

I owe a fresh apology.

Yrs most sincerely

Arthur Gordon

a single delegate expects the scheme to
be swallowed whole in England. 21

You may take my word for this; -
that it is a federation, not only in
name but in fact, whatever Monck
may be led to say to the contrary.

No doubt you are well supplied
with Canadian newspapers, and will
see that, beyond a little decorous
bunkum, the Union side of the question
is almost lost sight of: - it is ~~the~~ as
a measure of disunion - as a means
of severing the upper & ^{the} lower province;
that it is recommended in Canada;
it is as opening a new field of
public plunder that politicians urge
it here.

As yet it has made no way in

Arthur Gordon

22

this province. The educated & reflecting see that it will render a closer union at a subsequent day impossible; whilst people at large object, from the general dread which prevails as to the character of the residuary local government which will be created by it. Nevertheless I am inclined to think it will be carried, for those who desire it are more in earnest than those who oppose it, and have means of influence at their command which here seldom fail of effect.

The process of buying up the newspapers is now going on. Some have been bought very cheap!

I cannot say that the opinions which I have expressed in my confidential despatches are at all modified by what has since passed; on the contrary, every day strengthens my conviction ~~of~~ the mischief which will ensue from the action of the local governments, after every man of comparative respectability has been removed to Ottawa.

Under these circumstances I think you should carefully consider whether I ought to remain here during the progress of the measure. It is true that a "Governor" is

now so complete a cypher that his
views are a matter ^{of} no moment in
his colony, and his power nil;-
true also that I am fully prepared
to acquiesce in a policy I do not
approve, and to perform acts in
furtherance of it when bidden to
do so by my Gov^t. But I cannot
say that which I do not think.
I cannot recommend as beneficial
that which I consider mischievous. I
can hardly from the throne
congratulate the province on
the accomplishment of what
I believe will prove a disastrous
calamity to those living in it.

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23

If accordingly you think fit to remove me, you will in my opinion only do what is right. If on the other hand you chuse to retain me here I can of course do whatever in the opinion of my ministers is necessary to accomplish the desired object; - sanction the necessary amount of corruption; and approve the wholesale removal of office holders of respectability which is eagerly looked for by the hungry clientelle of the government.

It will not in any case be necessary to act immediately as my Council think it better

and so complete a cypher that his

88

not to bring forward the measure at the next session, and the question will not therefore be really raised until the summer.

There is one point which I wish you would consider, though your first inclination will be to laugh. The Confederate lower House is to be the House of Commons - the delegates have been afraid themselves to give a name to the upper House, but would gladly see conferred

24

make a seat in it more coveted.

An hereditary peerage is of course here impossible, but it is very desirable that the members of the upper House of British America should have some more distinctive title than that "Honble" which they share with every member of every petty State legislature in the U.S., and every office holder or ex office holder in these provinces; and I can see no reason why they should not like the Scotch Judges have the title of Lord for life. It

24

now so complete a cypher that his

would make a vast difference in
their standing, and a "House of
Lords" will be far more on an
equality with a "House of Commons"
than a mere "Legislative Council"
ever can be. If this be found
impossible, though I cannot see
why it should be, I would give
them some other distinctive title

A leading member of the Canadian
Govt told me they did not dare
to propose it, as it would be said
their wish was to ennoble themselves,
but that the words "House of Commons"
were meant to be a sort of hint
to you to supply the complement
of such a body.

When I wrote by the last mail I
said I felt self reproach at the
number of private letters I had
caused you to write. I am afraid
I owe a fresh apology.

Yrs most sincere

Arthur Gordon