Private

Quebec . Oct 5. 1866

Private
Confidential
My dear Lord

I have to acknowledge the receipt of your Private letter of Sept 12.

In continuance of the correspondence with respect to the Mexican relations enclosed in my last letter I send you copies of a letter and two telegrams received from Mr. Archibald The Telegrams in cypher.

The whole story has got into the New York papers and whether the project of you to Mexico be carried into effect or not I apprehend this affair will lead to weaken the faith of the Southern in the bona fides of Lincoln & Co and in the possibility of conquering Canada.

The movement against us appears to have collapsed and we hear nothing of it for the last week or ten days either publickly or from Private sources.

The 61st has just arrived in the "Scotia" - most curiously with Three Companies of Sir J. Michel's Private letters from the Horse Guards stating that they are supposed to be Strongly tainted

F. October
Ld: Bruce
1. Letter offering
Lieutenancy of
2. Case of Lam
3. Trials of Fen
about to
4 Toronto. 18
with enclosure

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My dear Lord

I have to acknowledge the receipt of your Private letter of Sept 12.

In continuance of the correspondence with respect to the Mexican refugees enclosed in my last letter I send you a copy of a letter and two telegrams received from Mr. Archibald the telegrams in cypher.

The whole story has yet into the New York papers and whether the project of forming a Mexico in connection with Maximilian is carried into effect or not I apprehend this affair will tend to weaken the faith of the Northern in the bona fides of Louis N.P. and in the possibility of conquering Canada.

The movement against us appears to have collapsed and we hear nothing of it for the last week or ten days either publickly or from Private sources.

The 61st has just arrived in the "Victory" - most curiously with Fenian convicts on board. Private letters from the Home Guards, stating that they are supposed to be strongly tainted

Statute Prisoners committed by Foreigners in Upper Canada since Feb 11. 1840 and in

with Fenianism! and suggesting that if any favourable change should take place in Canadian prospects the reg.c sh.d be sent as soon as possible either to Jamaica or Bermuda!

Why they ever sent them here if their fidelity was suspected is a mystery to me unless it was supposed that the Canadians were too strong and that it was intended to handicap them in their contest with the Fenians.

I think the information supplied by Mr. Archibald is of such a nature that I feel warranted in authorizing Sir John Michel to dispense with the 61st and they will go on either to Bermuda or Jamaica.

I have received your despatch with reference to the Acts passed in the end of the last session respecting the crime of inwarding the Province to which you fear a retrospective operation has been given.

I expected to have been able to send you the joint opinion of the two Attornies General on the subject, but I have not yet received it.

I shall probably send it to you by tomorrows Mail.

In the mean time I may set your mind at rest by telling you that it is impossible the act can have a retrospective

operation as regards any foreigner.

We have - in Lower Canada - No Fenian prisoners who were not arrested subsequent to the passing of the act of the first day of the late Session which extended to Lower Canada the provisions of Chap 98. of the Consolidated Statutes of Upper Canada.

By the acts to which exception is taken in your despatch no change whatever is made in the status of foreigners.

The object of the acts was to enable us to try British subjects, who joined in invading the Province, before the ordinary tribunals, and for felony instead of High treason.

By the 3rd section of C. 98 Con. Stat. of Upper Canada, and the similar clause in the Lower Canadian Act of this year, these powers already existed with reference to foreigners. For these reasons it appears to me impossible that any international complications can arise from the enforcement of this law against foreigners, and I have given directions that it shall not be put in force against subjects of the Queen if in any case in which it would act retrospectively.

The trials of the Fenian prisoners in Upper Canada are to begin on Monday next at Toronto at the Ordinary Assizes.

Believe me to be
my dear Lord
most truly yours
Monck

The Rt Hon
The Earl of Carnarvon

My last letter will have shown you
my anxiety at an early date for a
full ...

F. Oct: 5.

Lord Monck

1. Fenianism and Mexican Anarchy.
2. The 61st Regiment.
3. Caine of Invasion U. & L. Canada.