

(82)

Monte 28 Aug. 1850.

000109

My dear Sir

Since I wrote you a few days ago, Mr

Esq. has arrived at the Falls but will not pay us a visit
 till he returns from the West. I learn that the elections are
 not likely to take place soon probably not before July
 next you will have another meeting of the Special Council
 which I exceedingly dislike, and which is an error in judgment
 to Thomson which surprises me. The object is to establish
 District Councils, a measure which we are strongly in favour
 of but which Mr Esq. says is opposed by the Canadians. I can
 hardly believe that you are opposed to this measure in prin-
 ciple - I presume it must be the details by which the power
 of appointing the Council is vested in the Executive a principle
 as dangerous and revolting as it is unconstitutional. Mr
 Esq. will be, ~~and~~ I have no doubt, has been warned. If
 he is unacceptable to us, on his own head be the con-
 sequences. We are quite in perplexity here as to the

Wm LaFontaine Esq.

Second member to run with Mr Baldwin. We shall have
to take some half day I may almost say full day in order
to discuss Mr M^r's return and even then it will require the
greatest exertion. I received a few days ago a letter from
a Member of the I. Parliament & a staunch friend of liberal
principles from which I cannot forbear quoting an extract
or two "In all your objections to the Union measure I
entirely coincide - I have not expressed these objections in
Parliament solely because in the 1st place I c^d not have
succeeded in carrying any amendment and 2^d because I
felt sure that the Union with all its defects will give the
people of Canada so much power that I am content that
the present bill should pass - You will see that by this time
it is a matter of certainty - Your fate is now in your
own hands. Be energetic & firm but also be moderate and
patient you do not needlessly embroil yourselves with the
authorities at home. Your public conduct has been all I could
wish but I think in your private expressions to me you judge
Mr. Tammo too harshly - Recollect that whatever our own
liberal inclinations may be we must make many concessions

to conciliate powerful parties both in the Colony & here
The Irish and High Church are very strong here. We do also
we care for you but it is hot by bit and with many in-
dignifiable Compromises of opinion + + + The business of the
Reforms of U.C. is to strengthen Mr Baldwin's hands as much as
possible in the United Parliament. The great principle of Mr Parnell's
Govt. is not to be carried by any Leg. measure or any Executive
coup de main. Slowly, gradually & quietly must it work its
way & become the real principle of Col. admⁿ. A great con-
-cession to it was made in the appointment of Mr Baldwin as Repre-
-senty the feelings of a majority of the Electoral body. It is your
-duty in the Election to show Mr P. T. that he has not been
-wrong in looking on Mr Baldwin as the leader of the future
-Majority - Return a Reforming Majority and depend upon it that
-you that honor Mr B. will direct the Ex. Govt. Subsequent appoint-
-ments will of the majority keep in good terms with the former
-be made, at first for the most part, very soon entirely from
-among his friends and we may say long the majority will have the
-whole direction of affairs in their hands. Perhaps the ^{Provincial} ~~Provincial~~
-avoid direct collision with the Govt. Sup. it could lead it on

but do not ~~to~~ confront it. Attach no importance
to expressing from it a distinct recognition of an implicit
assimilation with the principle of Responsible Govt. Which ^{is the} ~~is~~
the own political point of honour and the state of opinion here
prevent its openly adopting - Be content if you can always
making some way in the whole towards your great end.

[I have copied the above which is the whole of my
letter excepting some remarks upon some of our late converts
from Tories. Which involving personal characters I do not feel myself
at liberty to copy even in confidence - The tenor of the advice is
not to be too hard upon such persons who are now willing to be
our converts if we will. Make use of them & whose talent & influence
may be of use. I do not recollect give you this letter as fully
approving of its advice altho' to a certain extent I think it sound.
Our future line of action must be determined by the strength
of our majority. I cannot say more to you than I have already
done. I entirely approve & to do all your friends here if you
late conduct so far as we know it, and I am convinced that if
your name be introduced into discussion between Mr. E. & Mr. B.
The latter will speak his mind freely in your behalf. I believe
Mr. E. thinks you are impracticable men who will not

work with any grace. He has said of me that I
am "deficient in judgment" and yet I have as you
well know strained every nerve not to quarrel with
him, have almost excited suspicion in my friends here
& have I fear created distrust in the minds of the
Members of L.C. against us all. Mr. Esq. believes that
I am in advance of public opinion whereas I am far in
the rear of it in the Common. I must for his Esq. judgment.
If however we cling to the hope of making Mr. Esq. do right
in a Wm. Parliament, it is better not come to personal quarrel
with him, as that will only ^{add to our} know embarrassments in our
way when God knows we are beset by plenty already.
May write me freely & fully and believe me
Always My Dear Sir

Yours very faithfully & obediently
J. Smith

28 août 1840
Jes. Hink
Toronto



L. H. de France
Toronto
Montréal

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Toronto
28 Aug;
1840.

F. HINCKS A L.H. LAFONTAINE.

Toronto 28 Aug. 1840.

My Dear Sir,

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" the people of Canada so much power that I am content that
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 " time its passing is matter of certainty- Your fate is now in
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 " whatever you do not needlessly embroil yourselves with the
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 conciliate powerful parties within the Colony & here the To-
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 for you but it is bit by bit and with many a disagreeable
 compromise of opinion. ~~xxx~~ The business of the Reformers of
 U.C. is to strengthen Mr Baldwin's hands as much as possible
 in the United Parliament. The great principle of Responsible
 Govt. is not to be carried by any Leg. measure or any Execu-
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 It is your business in the Elections to shew Mr ^P T. that he
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~~It~~ which both its own foolish point of honour and the state of opinion here prevent its openly adopting. Be content if you are always making some way on the whole towards your great end.

I have copied the above which is the whole of my letter excepting some remarks upon some of our late couverts from Toryisin^m. Which involving *private* character I do not feel myself at liberty to copy even in confidence. The sum of the advice is not to be too hard upon such persons who~~d~~ are now willing to be our servants if we will make use of them & whose *talent* latent & influence may be of use. I do not redollect give you this letter as fully approving of its advice altho' to a certain extent I think it sounds our future line of action must be determined by the strength of our majority. I cannot say more to you than I have already done. I entirely approve & so do all your friends here of your late conduct so far as we know it, and I am convinced that if your name be introduced into discussion between His Ex. & Mr B. the latter will speak his mind fully in your behalf. I believe His Ex. thinks you an impracticable man who will not work with any governor. He has said of me that I am deficient in judgment" and yet I have as you well know strained every nerve not to quarrel with him, have almost excited suspicion in my friends here & have I fear^t created distrust in the minds of the Reformers of L.C. against us all. His Excy. believes that I am in advance of public opinion where as I am far in the rear of it in the Examiner. So much for his Excy. judgment. If however we cling to the hope of making His Excy. do right in a Un. Parliament, it is better not come to personal quarel with him, as that will only throw additional embarrassments in our way when God knows we are beset by plenty already.

Pray write me fully & freely and Believe me always

My Dear Sir

Your very faithfuly & obed Servt.

F. HINCKS.