

sake and
and unreasonable
apportionment. I am
convinced that the Lower
Canadian British are

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48 Down Street

Friday 22 Feb

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My dear Lord Cairncross.

I saw Mr Ross to
whom was intrusted the
petitions presented by
Lord Shaftesbury. Yesterday

He wished us to consent
to the addition of the following
words at the end of line
28 after the word Governor
page 19. "and also and

regards Quebec, that Her
Majestys subjects of both

sexes, shall at all times
continue to have their

Mr. Shaftesbury & Mr.

Mr. J. A. Macdonald

T. 21

just share of the representation in the Legislature" - We have refused to consent for many reasons. Some of which are -
1st In the Canadian Pact the Government offered to protect the British Minority by providing that no redistribution of seats should take place unless sanctioned by a two-thirds vote. The British representatives preferred the provision embodied in your Bill and accepted it as perfectly satisfactory.
2nd No redistribution or increase of the representation can be effected, but by act of the local Legislature.

convinced that the same in Canadian British are

Should any request be made by such an act. The British Minority have an appeal to the Govr Genl who will act on the advice of his Council, which of 48 necessity must be chiefly composed of men of British race & the Protestant religion. An ample protection 3rd If the Protestant or British Minority is to be protected by special clauses against the local French Majority. Similar clauses will be asked by the French Minority for their security against the British Majority and the General Parliament and as the cases are

analogous. Such a clause
could not well be inserted.

4 If minorities in race
are to be protected. So
ought also minorities in
religion. The R. Catholics
in Upper the Protestants in
L. Canada.

5 The resolution is vague
and amounts to nothing.
- What is a "just share"
of representation? Are
the British to be prevented
from electing Frenchmen
or vice versa? -

6 The provision should be
made applicable to Nova
Scotia, where there is
a considerable French



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or old Academican humors.

In fine, it is impossible
to legislate to please ~~the~~
either ally an unnecessary
and unreasonable
apprehension. I am
convinced that the Lower
Canadian British are
quite safe in the local
legislature. The French
are divided into two
parties. The Blue or
Monarchical party and
The Range or Democratic

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party. The British will
hold the balance of
power - and their support
will be eagerly sought
for by both sections. They
thus will at all times
have the means of
protecting themselves

Yours &c

Dear and successful

very faithfully yours

John Macdonald

F. Feb. 22. 67

Am. J. a. Macdonell

W. R. R. R.

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Macdonell
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