

I can now go forward the moment I have your answer ; but as my course forward is to lay the question before the Governor and my colleagues I cannot do this, involving your name, without full consent, and, added to it, the expression of your opinion on the question I have put as to the necessary changes.

Believe me, &c.

(From the Hon. A. N. Morin to the Hon. R. E. Caron.)

TRANSLATION.

MONTREAL, 24th Nov. 1845.

DEAR SIR, AND FRIEND,—Our friend to whom your last letter was addressed, does not intend to take upon himself to reply to it, and that not from any motive of a personal nature towards you, for you know to the contrary, but because in the present aspect of affairs, he thinks it proper for him to abstain from taking any active part in the business ; and he tells me that he intimated as much to you in his last letter. His advice, however, I am assured, will not be withheld from us, and it is only after a long conversation with him that I write to you.

My first intention was to write you a long letter, containing the result of that conversation ; but you know that for a letter of any length, I am obliged to employ another hand ; I do so even in this instance, suffering from rheumatism at this moment.

We thought afterwards that a letter would afford a very imperfect means of communication. For this reason, in spite of the advanced season, it is perhaps of the highest importance that you should come to Montreal, more, even, for the purpose of having a clear understanding with your principal correspondent, than to learn what we ourselves think—if you cannot come, I shall be under the necessity of writing the letter I intended to write. But we think that in any event an interview with your correspondent would obviate many of the dangers which attend writing, and would afford you the means of discussing the subject more thoroughly and more amply.

Our principal remark on the whole, is that your correspondent has changed his ground, that he has almost resumed, although on a larger scale, the position which he held before your letter ; that he wishes to make us responsible for a portion of the subject with which we do not interfere, and that he proceeds still by names and exceptions, instead of placing the two contracting parties on a footing of equality, and of admitting that the position to be held by each results from the support they respectively receive from their friends.

This is the best I can say to you in brief and in this form. If you will be so good as to let me know your determination, I will give it effect with

all speed, and in all sincerity. If, as implied in the last letter of your correspondent, you are to be the principal in this affair, we shall rejoice at it.

Believe me, very sincerely, your friend,

(Signed)

A. N. MORIN.

[NOT BEFORE PUBLISHED.]

(From the Hon. A. N. Morin to the Hon. R. E. Caron.)

MONTREAL, 24th November, 1845.

DEAR SIR & FRIEND,—Since the enclosed has been written and sealed, some one has conveyed to Mr. Lafontaine the following lines :

“ Mr. ———’s compliments to Mr. Lafontaine, and begs to inform him that His Excellency the Governor General has received dispatches last evening ordering him home—he leaves on Wednesday.”

Thus, it is, perhaps, prudent on your part to temporize, by restoring your man to the position in which you placed him. Perhaps, also, on his side, he will think proper to postpone the subject. In any case, we persist in thinking that your presence at Montreal is very much to be desired. I forgot to inform you that the rumor of the departure of the Governor was known from another source at the office of the *Pilot* this morning. Is it the War, or a conviction that affairs cannot go on any longer, even in ordinary times ?

Your Friend,

(Signed)

A. N. MORIN.

(From the Hon. W. H. Draper to the Hon. R. E. Caron.)

MONDAY, 24th November, 1845.

PRIVATE.

MY DEAR SIR,—I have just returned from Monklands.—Her Majesty has been pleased to give Lord Metcalfe authority to give up the administration of the affairs of the Province into the hands of Earl Cathcart, temporarily until a successor can be appointed.—His Excellency means to avail himself of the permission, and to leave for England on Wednesday.—This may affect your view of my note to you, and I think it right to give you prompt intimation.

Your’s faithfully and sincerely,

W. H. DRAPER.

The last mail brings news of several thousand pounds for the Quebec sufferers.