Resolved,—The peaceful annexation of Canada to the United States, with the consent of the British Government, and of the people of Canada, and upon just and honourable terms, is an object in the highest degree desirable to the people of the United States. It would open a wide and fertile field to the enterprise and the industry of the American people; it would extend the boundaries, and increase the power of our country; it would enlist a brave, industrious, and intelligent people under the flag of our nation; it would spread wide the liberal principles of republican government, and promote the preponderance of free institutions in this Union. We therefore trust that our national Government, in the spirit of peace and of courtesy to both the British Government and the people of Canada, will adopt all proper and honourable means to secure the annexation of Canada to the United States."

We were always persuaded that the people of Great Britain would consent to allow the separation which we desired, without which consent we would consider it neither practicable nor desirable, provided that separation were demanded by the majority of the people of Canada; but we know that many of our fellow-colonists thought otherwise, and were therefore waiting for the judgment of the people of Great Britain, before committing themselves to our movement. We can now confidently call on such persons to dismiss all considerations of that nature, and to apply themselves only to the comparison of our present position with that which we must expect to occupy as a sovereign State of the North American Union. If the change be beneficial, nothing prevents its accomplishment. YOU HAVE ONLY TO WILL IT. Motives for the change were set forth in considerable detail in the original Address to the people of Canada. Nothing has since occurred to make that statement less true. After all the vain attempts to show that a few expressions were exaggerated, or to disprove some isolated assertions, that representation of our condition remains unshaken. The belief in the more rapid progress of the United States than of Canada, does not, indeed, depend upon the evidences of any body of men who may address you to-day. The contrast is matter of daily, and to us of mortifying, observation. It has been related and deplored by every British traveller who has compared the two borders. All well-informed men, even in England, have repeatedly heard it, and read of it. It is past all honest doubt or denial. We here adduce the evidence of some witnesses—of men uninfluenced by prejudice except what is in favour of British rule.

(From the London Daily News.)

"To all who are acquainted with Canada, or have read the publications respecting it, which have appeared for a series of years back, this (the Manifesto) is quite intelligible. The contrast between the United States side of the boundary line and the Canadian has been the subject of frequent remark. A cool and dispassionate man of business, who visited Canada about a month ago, expresses himself, on this subject, in a letter that now lies before us, as follows:—

"I had often read of the contrast presented between the American and Canadian shores (of the St. Lawrence), but I could not have comprehended it in all its fulness unless I had witnessed it with my own eyes. On the one side all is life, activity, and prosperity; on the other it is like the stillness of death. Montreal is a very fine city, more like a European town than anything I have yet seen on the American continent; but where the universal complaint is, that their trade is gone. The mercantile classes seemed to me to be unanimous in favour of annexation; and one cannot wonder at it, when you find a merely nominal line separating them from the prosperity of their neighbours."

(From Lord Durham's Report.)

"Under such circumstances, there is little stimulus to industry or enterprise, and their effect is aggravated by the striking contrast presented by such of the United States as border upon this province, where all is activity and progress. * * * I allude to the striking contrast which is presented by the American and British sides of the frontier line, in respect of every sign of productive industry, increasing wealth, and progressive civilization. By describing one side, and reversing the picture, the other would also be described. On the American side all is activity and bustle. * * * On the British side of the line, with the exception of a few favoured spots, where some approach to American prosperity is apparent, all seems waste and desolate. * * * Throughout the course of these pages, I have constantly had occasion to refer to this contrast. I have not hesitated to do so, though no man's just pride in his country, and firm attachment to its institutions, can be more deeply shocked by the mortifying admission of inferiority. * * * The contrast which I have described is the theme of every traveller who visits these countries, and who observes on one side of the line the abundance, and on the other the scarcity of every sign of material prosperity, which thriving agriculture and flourishing cities indicate, and of that civilization which schools and churches testify even to the outward senses."

(From Dr. Dixon's Tour in America.)

CANADA.

"I found the country full of complaints and dissatisfaction from one end to the other. The people everywhere, and of all shades of politics, spoke the same language. Their fortunes were wrecked, their commerce destroyed; their agriculture, the sinews of the colony, enfeebled, ruined. * * * *

On the enactment of Lord Stanley's Bill respecting the admission of Canada flour into this country, a vast outlay in building mills took place, which mills had just begun to work profitably; but the new policy effectually crushed this trade. I myself saw one of these mills, belonging to one of our friends,—a new building of great size, and which must have cost many thousand pounds in its erecting,—standing still. This I understood was generally the case. * * * * In the present state of things, cast off by the mother-country, and left to their own resources, with the United States just by their side, possessing vast political power and influence; a growing credit, and monetary resources; a prodigious mercantile and commercial navy; an active, industrious, and virtuous people; a Government capable, in all respects, and equally disposed, to foster, protect, and strengthen all its possessions;—we say, with all these things staring them in the face, the policy of this country has made it the plain, palpable interest of the Canadians to seek for annexation. This is as clear as any problem in Euclid."

