

*To His Excellency The Honorable John Henry Thomas
Manners-Sutton, Lieutenant Governor, &c. &c. &c.*

MAY IT PLEASE YOUR EXCELLENCY,

The Committee of Council have had under consideration Your Excellency's Memorandum of the 2nd instant, accompanied with a second Letter from the late Postmaster General intended as a reply to our Communication to Your Excellency of the 23rd ultimo.

We are convinced that in the preparation of both the papers submitted to Your Excellency by Mr. Connell, he has been influenced more by a desire to avoid the discussion of the real grounds of his resignation than to represent accurately the policy and acts of his late colleagues in the Government.

His reference to what took place in Council on 10th April last—introduced for the purpose of establishing the position, that the cause of his resignation was not the refusal of the Government to issue the five-cent stamps—is rather unfortunate for him. The subject then under discussion was not, as Your Excellency may have been led from his communication to suppose, one of general interest, neither had it any connection with the points to which he refers in his first memorandum to Your Excellency in justification of his resignation. We shall recite the facts, simply because we find it necessary to place the matter fairly before Your Excellency:

At the commencement of the last Session of the Legislature, Mr. Connell undertook the management of addressing and dispatching the Journals and Debates of the Assembly—the expense of which has exceeded £200. At the meeting of Council referred to, Mr. Connell requested an order for a Warrant to pay the expenses incurred; but the amount being more than double what was originally anticipated, the Council asked a detailed statement of the services for which the sum named was required. This, Mr. Connell declined to give previous to the payments being made; and upon the Council's intimating their unwillingness to make the order until after the desired information was furnished, Mr. Connell expressed his disapproval of their decision; but he did not use the language quoted by him.

We cannot suppose for a moment that when that meeting of Council closed, Mr. Connell had the most remote idea of resigning his office; and we cannot be mistaken as to the real cause which eventually led to that result.

In our former Memorandum, we stated to Your Excellency that Mr. Connell had the assent of his colleagues to procure decimal Postage Stamps; and we again assert that the Council were kept in total ignorance of the design upon the five-cent stamps until after they were struck off and put in circulation.

The Council do not admit that the only knowledge they have of the detailed expenditure by the Board of Works is obtained at the Audit Office, or that the other Members of the Board exercise no supervision over the expenditure made by the Chief Commissioner; and Mr. Connell is well aware that one Member of that Board devotes considerable time in aiding the Head of the Department in carrying on and superintending the Public Works.

We regret that Mr. Connell has not read our memorandum to Your Excellency with more care. He says that we have not denied that our Minute of Council in relation to the University Bill, was a departure from the principle acquiesced in by us. We conceive that we denied it most distinctly when we asserted, "That the Minute of Council relating to the University Act, and the Act itself, so far from diminishing the power of control vested in the Provincial Government, actually enlarged it."

We do not quite understand what Mr. Connell means by his statements in reference to the survey of the lands reserved for the Saint Andrews and Quebec Railway Company. We cannot suppose that he intended to assert that all the reserved lands ought to have been granted to the Company in the Spring of 1859, as we believe that such was not his wish. The present position of the Company proves that had the Council then advised Your Excellency to grant them the whole of the reserve, they would have acted not only unwisely, but also in opposition to the spirit and letter of the law. And we cannot understand how the surveying of the whole tract in lots—instead of the 35,000 acres and running the side lines of the remainder of the reserve—could have prevented the financial embarrassments of the Company, or caused the suspension of the works.

Mr. Connell passes by our statement in relation to the European and North American Railway, by repeating his former assertion, and adding, "That it appears that it is still the intention of the Government to proceed with the extension from the terminus to deep water wharves." *We made no such statement.* We said, "If decided on, we are of opinion that it will not cost more than one tenth of the sum mentioned by Mr. Connell."

