

for which grants are annually taken in the Ordnance Estimates, and which ought to be completed as early as possible, they form the most important features in the system of defence for our North American Colonies laid down in the documents above referred to. They are necessary under any circumstances; but with respect to any further works of defence recommended by the Commission of 1825, it may be desirable to defer entering upon the consideration of them; the necessity of their erection is not so certain, and the varying circumstances of the country may eventually render it inexpedient or unnecessary to undertake them.

I have not yet received the plans and estimates for the proposed works at Amherstburg, Niagara, and St. John's; but should your Lordship concur in the view which I have taken of this subject, it will be requisite to take a vote, on account, at the rate of 20,000*l.* per annum, for these works.

With respect to the barracks at Chambly, St. John's, La Prairie, and Amherstburg, adverted to by Lord Seaton, I find that the sum of 40,000*l.* has already been expended for barracks at those stations, under the orders of the Commander of the forces in Canada; and I apprehend that this expenditure forms a portion of the 60,000*l.* stated by his Lordship to be required on this account.

I have, &c.,
(Signed) HUSSEY H. VIVIAN.

No. 4.

J. Stephen, Esq., to R. Byham, Esq.

Sir,

Downing Street, March 11, 1840.

LORD JOHN RUSSELL having had under his consideration the letter addressed to his Lordship by the Master General of the Ordnance, on the 4th instant, relative to the defences of the Canadas, I have received his Lordship's directions to acquaint you, for the information of the Master General and Board, that his Lordship entirely concurs in the recommendation therein contained, that permanent works should be forthwith constructed at Amherstburg, Niagara, and St. John's, in conjunction with the works at present in progress at Quebec, Kingston, and Halifax, and that the construction of any further works of defence which were contemplated by the Commission of 1825 should be deferred for future consideration. I am, therefore, to request that you will move the Master-General to furnish his Lordship with a statement of the sums required for these services for the year, from April, 1840, to April, 1841, distinguishing the sums placed on the Ordnance Estimates from those which will form part of the Extraordinary Vote for Canada.

I have, &c.,
(Signed) J. STEPHEN.

No. 5.

R. Byham, Esq., to J. Stephen, Esq.

Sir,

Office of Ordnance, April 3, 1840.

I HAVE the honour, by command of the Master-General and Board of Ordnance, to acknowledge the receipt of your letter, dated 11th ultimo, signifying the concurrence of his Lordship, the Secretary of State for the Colonies, in the recommendations contained in Sir Hussey Vivian's communication of the 4th ultimo, relative to the works of defence in the colonies; under which view his Lordship wishes to be furnished with a statement of the sums required for these services for the year from April 1840, to April 1841.

I am directed by the Master-General and Board to acquaint you, in reply, for his Lordship's information, that with respect to the works in progress at Kingston, Halifax, and Quebec, the necessary sums required for carrying on these works, during 1840-41, are included in the ordinary Ordnance estimates for the year. The Master-General and Board consequently apprehend that