

Copy.

Quebec. Nov 14/64.

Private.

My dear Tupper.

I am sorry I was too unwell to join in the Toronto festivities or escort you to Niagara.

We have settled that our Legislature shall meet on January 19<sup>th</sup> and intend to press the Federation resolutions through without delay.

Canada on the whole seems to take up the scheme warmly, but yet we shall meet with considerable opposition. Do you see how we have come out with a manifesto against it. Sandfield has done well with you here and I hear they are heating up for recruits everywhere. It is of the utmost importance that between now and the time of the meeting of Parliament nothing should be done to strengthen the hands of the opposition or to give them the opportunity of getting up a new cry. With this view, I cannot too strongly impress on you the necessity of carrying out the policy of not in any way giving any party the slightest control over the construction of any portion of the Intercolonial Railway. Brown's Conference of Faith in favour of the Road at Toronto has astonished his supporters and dismayed a good many of them who have hitherto been educated by him to oppose it by every means and at every stage. They are powerless in consequence of his desertion, but there is a muttered growl about it that I don't like. Were it suspected that any considerable portion of the Road for which Canada is going to pledge itself was given away to

Conventions without the consent or sanction of the Government a storm would at once arise which could not be allayed, and would perish the whole scheme.

I intend to commence next week to draft the Bill to be submitted for the consideration of the Imperial Government and shall be glad to get from you such hints or suggestions as may occur to you.

Have you formed any plan as to the mode in which you will submit the subject to your Parliament?

In looking over our Resolutions I see a mistake has crept in. We have given power from time to time to the Local Legislatures to alter the Constitucionis sending members to the general Parliament. Now this is an obvious ~~blunder~~ blunder and must be corrected.

I will be obliged by your giving me your ideas as to the general administration - the number of the Executive, and the distribution of Departments. This must ~~be~~ all be thought out and if possible form a portion of the Imperial Act. I have not thought this branch of the subject over, but mean to do so at once. So soon as I see form a project I will transmit it to you. So please reciprocate

I have not forgotten the Compact we made here and shall act strictly and cordially up to it.

Always, my dear Tupper,

faithfully yours,

John Macdonald

The Hon. Charles Tupper.  
Halifax.

Compared with original by J. A. H. S.  
Paris. 28 March 1879.

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1870-1871.  
Copy letter from  
Hon John Macdonald  
to Hon Charles Tupper  
on the occasion of  
the movement to  
bring about Confederation

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