

Manly  
C. P. Macdonald

77-44

1916-59

Hatfield Dec 13<sup>th</sup> 1864

My dear Mr Donald,

I was glad to learn by your note of the 14<sup>th</sup> ult. that you had quite recovered your health and that Richard was well again. I was not surprised that the incessant fatigue and mental labor to which you were so long subjected should have had seriously upon you. We were deeply pleased to see your society at Toronto. I quite concur in the alterations respecting the power of the Local Legislatures to alter the Constitution of the Federal Legislative House of Commons. I have con-

-withd

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sent to Henry & Mc Cully on the  
 point & they all agree to the  
 proposed alteration. I have already  
 informed Mr Galt that in  
 concern in restricting the power  
 of the Local Govt. to Cox lumber  
 to N. Brunswick. I will be very  
 glad to receive your proposed  
 draft of the act as soon as  
 you can send it & will offer  
 you any suggestions I think  
 advisable. Under existing cir-  
 cumstances Canada had better  
 pass the act as near the  
 report of the Conference as  
 possible and then the other  
 Provinces should endeavor to  
 pass transcripts of it. ~~and~~ I  
 fear that the Govt. of New  
 Brunswick has decided not  
 to submit the question to the  
 people until after an appeal

to the people. ~~about~~ They might  
do the necessary work of the  
Session very soon & disperse  
at once and thus not much  
time would be lost, but the pre-  
cedent is a bad one. We have  
met a strong opposition here  
but we have the press pretty much  
with us and I hope we will be  
able to carry it through if per-  
sisted by the British  
Government. I wish very much  
Lord Monck would induce  
the Colonial Secretary to author-  
ize our Lieut. Governor to  
appoint two or three additional  
Legislative Councils if found  
necessary to carry the Bill  
through the Upper House.  
I will send you a Colonial with  
our speeches at the Confederation  
meeting last Friday night. It  
was a great success. Many in-

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influential men previously  
 opposed are convinced and have  
 since come out in favor of the  
 scheme. Will you let me know  
 what you hear from the British  
 Government. The Executive Department  
 may I think be safely left to your  
 judgment. I wish Executive Com-  
 mittees much as you have them  
 at present would I think mind  
 the cause, but I quite agree with you  
 that it is desirable to have them in  
 the act. I would not do it but  
 them locally at all. It will be  
 an element of weakness in my  
 opinion. Would it be practicable to  
 provide for surrendering local rights  
 suppose not at the I think it very  
 desirable. I hope Mr. Bridges will  
 be able to give you an early opinion  
 that he will correct the Provision  
 Motion Bill under the terms of our  
 resolution and to be amended with  
 the Intercolonial after consultation. It  
 seems to me not to be published in  
 it. After your legislation is perfect  
 Mr. Fleming will locate the Bill & an  
 arrangement for the rest of the Bill to  
 Canada contingent upon the Conference  
 being taking place. It will draw up  
 serious of this matter must be empha-  
 tically I think of Canadian Council. You  
 can get all this, why I am sure to an extent  
 Hon. J. A. Macdonald. C. T. P. P. P.

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