Your Excellency will doubtless recollect that we asserted that what Mr. Connell in his first Memorandum to Your Excellency called, an illegal expenditure of the Railway Funds for the construction of Bye Roads and Bridges, and which constituted one of the alleged grounds of his resignation, had actually received his support in Committee of Council. It is satisfactory to find that Mr. Connell admits the correctness of our statement in this respect; but he now seeks to justify that course by stating that in

doing so he expected to secure the erection of the Bridge over the Saint John near Woodstock. We assure Your Excellency that the proposition for the construction of the two approaches to the Railway Stations was not coupled with any such condition. Various estimates of the cost of the proposed Bridge at Woodstock having been made—varying from £7,500 to £25,000—plans with estimates were procured by the Government, but in doing this the Council did not suppose that that would be considered as a guarantee for its immediate construction; and the opinion of his colleagues upon this point was fully understood by Mr. Connell.

The policy of the Government in relation to the settlement of the Wilderness Lands of the Province, is just what it was before Mr. Connell joined it, and what it continued to be while he was a member of it. And we must express to Your Excellency our surprise that Mr. Connell should have penned such a paragraph as he has in relation to the Tract of Land surveyed in Carleton County, implying, as it does, that pledges given by the Government to the Reverend Mr. Glass, in relation to the opening up of the Roads, will not be fulfilled. Such a charge is utterly unfounded. Since Mr. Glass left New Brunswick he has made but one request to the Government, and that was for the survey of an additional 10,000 acres of Land near "Glassville," with a Road to be laid out through the same. This request was promptly and cheerfully complied with, and the Government will carry out in good faith all the engagements made for the opening up of that Settlement. While Mr. Connell was a Member of the Government, we had not the slightest grounds for supposing that any dissatisfaction existed upon this subject. We had no such intimation from the Reverend Mr. Glass either before or since Mr. Connell's resignation; and we need not assure Your Excellency that Mr. Connell's liberality will not be taxed to make good any of the engagements of the Government.

Mr. Connell having published his second Letter to Your Excellency, we respectfully request Your Excellency will authorize the publication of this our reply.

(Signed) CHARLES FISHER, A. J. SMITH,
JAMES BROWN, D. WARK,
S. L. TILLEY, CHAS. WATTERS,
W. H. STEEVES, PETER MITCHELL.

Council Chamber, 5th June, 1860.

MILITIA GENERAL ORDERS.

FREDERICTON, June 2, 1860.

HIS Excellency the Lieutenant Governor and Commander in Chief has been pleased to make the following promotions and appointments, viz:—

New Brunswick Yeomanry Cavalry.

Major James to be Lieutenant Colonel, May 29.

Major the Honorable L. A. Wilmot, from the York County Rifles, to be Major, May 29.

Lieutenant John Saunders, from 1st Battalion York County Militia, to be Captain, May 29.

H. Fairweather, Gent. to be Lieutenant, May 29.

William Segee, Gent. to be Lieutenant, May 30.

John H. Reid, Gent. to be Cornet, May 29.

First Battalion Northumberland County Militia.

Lieutenant J. M. Johnson (the Honorable the Speaker of the House of Assembly) to be Captain, February 24.

Daniel Ferguson, Gent. to be Lieutenant, February 24.

W. M. Kelly, Gent. to be Ensign, February 24.

R. HAYNE, Lt. Col., Adj. Genl. Militia.

EDUCATION OFFICE,

FREDERICTON, June 1, 1860.

THE School Trustees and Teachers throughout the Province, are hereby notified that the Schools in the undermentioned Districts will be visited by the several Inspectors, during the present Term, in the following order:—

EASTERN DISTRICT.—Inspector DUVAL.

King's.—In June and July.

Albert.—In August.

Westmorland.—In September.

NORTHERN DISTRICT.—Inspector WOOD.

This Inspector will visit Restigouche about the 1st June, in the following order:—Addington, Dalhousie, Colborne, and Durham.

Gloucester.—About the 11th June, as follows:—Beresford, Bathurst, New Bandon, Caraquet, Shippagan, Inkerman, and Saumarez.

Kent.—About the 11th July, as follows:—Dundas, Wellington, Weldford, Richibucto, Palmerston, and Carleton.

Of the order in which Northumberland will be visited, due notice will be given.

SOUTHERN DISTRICT.—Inspector MORRISON.

Charlotte.—In June and July.

Saint John.—In August.

Queen's.—In September.

JOHN BENNET, Chief Superintendent.