

tween the Imperial Government and the Governments of the British North American Provinces on the subject of the Intercolonial Railway. To this we entirely agreed.

I have, &c.,

(Signed),

EDWARD CARDWELL,

Governor General

VISCOUNT MONCK,

&c., &c.

No. 53.

Copy of Despatch and Enclosure from the Secretary of State for the Colonies, conveying Earl Russell's recommendation for appointment of a Confederate Council chosen by all the North American Colonies, &c., &c.

(Copy.)

Newfoundland.

No. 34.

DOWNING-STREET,

22nd July, 1865.

SIR,—

I have the honor to transmit to you the copy of a letter which I have received from the Foreign Office, containing a suggestion from Lord Russell for the appointment of a Confederate Council, chosen by all the North American Colonies and presided over by

the Governor General, with a view to furnishing an opinion to Her Majesty's Government in the negotiation of Commercial Treaties.

I have to inform you, that in consequence of this suggestion of Lord Russell's, I have, by this day's mail, addressed the necessary instructions to the Governor General, and have to request that you will co-operate with him accordingly.

I have, &c ,

(Signed,)

EDWARD CARDWELL.

Governor MUSGRAVE,

&c., &c., &c.

(Copy.)

Mr. Layard to Sir F. Rogers.

FOREIGN OFFICE,
July 20th, 1865.

SIR,—

In reply to your letter of the 3rd instant, I am directed by Earl Russell to request that you will state to Mr. Secretary Cardwell that negotiations have not yet been commenced for the renewal of the Reciprocity Treaty.

The interests of Nova Scotia will be duly consulted: but it would, His Lordship considers, save much embarrassment, delay and difficulty, if the faculty of giving an opinion to Her Majesty's Government in the negotiation of Commercial Treaties were vested in a Confederate Council chosen by all the North American Provinces and presided over by the Governor General of Canada.

I am, &c.,

(Signed),

A. H. LAYARD.

SIR FREDERIC ROGERS, Bart.

&c., &c.