

[NOT BEFORE PUBLISHED.]

*(From the Hon. R. E. Caron to the Hon. L. H. Lafontaine.)*

TRANSLATION.

MONTREAL, 10th March, 1846.

MY DEAR FRIEND,—I am on the point of going into the country, from which I shall not return until Thursday evening. Thinking that perhaps you would like to have, before that time, my answer on the subject which occupied us on Sunday, I write you these lines, which contain what I think of the proposal you then made me to give publicity, either in my own name or otherwise, to the entire correspondence between Mr. Draper and me, and between you and me, since the month of September last.

I have given much attention to this proposal, and I have done so with a sincere desire to be able to come to the conclusion which you seem to wish, namely, that of giving my consent to such publication; but I regret to say that I have not yet been able to convince myself of the propriety of such a step, and of the advantages which might result from it. As to doing the thing in my name, I see nothing which could, on my part, justify such an action; as to ever giving my consent to it, the circumstances and the understanding in which this correspondence was begun and continued, make me think that I cannot do so with propriety.

I have not failed to reflect on the pretence which you put forth, that the correspondence in question having been conducted by me as an intermediate party only, was rather yours than mine, and that you have, therefore, a right to make such use of it as you think proper. I must admit that I would find this unanswerable if, in opening this correspondence with me, you had not yielded, tacitly at first and afterwards expressly to the condition imposed by me, that in case of failure the matter should remain between ourselves. Notwithstanding this, you may be right, and I leave you to judge. If your position is correct, you have no need of my consent; *if you make the publication in virtue of the right you pretend to have, I reserve to myself that of saying that you have acted without my sanction and against my advice.* If you decide on publishing, there are in my letters several parts which should be left out, your excellent judgment will point out these to you. Whatever may be the determination to which you come, I flatter myself our mutual friendship and esteem will not suffer in the least, and that you will consider me as heretofore.

Your devoted confrère and friend,

ED. CARON.

[NOT BEFORE PUBLISHED.]

*(From the Hon. L. H. Lafontaine to the Hon. R. E. Caron.)*

TRANSLATION.

MONTREAL, 11th March, 1846.

MY DEAR FRIEND,—Your letter of yesterday's date, was not handed to me until quite late the same day, that is to say, after the adjournment of the Court of Appeals, where I had the pleasure of seeing you.