From a Letter by the Great Apostle of Temperance, Father Chiniquy, addressed to the Melanges Religieux of October 19, 1849, on his return from the United States.

"I do not exaggerate when I say that there are not less than 200,000 Canadians in the United States, and unless efficacious means are taken to stop this frightful emigration, before 10 years 200,000 more of our compatriots will have carried to the American Union their arms, their intelligence, and their hearts. It is no part of my present plan to examine the causes of this deplorable emigration; but it must be always true, that when a people *en masse* quits its country, it is because that unfortunate country is struck with some hideous plague—is devoured by some cancer. * * * * God has placed in the heart of man love for his country, and when a man turns his back upon his country, and with the eye moistened by tears bids it an eternal adieu, it is because something essential has been wanting to him in that country. It is because he has wanted bread, room, or just liberty. I leave others to say which of the three has been deficient in Canada. All that I can assure you of is, that in the United States these three essential elements of the life of nations are found in abundance."

Nor is the decline in prosperity caused by the reversal of the protective policy of the mother-country, by any means less evident than when the former Address was issued. We need go into no proofs of this allegation; they have been recently proclaimed by those who are opposed to the course we desire to adopt.

Under these circumstances, encouraged by Great Britain and the United States to act with freedom in the exercise of an enlightened judgment, do you see any other probable means of escape from a position of acknowledged inferiority than that which has been set before you by the advocates of annexation? Those who have protested against the Address to the people of Canada have declared their belief that the evils of which we complain, and which they recognize, might be removed by judicious legislation. They are now told that Great Britain can do nothing to restore our past advantages.

Thus says the *London Times* on this subject:—

"It must be admitted that the latter have grievances, though not all equally oppressive nor all of the same origin. They have been planted and thriven under protective laws. Those laws are now abrogated; and abrogated—as the people of Canada have the sense to see—without a chance of re-enactment. So far they suffer, in common with all our colonies, the effects of a bad and obsolete colonial system. The change, however, is made. The colonists know that what has been done will not be undone, and that the grain crops of Western Canada must compete in the markets of England with the grain crops of the United States, of Poland, and of the whole world. They are suffering from the revulsion."

In this particular, as in every other, the views of those who addressed you in favour of annexation have been fully confirmed.

Is there any brighter hope from another quarter? Our opponents maintain that present causes of complaint would be removed by the attainment of reciprocal free trade with the United States. It is perhaps too soon to affirm as a positive fact that this advantage cannot be obtained; but it is quite clear that those who lately vaunted most loudly the benefits to accrue from it, now despair of securing it. They have already begun to depreciate it as something of very inferior utility.

For the social and political disadvantages under which we labour no adequate remedy other than that which we advocate, has ever been proposed. The most able British writers—those best acquainted with the colony, acknowledge, and at the same time deplore them as inseparable from the colonial condition, and inevitable while that condition continues.

Our country is of no account in the congress of nations; as individuals we are practically excluded from the honours of the empire, while men, who have no permanent interest in our welfare, acquire riches, and obtain honours on our soil. We have no common objects of national pride and solicitude; but as citizens of the United States, we should attain a nationality worthy of our highest aspirations.

These sentiments have been so well expressed in a late work, "The Colonies of England," by J. A. Roebuck, Esq., M.P., that we here transcribe his language:—

"The career that lies between two men, one of whom has been born and lives upon the

CANADA.

southern shore of the St. Lawrence, and the other on the north of that river, is a striking example of the observation here made. The one is a citizen of the United States, the other a subject of England, a Canadian colonist. The one has a country which he can call his own: a great country already distinguished in arms, in arts, and in some degree in literature. In his country's honour and fame the American has a share, and he enters upon his career of life with lofty aspirations, hoping to achieve fame for himself in some of the many paths to renown which his country affords. She has a senate, an army, a navy, a bar, many powerful and wealthy churches; her men of science, her physicians, philosophers, are all a national brotherhood, giving and receiving distinction. How galling to the poor colonist is the contrast to this, which *his* inglorious career affords! *He* has no country—the place where he was born, and where he has to linger out his life unknown to fame, has no history—no past glory, no present renown. What there is of note is England's. Canada is not a nation; she is—a *colony*—a tiny sphere, the satellite of a mighty star in whose brightness she is lost. Canada has no navy, no army, no literature, no brotherhood of science. If, then, a Canadian looks for honour in any of these various fields, he must seek it as an Englishman; he must forget and desert his country before he can be known to fame."

