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Copies

June 22nd 1866

Confidential.

My dear Lord Monck

I received your note yesterday afternoon, and I must say that it has distressed me greatly. I regret very much that you should feel yourself forced from a sense of duty to write the note, and I more regret that you should suppose that there is any inconsistency in my frequent assurances that the Local Constitution measure would be submitted to Parliament early in the session.

No one is more anxious than I am that the event which will make us historical should be carried to completion with as little delay as possible. We do not know what a day may bring forth, and not with my will would another person take my position in completing the scheme for which I have worked so earnestly.

But, my dear Lord Monck, the

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proceedings have arrived at such a stage that success is certain and it is now not a question even of strategy. It is merely one of tactics. Galt, the representative and spokesman of the British Race in Lower Canada has taken the best steps possible for settling the Educational question for that section of the Province. He has asked Judge Day, one of the ablest men and best judges that ever sat on the Lower Canada Bench to frame a measure for the protection of the British and Protestant Minority.

Mr. Day, although a Protestant, has the confidence of the French Canadians. He is now here on this duty and I do not doubt that he will produce a satisfactory measure.

The sole question now is as to the proper moment for projecting the local scheme. So much depends upon the temper of Parliament that I have felt it my duty to have confidential conversations with the

leading supporters of the Government
Liberal and Conservative and I am
now satisfied that the one Chamber
scheme which is favored by your
lordship, and which accords with
my own opinions, will be acceptable to
a sufficient majority. There is however
a strong minority which desires the
two Chambers as is proposed for Lower
Canada.

The only point then remaining
unsettled is the redistribution of
constituencies. I am now consulting
the leading members on this point,
in order to prevent discussion in the
House. I have prepared and
printed a population return and
hope in a few days to perfect a scheme
with the consent of my Reform
colleagues which we shall submit
to your lordship in the first place and
then to Parliament.

With respect to the best mode of
guiding the measure through the
House, I think I must ask your

By collating to leave somewhat to my
 Canadian Parliamentary experience.
 As leader of the House, I am responsible
 for the successful conduct of Government
 measures, and I can assure you that
 I have the best means of knowing
 that it is important that the principles
 (at all events) of the financial measures
 of the Government should be submitted
 to Parliament, and receive its sanction
 before there is any serious debate on the
 local institutions.

Our proposition is that today Mr.
 Galt will take the necessary steps for
 his speech on the Budget on Tuesday
 next. The debatable points will be
 brought up first and determined.
 Under our Audit Act and indeed on
 Constitutional Principles, we cannot
 well be proceeded until supplies are
 granted and provision made for
 the expenditure of the year. It will
 not therefore in any way expedite
 the work of the Session to introduce the
 local Government Resolutions before
 the financial measures.

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I think that there are three undeniable propositions:—

1st. That the Delegation to England must contain some members of the Canadian Government—

2nd. That no member of the Government can leave his post in Parliament until after prorogation.

and 3rd that it is therefore a matter of no consequence whether the question of Finance or of local Government be first submitted, so that they are both carried.

Galt's scheme includes large reductions of the duties on British manufactures and it will strengthen your Lordship's hands greatly in England to be able to present to the Imperial Parliament and Government both measures at the same time.

As to the personal portion of your note, all I can say, as a sincere friend of your Excellency, is that you must take no such step as you indicate. — To you belongs, as having initiated, encouraged, and I may

now almost say completed, the great
scheme of union, all the MSOs, and
all the position (not lightly to be
thrown away, which must result
from being the founder of a nation.

I am infinitely obliged for your
kindly expressions with regard to
myself, and I can assure you
I do hope that it is my greatest
pleasure to believe that with your
support and under your sanction,
I have not been unimportant in
carrying to completion the union of
British North America.

Believe me,

My dear Lord Monck

Very faith fully,
Yours

J. A. M. D.

P.S. My lame finger makes me
write rather indistinctly. I hope
you can read this note.