

Toronto

F.HINCKS &amp; L.H. LAFONTAINE.

29 May

1841

Toronto 29 May 1841.

private and confidential

My Dear Sir,

I avail<sup>a</sup> myself of one more opportunity to address you before the meeting of Parliament. Soon after you receive this the Quebec members will be with you on their way up and I trust you will impress on them the necessity of cooperation. Mr Baldwin will meet all your expectations. I was at his home last night in company with Dr Baldwin, M. Dunn, M. Park, M. Small and M. Price. We had a long conversation on the present <sup>e</sup>status of affairs and the propriety of the course to be adopted. All were for justice to L.C. All declared want of confidence in Mess Ogden, Day, Draper, and Sullivan but there was a division as to the best mode of effecting a change. Dunn is seemingly rather afraid of taking an extreme course. Paeke is for giving in and trying to get good measures from the present men, and breaking if we don't. Small is rather inclined to the same course professing to think that the country will not sustain us in going further. Dr Baldwin, Price, myself and Baldwin were decidedly for <sup>not</sup>~~not~~ acting under any circumstances with the present men. I see the danger to Mr Baldwin's character in acting with them for a single day and be assured he does too. He told me yesterday that if he was sure of being deserted by the whole of Upper Canada he would stand by the Reformers of L.C. My own opinion is that before the meeting of the Legislature he will have ceased to be connected with the Government. I wish you therefore to be prepared for it and to make your friends so without of course in any way committing me, or stating any thing but your <sup>l</sup>relief from the aspect of things.



The great point is to carry Dunn with him and also Daly Harrison and Killaly. I fear none of them will come up to the mark and yet Dunn is very anxious to ~~get~~<sup>go</sup> with Baldwin. I of course have no idea that the Govt. gen. will come to their terms. I have made large promises and so has Baldwin for the forbearance of the L. Canadians in case of a decidedly liberal government, and a change of policy. We would not ask you to forbear in the slightest degree unless on such terms. I do hope Baldwin will be sustained in his position. It will test the sincerity of the Gov. Gen. <sup>and</sup> the real sentiments of the members. It is desirable that these should be known as soon as possible. Parke is opposed to Cuvillier as Speaker on the ground of his having deserted the Reformers - a position that I was very glad to find him assume. He was anxious for Baldwin that is to have him elected, and then resign his present office. I said that I could not support him if he became a candidate while Sol. Gen. and Ex. Councillor. If he resigned his office avowedly from want of confidence in the present Govt. and was then taken up independently I might consent but not otherwise - but Parke said if he was brought forward under such circumstances he would oppose him. I beg you will not encourage the idea of having Baldwin as Speaker. We want him in the Council if possible if not we want ~~to~~ to have in a situation to go back into it when required and in the mean time to be on the floor. Mr Vigers name and also Mr Morins were then canvassed and to my astonishment Parke Dunn and Small all consented to support Viger and it is possible he might be carried. It would not do however to be defeated. No ~~objection~~ objection was made to Mr Morin except his services being wanted ~~also here~~<sup>elsewhere</sup>. The fact is if Baldwin resigns he will not carry a single vote more than Mr Morin or Mr Viger. I am half inclined to make an extraordinary complaint against some of your ~~ultra~~ ultra gentlemen in Montreal. Mr Dunn stated last evening that he found that you were all very careless about the Speakership, and that Mr Viger had par-



000141

particularly spoken about the ~~speaker~~ necessity of moderation.  
 Now certainly in my judgment considering the position lately  
 occupied by the <sup>+</sup>Reformers of L.C. so as to stamp the late  
 administration of affairs then with <sup>the</sup> disapprobation of the  
 House. Mr Baldwin election for instance especially in his pre-  
 sent situation would be trumpeted forth in England as the  
 triumph of that administration. It could not be understood as  
 it ought to be. As to moderation of course I am for it perhaps  
 more than many of you but it must be real moderation not trif-  
fling with principles. We must know at once whether the coa-  
 lition has a majority or not. If they have we can then take  
 one course of determined opposition if they have not we will  
 at once test the sincerity of the Gov. in his pledges. The <sup>veil</sup> ~~veil~~  
 will at any rate be torn aside. I must now conclude. I shall be  
 in Kingston on the Thursday morning previous to the election <sup>ds</sup>  
 I hope you will be up, and I trust at any rate that your friend  
 will come in time. I was sorry to see that Mr Borne announced  
 the impossibility of his not being present. If he fail he ou-  
 ght to be "tarred and feathered". The first week <sup>is</sup> of more  
 importance than the remainder of the session.