If all these substantial arguments in favour of annexation remain unchanged, or have been strengthened by lapse of time, you will certainly not be deterred from pursuing the course indicated as desirable, by the arbitrary commands of those who assume to be your masters. Those who addressed you were known to be beyond suspicion of seeking personal emolument from the public funds. They employed no force but that of reason—they repudiated every means but that, most lawful—the assent of every constituted authority in the State. They desired to fortify, and where necessary, to create a public opinion in favour of their views, which should be manifested, not on paper merely, but in that authoritative way which the constitution has contemplated, in giving to the people the right of electing their legislators. They therefore did not endeavour to obtain all the names which might have been procured to the document they put forth. They were satisfied, when they had enrolled sufficient adherents without solicitation, to show that they were not a few deluded men, acting without warrant of wide-spread public thought. How have they been replied to? Their opponents have sent agents through the most populous counties immediately adjoining the city unexpectedly favoured by the removal of the seat of Government. As well there, as in this city, they have employed against us every influence derived from official patronage, and yet how trifling has been their success!

In the absence of argument, persecution has been resorted to by an Executive, affecting to owe its existence to the popular will, against such as dared assert the right, not of British subjects merely, but of intellectual beings,—the right of thought and of free discussion.

Fellow-colonists, will you submit to have your free political action suppressed by such means? Are your servants to dictate to you the subjects which may engage your attention, and prohibit all others under pain of their interference and censure? We trust not. We feel assured that you will be the more inclined to support those who have been opposed, by means which we will not characterise otherwise than as oppressive. We now call on such of you as are favourable to our views, to exert yourselves in order that the great object before us may be speedily attained. All agree in believing that annexation is inevitable; a mere question of time. It is our conviction that there can be no settled policy—no established public credit—no cessation of political strife—no prosperity—until we reach the state to which we are destined. Let us then unite to secure it as early as possible.

JOHN REDPATH,
President.

R. MACKAY,
A. H. DORION,
Secretaries.

Montreal, 15th December, 1849.

* * * The Annexation Association of Montreal begs to thank such portions of the Press as have lent them assistance for the able aid they have afforded. The Association, while it recognizes no exposition of its views, except those which shall be signed by its officers, feels a deep debt of gratitude to those who have generously stood up for truth and the people, against the obloquy which have been cast on both.

Despatches from the Right Hon. Earl Grey,
Secretary of State.

259
22 PAPERS *relative to the* REMOVAL of the SEAT of GOVERNMENT,

CANADA.

No. 1.

(No. 391.)

No. 1.

COPY of a DESPATCH from Earl GREY to the Right Hon. the Earl of
ELGIN AND KINCARDINE.

MY LORD,

Downing-street, July 11, 1849.

* Page 3.

I HAVE the honour to acknowledge the receipt of your Lordship's
Despatch of the 11th June,* transmitting the copy of a letter from the Mayor
of the City of Kingston, accompanied by the copy of a petition to Her Majesty
from the City Council, praying that the seat of Government in Canada may be
restored to that place.

In compliance with the request preferred by the Mayor in the letter
addressed to your Secretary, I have granted that gentleman an interview, but
in my opinion the question which has brought him to this country can best be
decided by the local Government.

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

The Right Hon. the Earl of Elgin and Kincardine,
&c. &c. &c.

No. 2.

(No. 392.)

No. 2.

COPY of a DESPATCH from Earl GREY to the Right Hon. the Earl of
ELGIN AND KINCARDINE.

MY LORD,

Downing-street, July 11, 1849.

* Page 2.

† Page 4.

I HAVE the honour to acknowledge the receipt of your Despatches,
No. 55,* of the 29th of May, transmitting an address from the Legislative
Assembly, together with your reply on the subject of the removal of the seat
of Government from Montreal, and No. 68,† of the 14th June, enclosing a
copy of a resolution of the Legislative Council on the project of holding alter-
nate Parliaments at Quebec and Toronto.

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

The Right Hon. the Earl of Elgin and Kincardine,
&c. &c. &c.

No. 3.

(No. 417.)

No. 3.

COPY of a DESPATCH from Earl GREY to the Right Hon. the Earl of
ELGIN AND KINCARDINE.

MY LORD,

Downing-street, September 14, 1849.

* Page 5.

I HAVE had the honour to receive your Lordship's Despatch of the
20th of August, No. 99,* transmitting the copy of a letter addressed to the
Provincial Secretary of Canada by the police magistrates of Montreal, re-
porting the occurrence of disturbances on the occasion of the arrest of certain
persons charged with having destroyed the Parliament House in April last.

I have received with great regret, the intelligence of these fresh inter-
ruptions of the public peace in Montreal, and I cannot withhold the expression
of my opinion, that the existence of such a spirit of insubordination in that
city would appear to render it a very unfit place for the seat of the Provincial
Government, and for the meeting of the Legislature.

