

"Military Secretary's Office,
Quebec, 9th May, 1827

Sir,—

I am directed to acquaint you that the Commander of the Forces has received your letter, to which His Lordship would not have thought it worth while to return any answer, but for the purpose of having a true statement of the subject committed to record. With this view I have received His Lordship's commands to transcribe and convey to you the following statement, drawn up by Himself on a perfect and clear recollection of the whole of the transaction to which it relates.

"In 1820 I made it my first duty on my arrival in the Province to visit it as extensively as the period of the season permitted. I passed up the Ottawa and crossed the Country from Hull through the Military Settlement then just begun. At Richmond Major Burke with a party of the Half Pay Officers there (as many as the house could hold) dined with me; the chief subject of conversation was the means of promoting the public prosperity in that newly settled tract. It was evident to all, that a Government Depot for stores and supplies was highly important at the Richmond Landing, so called on the Ottawa, to establish an accessible point of communication and a certainty of supplies for the large population likely to assemble in that new Country.

The land belonged to a Mr. Randall, an absentee, and who could not then be found. No improvement had been made on it, and it was probable that the purchase might be made for a trifling sum; I gave an instruction to Major Burke, as Superintendent and in the presence and hearing of all at table, to take steps to effect the purchase, or to watch any advertisement of the sale of it, but to report to me before he concluded.

Captain LeBreton was then present, heard my sentiments, heard my instructions and in my idea, as a member of that settlement, as an officer and a gentleman was, in honour bound, to give his assistance. He did not do so, he availed himself of the information and set about a specula-