Truly Yrs in haste

F. HINCKS.

SOCIÉTÉ HISTORIQUE  
 DE MONTRÉAL

+ Reformers here,  
 it is essentially ne-  
 cessary that the  
 speaker should be  
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(114) Private Confidence

Monte 29. May 1841. 000141

My Dear Sir,

I avail myself of one more opportunity  
to address you before the meeting of Parliament. Soon after  
you receive this the Quebec members will be with you in  
Paris long and I trust you will impress on them the  
necessity of cooperation. Mr Baldwin took much all your ex-  
-planations. I was at his house last night in company with Mr Baldwin  
Mr Sumner, Mr Parker Mr Smale & Mr Price. We had a long conversation  
on the present state of affairs and the propriety of the course  
to be adopted. All were for justice to L.C. all declared much of  
confidence in Mr. Giddens, Say, Stables & Baldwin but there was a division  
as to the best mode of effecting a change. Sumner is strongly averse  
afraid of taking an extreme course. Parker is for going on and trying  
to get good measures from the present men, and breaking of war  
Mr. Smale is rather inclined to the same course professing to  
think that the County will not sustain us in going further. Mr.  
Baldwin, Price, myself & Baldwin were decidedly for not acting  
under any circumstances with the present men. I see the danger  
to Mr Baldwin's character in acting with them for a single day  
the opinion he does too. I told me yesterday  
L. R. M. T. E. Y.



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sure of being deserted by the whole of Upper Canada he  
would stand by the Repman of L.C. - My own opinion  
is that before the meeting of the Legislature he will have  
ceased to be connected with the former. I wish you thought  
to be prepared for it and to make your friends so  
without of course in any way committing me, or stating any thing  
but your belief from the aspect of things. The great point is  
to carry down with him & also Dalz, Haime & others. I fear  
none of them will come up to the mark & yet down is very anxious  
to go with Baldwin. I of course have no idea that Mr. G.  
Genl. will come to Miss terms. I have made large promises  
and so has Baldwin for the forbearance of the L. Canadians in  
case of a decidedly liberal government, and a change of policy. He  
would not ask you to forbear in the slightest degree under  
such terms. I do hope Baldwin will be sustained in his position.  
I will test the sincerity of the Gov Genl. & the real sentiments  
of the Members. It is desirable that there should be known  
as soon as possible. Parker is opposed to Cavell as Speaker  
on the ground of his having deserted the Repman - a position that  
I was very glad to find him assume. He Archives de la Ville de Montréal  
that is to have him elected, & then resign his present office.



I said that I could not support him if he became  
a candidate while so far from the Committee. If he resigned  
his office voluntarily for want of confidence in the present  
situation, and was then taken up independently I might consider  
but not otherwise - but Parker said if he was brought forward  
under such circumstances he would oppose him. I  
beg you will not encourage the idea of having Bullock as  
Speaker. We want him in the Council of people of not less  
want to have in a situation to go back into it when  
needed & in the mean time to be on the floor. Mr Phipps  
name & also Mr Morin were then suggested & to my astonishment  
Parker & some others all consented to support Phipps & it  
is possible he might be carried. It would not do however  
to be defeated. No objection was made to Mr Morin except  
his services being wanted elsewhere. The fact is if Bullock  
resigns he will not carry a single vote more than Mr  
Morin or Mr Phipps. I am half inclined to make an extraordinary  
complaint against some of you when you were in Montreal.  
William states last evening that he found that you  
were all very careful about the Speakership, and that Mr  
Phipps had particularly spoken about the position lately.



occupied by the Reformers here, it is unfortunately necessary  
that the Speaker should be one of the Reformers of  
L.C. so as to stamp the late administration of affairs  
there with the disapprobation of the House. Mr Mulden's election  
for instance especially in his present situation would be there-  
fore just in England as the triumph of that administration.  
It could not be understood as it ought to be. As to  
Moderation of course I am for it perhaps more than many  
of you but it must be real moderation not trifling with  
principles. We must know at once whether the Coalition  
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The veil will at any rate be torn aside. I must now  
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If he fails he ought to be "tarred & feathered". The first week  
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in you is here. Archives de la Ville de Montréal  
Maurice