

Lachine 27th Dec. 1845

Rev^d John Smithurst

My Dear Sir,

Your very kind favour of the 19th June last, was handed to me about(?) the latter end of the following month, and it was palify(?) to hear of your continued health and Welfare.

With reference to your inquiry respecting the steam boat fare from MacKinac to Buffalo, and the length of time occupied in the voyage, I am afraid I cannot speak correctly, having kept no note of the expense, but my assumption(?) is, that the fare was 14 dollars and that the voyage occupied 46 hours. The Railway fare from Buffalo to Albany is 17 dollars, and then on to New York by Steamboats two. say in all about 33 Dollars, or £8.5/ currency - but if you were to spend any time at the intermediate Towns or places, the expense could of Course be increased in proportion. The time occupied between Buffalo & New York is about 42 hours. You would, I think, be much pleased with the scenery of that part of the State of New York, which, with the exception of the Bank of the Hudson, is the finest in the States. Though I cannot say so much of the habits & manners of the people.

While at New York in the course

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course of last month, I paid your subscription for 12 months to the New York Albion, into(?) that for the Church has not yet been presented when it does it will also be paid, and the amount will be charged to Red River, where it will be placed to your accounts.

Two letters - one for you, & the other for Mr. Cockran - have made their appearance to day, from the Bishop of Montreal, and will be forwarded along with this. His Journal has been published, and has given much satisfaction He presented Sir George & myself with a copy (each).

It appears that measures have been taken for the endowments of a Bishopric in Ruperts Land. The Company are to contribute £300 per Ann- with a House - for the maintenance of the Bishop, & a subscription will be raised to the amount of £10,000, what(?) invested at Interest will yield £300 per Ann (more)- making in all £600 per Ann. a sum that will be barely(?) sufficient to support the Bishop, whoever, he may be.

I am sorry to say that our worthy and estimable Governor Lord Metcalfe, was under the necessity of relinquishing his post, and of taking a passage to England in the Mail Steamer of the 1st of this month. The disease, of late, had made such rapid progress that it was considered advisable for him to

to return, without delay, to his native Country. His loss to this Province is inexorable, and, especially at the present moment, as our neighbours the Yankees are threatening us with a war. The President's message is out, and it's tone towards Great Britain is rather unfriendly. The American as well as the Canadian News papers are full of the Oregon Controversy, and the probability now is, that the (?) will be left with (?)ment of the Sword.

The negotiations on the subject have been published and they clearly show the audacity of Jonathon. The position taken by him is this - that the whole of the territory watered by (missing) the columbia & its tributaries is (missing) within the limits of the United States, (missing) & that the rights exercised by Great Britain in that quarter, are usurped. John Bull. says that the two nations have joint occupancy and, if that cannot be continued, the subject of occupation must be fairly divided. It is, therefore, difficult to see how the matter will be finally settled.

Within the Establishment we are, thank God, quite well. Mrs. Finlayson & myself made a tour to Washington in the course of last month & enjoyed our trip much. With our united Kind Regards & the usual compliments of the season

I am My Dear Sir

Yours very Sincerely

Dun: Finlayson