

(14.)—COPY of the Minutes in Council, 2d June 1831, when the General Order from the Horse Guards was read, bearing date 24th February 1831.

(Copy-)

Executive Council Chamber, at York, Thursday, 2d June 1831.

Present.

The Hon. James Baby, Presiding Councillor; The Hon. Peter Robinson; The Hon. George H. Markland; The Hon. Joseph Wells.

No. 1.
Regulations of the
Land Granting
Department.

Documents relating
to Grants of Land
to Military Settlers.

Read the following letter, with its inclosures.

Sir,

Government House, 1st June 1831.

I HAVE the honour, by the direction of the Lieutenant-governor, to forward for the information of the honourable executive council the enclosed communication from the Secretary of State for the Colonies, respecting grants of land to military settlers in the North American provinces.

I have, &c.

The Hon. The Presiding Councillor,
&c. &c. &c.

Z. Mudge, Secretary.

(Circular.)

(Duplicate.)

Sir,

Downing-street, 6th March 1831.

I HAVE the honour to transmit to you the copy of a general order which has been issued 24th February 1831, by direction of the general commanding-in-chief, regulating the sale of land in the Australian colonies to military settlers, and to acquaint your lordship that it is intended to introduce a similar regulation, with reference to grants of land to military settlers in the North American provinces.

I have, &c.

Major General Sir John Colborne,
&c. &c. &c.

(signed) Goderich.

General Order.

Horse Guards, 24 February 1831.

HIS Majesty's Government having deemed it expedient to substitute new regulations for those at present in force, concerning the system of granting land in the Australian colonies, and under which no land will, in future, be disposed of otherwise than by public sale, it has become necessary to make a corresponding change in the arrangements which have hitherto been in force with respect to the military settlers, and which have been published to the army, in the General Orders, dated 8th June 1826, 16th May 1827, and 24th August 1827.

His Majesty has accordingly been graciously pleased to declare that all the advantages held out to the officers of the army under those orders, as far as relates to the sale of commissions, shall continue and remain in force. And with a view that each individual officer may derive the same benefit from an allotment of land as has been held out in the said orders respectively, His Majesty has been pleased to command, that the following regulations shall be promulgated for the information and guidance of officers who may be disposed to become settlers in New South Wales and Van Diemen's Land, in substitution for those contained in the General Orders above referred to.

The officers of the army wishing to become settlers, shall, like all other individuals, procure lands by purchase at the public sales, but they will be entitled to a remission of the purchase money to the following amount, provided they shall produce testimonials of unexceptionable character from the general commanding-in-chief.

Officers who have served 20 years and upwards, shall have a remission of 300 £.

Officers who have served 15 years and upwards, 250 £.

Officers who have served 10 years and upwards, 200 £.

Officers who have served seven years and less than 10, at 150 £.

Each individual officer who may obtain this remission will be required to give security that he and his family shall reside at least seven years in the settlement. And he will also be required to provide for his own passage to the colony, as well as for that of his family.

By command of the Right Honourable the General Commanding-in-chief.

(signed) John Macdonald, Adjutant-general.

(A True Copy.)

John Beikie, Clerk Executive Council.