

"Lord Carnarvon wishes me to add that such must be the answer which he will be obliged to make to-wit: to the House of Lords to a question of which notice has been given, as to the steps which he proposed to take with regard to Confederation.

"Should you, Sir, or any of the gentlemen who are with you, wish to be present in the House of Lords to-night, Lord Carnarvon will have the greatest pleasure in introducing you. He has also written to request that places may be provided for you in the House of Commons.

I have, &c.

(Signed) CECIL C. GRAHAM.

The Hon. S. L. Tilley.

On the 12th of September, the following letter was addressed to Lord Carnarvon:

Alexandra Hotel, Sept. 12th, 1866.

MY LORD.—As Delegates from the Provinces of Nova Scotia and New Brunswick, appointed to confer with Delegates from Canada and with Her Majesty's Government, upon the question of a Confederation of the British North American Provinces, we are naturally anxious to terminate the suspense in which we have been left since our arrival here, relative to the time when we may hope to accomplish the object of our mission.

"Believing, as we do, that the abrogation of the Reciprocity Treaty and the Fenian invasion of Canada, were largely owing to the failure of the Provinces we represent to agree promptly to form a united Government, as proposed by the Quebec Conference in 1864, and approved by the Imperial Government, and that the adoption of Confederation would be the best means of securing the renewal of that Treaty and discouraging Fenian designs upon British America, the Governments of Nova Scotia and New Brunswick have been most anxious that no time should be lost in accomplishing the Union of the Provinces.

"With that view, Messrs. Tupper and Archibald visited Ottawa on the 29th of June last, and after conferring with His Excellency the Governor General and the Canadian Government, it was mutually agreed that Delegates from the two Lower Provinces should proceed to England by the steamer leaving Halifax on the 19th July, and that Delegates from Canada should follow by the steamer leaving Quebec on the 21st July.

"Subsequently, Lord Monck intimated by telegraph that the change of Government in England would render it necessary to hear from England before the departure of the Delegates. The Delegates from Nova Scotia and New Brunswick, after the arrival of the latter at Halifax, jointly communicated to the Canadian Government their views as to the necessity for immediate action, and their intention to leave on the 19th July, as arranged at Ottawa; and it was only on the eve of their departure that they received a telegram from the Hon. J. A. McDonald, saying that Lord Monck desired to go to England or to send a Delegation until authorised by the new Secretary of State. At the interview with which we were honored by your Lordship on our arrival in London on the 30th July, we understood your Lordship to say that

you would send a message by the Atlantic Cable to the Governor General, asking if the Canadian Delegates had left, and if not, requesting that they would come without delay. Your Lordship subsequently did us the honor to inform us that a despatch had been sent on the 11th August, requesting the Governor General to arrange for the Canadian Delegates to proceed to England as soon as possible, and expressing the hope that in any case they would not be later than the latter part of September.

"Although we have, since our arrival, been favored with frequent opportunities of discussing the question of Confederation with your Lordship, and other members of Her Majesty's Government, we have, up to the present time, received no information as to the period when we may expect the Delegates from Canada. We feel it therefore due to the Provinces we represent, that we should respectfully solicit your Lordship to ascertain, and communicate to us, how soon we may expect the Delegates from Canada to arrive here, in order that we may govern ourselves accordingly.

We have, &c.

(Signed) CHARLES TUPPER,
S. L. TILLEY.

To the Right Honorable the Earl of Carnarvon, Secretary of State for the Colonies.

On the same day this reply was received:

Downing Street, 12th Sept., 1866.

"GENTLEMEN.—I am directed by the Earl of Carnarvon to acknowledge your letter of this day's date, requesting His Lordship to ascertain how soon you may expect the arrival of the Delegates from Canada.

"I am desired to acquaint you that his Lordship telegraphed to Lord Monck on this subject after the interview to which you allude in your letter, but that he has not had a specific answer, nor is in possession of any information beyond what he has communicated to the Delegates at various times. On the receipt, however, of your present letter, Lord Carnarvon has telegraphed, to state the inconvenience to which the Delegates of the Lower Provinces are subject by the delay, and to enquire distinctly when their Canadian colleagues start for England.

"Lord Carnarvon will communicate the result of this enquiry as soon as known to himself.

I have, &c.

(Signed) T. FREDERICK ELLIOT.
The Hon. C. Tupper,
The Hon. S. L. Tilley.

On the 17th of September this letter was received:

Downing Street, 17th Sept., 1866.

"GENTLEMEN.—With reference to my letter of the 12th instant, I am directed by the Earl of Carnarvon to acquaint you that his Lordship has received a telegram from Lord Monck, to the effect, that in the present state of the Fenian affairs, the principal members of the Ministry, who must be Delegates, could not leave the Province, and probably not before the closing of the navigation.

"Lord Carnarvon regrets the occurrence of these unforeseen delays; which must entail so much inconvenience upon you and your colleagues, both in your public and private capacity, and he is most anxious to help you, as far as lies in his power, to meet the emergency of the present turn of affairs. It will, probably be your wish to deliberate amongst yourselves as to your joint course of action, having done which, his Lordship will be happy to confer with you, and to give you his best co-operation.

I have, &c.

(Signed) T. FREDERICK ELLIOT.
The Hon. C. Tupper,
The Hon. S. L. Tilley.

The following reply was sent to Mr. Elliot on the 22nd of September: I am directed by the Earl of Carnarvon to

Alexandra Hotel, 22nd Sept., 1866.

"Sir.—We have the honor to acknowledge the receipt of your letter of the 12th and 17th instant, and thank Lord Carnarvon for the prompt manner in which his Lordship acceded to our request relating to the Communication with His Excellency the Governor General, and the desire exhibited to aid us in the circumstances in which we are placed by the delay on the part of the Delegates from Canada.

"Having had an opportunity of discussing the subject, the Delegates from Nova Scotia and New Brunswick will be glad to be honored with an interview at Lord Carnarvon's convenience.

We have, &c.

(Signed) CHARLES TUPPER,
S. L. TILLEY.
T. Frederick Elliot, Esq."

On the same day this answer was received:

Downing Street, Sept. 22nd, 1866.

"GENTLEMEN.—In answer to your letter of this day's date, I am directed by the Earl of Carnarvon to acquaint you that his Lordship will be happy to receive the Delegates from Nova Scotia and New Brunswick, at this Office, on Monday, at one o'clock, if that time will suit their convenience.

I have, &c.

(Signed) T. FREDERICK ELLIOT.
The Hon. C. Tupper,
The Hon. S. L. Tilley.

To this letter the following reply was sent:

Alexandra Hotel, 22nd Sept., 1866.

"Sir.—In reply to your letter of this day's date, we beg to say that the Delegates from Nova Scotia and New Brunswick will do themselves the honor of waiting upon his Lordship the Earl of Carnarvon, at one o'clock, on Monday next, as intimated by you.

We have, &c.

(Signed) CHARLES TUPPER,
S. L. TILLEY.
T. Frederick Elliot, Esq."

The Delegates from Nova Scotia and New Brunswick, after much consultation and mature deliberation, having decided to ask further pecuniary advantages for