

further ; if you are of opinion that the proposed, or any other, arrangement which might place our friends in power, is, under the circumstances, impossible,—should such be the case, I should sincerely regret it, but I shall submit and await more favorable circumstances.

With regard to that part of the transaction which regards you, I do not even allude to it, being of opinion that in your position, you ought to look upon this matter as if it had reference to another, and not to yourself personally.

It is unnecessary for me to state that my letter of yesterday's date is of a confidential nature, and is to be communicated only to Morin, and such other friends as you can rely upon ; for if the proposed arrangement should be without any result, it would be better for all parties that it should remain between us. Write me immediately, and say what you think is best to be done.

R. E. CARON.

[From the Hon. R. E. Caron to the Hon. W. H. Draper.]

TRANSLATION.

QUEBEC, 8th September, 1845.

MY DEAR SIR,—I have always put off writing to you, because I did not wish to write without having something certain to tell you as to the result of the mission I took upon myself at your request. Although I am not very far advanced in the business, I must nevertheless write to you now, lest my very long silence should make you think that I have failed to attend to a matter, which is certainly far too important to be neglected. Since my return from Montreal, I have thought much of the conversation we had together ; and I began by convincing myself that the difficulties in the way of an understanding though great were not insurmountable ;—and desiring, as I do, to put an end to a state of things which cannot last without serious injury to the country generally, and to Lower Canada in particular, and more especially to that portion of the population to which I belong,—I immediately determined to place myself in communication with those persons whom I regarded as able and willing to assist me in promoting the object we had in view. But one of those persons, and the one on whom I most relied, has been absent since my return and came back only within the last few days ; another to whom it was necessary that I should write answered me only yesterday, and from a third I have as yet had no reply. Notwithstanding this, I should probably be now able to give you a decisive answer, but that those on whom the success of our plan mainly depends reside in the District of Montreal,—it is necessary to communicate with them by letter, and you know how slow and disagreeable this method of treating any difficult and delicate business always is. I should certainly have gone to Montreal, had I not been so much occupied that the journey was almost impossible for me.

What I have written is intended to explain to you the reason why, even now, I have nothing decisive to inform you of, upon a business which has nevertheless much occupied me. Things are nevertheless in progress, and though I can hardly say what will be the final result of an undertaking in which I take deep interest,—I am happy to inform you, that the few persons with whom I have had any communication on the subject, see matters quite in the same point of view as I do, and are disposed to lend their aid in removing the difficulties in the way of an arrangement which they seem sincerely to desire. I have received promises of support and I have been written to, that it was right to assist me. Things are therefore in progress, and in a little while I hope to be able to tell you more. But whatever be the result, I promise you that I will be sincere, and that I will let you know the obstacles which may have prevented success.

Men's minds here, moreover, appear to be much better disposed, and there is no doubt that a change or re-action is gradually taking place, from which I hope much for the arrangement and realization of our plan. If, as I believe the new Solicitor-General succeeds in his election, this success will have a good effect and will be a proof of the re-action of which I have spoken.

I must close my communication for to-day,—and will write to you as soon as I have anything worth while to tell you.

In the meantime be assured that I will not lose sight of the matter—and that I am, with much esteem and the highest consideration,

Dear Sir,

Your very devoted servant,

ED. CARON.

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

MONTREAL, 10th Sept. 1845.

TRANSLATION.

MY DEAR FRIEND,—I hasten to acknowledge the receipt of your letter of the 8th instant, as well as that which accompanied it. These letters only arrived late yesterday afternoon. According to your wish I have communicated them to our friend Morin. In replying to your communication, I answer only for myself, and I do so, as I should have done, had my name not been mixed up in your conversation with Mr. Draper. Although the nature and the object of the conversations, in so far as I am concerned, would justify me in abstaining from the expression of any opinion, yet, in accordance with your wish, I think it due to the friendship which I feel for you, to express my opinion frankly, but only on those points of your letter to which I think myself called on to answer. I should observe at first, that

I infer from that you d
jority of
attach to
sented in
of the pol
in the Ho
Now, if t
the mean
support o
naturally
them in d

The
principle,
Why this
not in thi
The coun
appears to
owing to
whole or
assume n
give you t
to demand
would ha
reply to
without f
points, yo
is propose
far as app
Canadian
maintain
istration
charged to
influence
it, and w
in return
results fr
would be
in an adm
and capa

But
French C
enter it n
the opini
of a Gov
without i
ments in
any capa