

£7166 13s. 4d. sterling, payable on 1st January, 1867.
 £7166 13s. 4d. do do 1st July, 1867.
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 with interest in each case at the rate of six per cent. per annum from the date of the Deeds.

“The balance of £26,500 sterling, payable at the expiration of ten years from the date of purchase, bearing interest at five per cent. per annum, payable annually and secured by the Government Debentures.

“On receiving your reply, I shall at once, if necessary, communicate with the Government in the Island, and obtain their views with respect to it as soon as possible.

“As I shall probably be leaving London finally on 16th instant, I shall be glad to hear from you on this subject so soon as you can conveniently reply to this Letter.

“I am, dear Sir,

“Very truly yours,

“JOSEPH HENSLEY.

“Colonel BENTINCK H. CUMBERLAND.”

On 7th August, Colonel Cumberland, in acknowledgment of my last letter, wrote as follows :

“MONTGOMERY HOUSE,

“BUXTON,

“7th August, 1867.

“DEAR SIR ;

“In reply to your letter of yesterday’s date, and in compliance with your request for an early acknowledgment of it, I have only to repeat what I have already stated, that if the Government of Prince Edward Island will consent to purchase the property belonging to Mrs. Cumberland and myself there, for a sum equivalent to the Rental we at present receive from it, we shall be quite ready to close with the offer ; but until such is signified to us by the Government, or yourself as their accredited Agent, it will be unnecessary for you to be furnished with the particulars you specify.

“When any of our Tenants are desirous of purchasing their farms, our Agent, Mr. Wright, has been instructed to sell them their Leaseholds for the sum equal to the Rent paid by them, &c., &c., &c.

“Believe me very truly yours,

“B. H. CUMBERLAND.”

On 25th July, Lady Wood and Miss Fanning addressed a letter to me stating that they had been informed by Colonel Cumberland that I was desirous to communicate with them respecting the purchase of their property in Prince Edward Island, and that they would be happy to hear from me on the subject, and to be made acquainted with the time and mode of payment to those Proprietors who might feel disposed to part with their Estates in the Colony.

I wrote to Lady Wood and Miss Fanning at Bath, on 2nd August, giving them the information asked for, and specifying instances of the times and modes of payment adopted on the several occasions of purchase, in manner as referred to in my Letter to Colonel Cumberland, of 6th August ; and I also offered to go to Bath to confer with them should they desire it.

After consideration of my last Letter, Lady Wood and Miss Fanning wrote to me on 7th August, stating that they regretted that they were unable to furnish me with the information I required concerning the Township Lands in Prince Edward Island, “namely area of Land owned by them, how much under Lease, gross annual Rental, probable arrears of Rent, information which they themselves have been very desirous to obtain for some time past, and which it is quite necessary they should possess before they can decide upon the terms upon which they would dispose of their property in the Colony.” That they would urge upon their present Agent, Mr. Charles Wright, the necessity there was for their being furnished with the above information at his earliest convenience, having obtained it, they would immediately communicate with me and state the terms upon which they would be disposed to treat with the Local Government for the sale of their Township Lands.

On 13th July, I had an interview at Fulham, near London, with Miss Sullivan, the present owner of about 70,000 acres on Townships Nos. 9, 16, 22 and 61. Miss Sullivan expressed herself as then unwilling to part with her Estates in the Island, but determined to visit them herself, personally, and then finally to decide what course she would pursue, a determination which, as your Excellency is aware, Miss Sullivan has since carried out.

I called by appointment, on 19th July last, at 7, Portugal Street, Park Lane, London, upon Lord Viscount Melville, who is understood to own 10,023 acres of Land on Township No. 29, and 1182 acres of Land on Township No. 53. I explained to His Lordship the object of my visit, and the desire of the Government to purchase his Estates, if terms could be agreed upon. His Lordship discussed the matter very freely, and finally, although he could not name a price at which he would sell, agreed to direct his Agent in Prince Edward Island to give me, on my return, full information on all points respecting his Estates, as to the area, annual rent, and probable amount of arrears of Rent, &c., to enable me to take the views of the Local Government on an offer to purchase his Estates, which offer His Lordship expressed himself as willing to receive. I subsequently, on 6th August last, wrote to Lord Melville, as follows :

“THE VISCOUNT MELVILLE—

“MY LORD ;

“I purpose leaving London for America on 16th August, instant, and on reaching Prince Edward Island I shall apply to your Agent, Mr. Bourke, for particulars connected with your Lordship’s Estates in the Island. May I ask your Lordship to write to Mr. Bourke, and request him to give me all the information I may require on the subject. I shall then proceed to take the views of the Local Government on an offer to purchase your Lordship’s Estates, and communicate the decision to your Lordship as speedily as possible, and now have the honor to remain,

“Your Lordship’s

“Most obedient servant,

“JOSEPH HENSLEY.”

To this his Lordship replied, through his Solicitor, John McKenzie, Esquire, of Edinburgh, that a Letter had been written to Mr Bourke, requesting him to give me such information as I might require.