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

The Right Hon. the Earl of Elgin and Kincardine,
&c. &c. &c.

(No. 433.)

No. 4.

CANADA.

No. 4.

COPY of a DESPATCH from Earl GREY to the Right Hon. the Earl of ELGIN AND KINCARDINE.

MY LORD, Downing-street, November 16, 1849.

THE Portuguese Minister at this Court having requested Her Majesty's Government to grant the necessary exequatur to enable Mr. J. G. Mackenzie to be Portuguese Consul at Montreal, to enter upon the duties of his office, I have to desire that you will inform me whether you are aware of any objection to the confirmation of this gentleman's appointment.

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

The Right Hon. the Earl of Elgin and Kincardine,
&c. &c. &c.

(No. 442.)

No. 5.

No. 5.

COPY of a DESPATCH from Earl GREY to the Right Hon. the Earl of ELGIN AND KINCARDINE.

MY LORD, Downing-street, January 1, 1850.

I HAVE had the honour to receive your Lordship's Despatch and its Enclosure of the 18th November, No. 113,* reporting that you had resolved, on the advice of your Council, and after full and anxious deliberation, to act on the recommendation of the House of Assembly on the subject of the place at which the future sessions of the Provincial Parliament should be held, and summon the next Parliament to meet at Toronto.

* Page 6.

As the Assembly in their Address, of which you transmitted me a copy on the 29th of last May, proposed this arrangement, I have only to express my hope that it may prove successful, and my approbation of your Lordship's determination to act upon the opinion expressed to you by the representatives of the people of Canada.

I have, &c.,
(Signed) GREY

The Right Hon. the Earl of Elgin and Kincardine,
&c. &c. &c.

(No. 448.)

No. 6.

No. 6.

COPY of a DESPATCH from Earl GREY to the Right Hon. the Earl of ELGIN AND KINCARDINE.

MY LORD, Downing-street, January 9, 1850.

I HAVE to acknowledge your Despatches of the dates and numbers quoted in the margin.

2. I have laid these Despatches before Her Majesty, and also the Addresses of the Warden and Councillors of the Municipal Council of the district of Gore; of the Lieut.-Colonel and Officers of Militia of the 1st and of the 8th Battalions of the Regiment of Dorchester; of the Officers of the 4th Battalion of the Regiment of Kamouraska, and the Inhabitants of the parish of St. Anne de la Pocatière; and of the Officers of Militia and Lieut.-Colonel commanding Battalions of the Regiment of Quebec; enclosed in the two first of these Despatches, which Her Majesty has been pleased to receive very graciously. It has afforded Her Majesty great satisfaction to receive these expressions of that loyalty and attachment to the British Crown which she trusts is generally felt by Her Canadian subjects.

No.
114, Nov. 19, 1849.
127, Dec. 3, 1849.
129, Dec. 3, 1849.
134, Dec. 14, 1849.

3. With regard to the Address to the people of Canada in favour of severing the province from the British dominions for the purpose of annexing it to the United States, which forms the subject of the 3rd of these Despatches, I have to inform you that Her Majesty approves of your having dismissed from Her service those who have signed a document which is scarcely short of treasonable

24 PAPERS *relative to* REMOVAL of the SEAT of GOVERNMENT, &c.

CANADA.

in its character. Her Majesty confidently relies on the loyalty of the great majority of Her Canadian subjects, and she is, therefore, determined to exert all the authority which belongs to Her, for the purpose of maintaining the connexion of Canada with this country, being persuaded that the permanence of that connexion is highly advantageous to both.

4. Your Lordship will, therefore, understand that you are commanded by Her Majesty to resist, to the utmost of your power, any attempt which may be made to bring about the separation of Canada from the British dominions, and to mark in the strongest manner Her Majesty's displeasure with all those who may directly or indirectly encourage such a design.

5. And if any attempt of this kind should take such a form, that those who are guilty of it may, according to such advice as you may receive from your law advisers, be made responsible for their conduct in a court of justice, you will not fail to take the necessary measures for bringing them to account.

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

The Right Hon. the Earl of Elgin and Kincardine,
&c. &c. &c.

No. 7.

(No. 468.)

No. 7.

COPY of a DESPATCH from Earl GREY to the Right Hon. the Earl of ELGIN AND KINCARDINE.

MY LORD,

Downing-street, February 18, 1850.

* Page 15.

I HAVE the honour to acknowledge the receipt of your Lordship's Despatch, No. 138,* of the 28th of December last, and to acquaint you, in answer, that I have apprised Viscount Palmerston that I regard the conduct of Mr. J. G. Mackenzie, in having affixed his name to the document advocating the annexation of Canada to the United States of America as a disqualification for the office of Consul which the Portuguese Government proposed to confer upon him.

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

The Right Hon. the Earl of Elgin and Kincardine,
&c. &c. &c.