

and may have been expressed by other pens,—we have but acted the part of the cabinet maker who, selecting the various woods to produce the best effect in a determined end, works up, dovetails and polishes the blocks he starts with. We have but suggested the basis of an organization, which at the same time would comply with the requisitions of our constitution, and establish such a Militia as would serve for the protection of property and the defence of the State.

CHAPTER 15.

Imperial despatches, &c, on Militia Organization of Canada.

In 1862, the Government of the then Province of Canada, urged on by Imperial pressure, appointed a commission to report on the best means of reorganizing the Militia. This commission (in reality Col. D. Lysons, C.B.) reported; and a bill was introduced embodying their suggestions; but the expenditure required to carry out the plan led to its rejection.

As shewing the opinion of Imperial statesmen as to the system required by Canada, and the feeling of England's rulers towards their colony, we give at length the despatch of the Duke of Newcastle, written after the rejection of the bill above mentioned:—

(Copy—Canada—No. 163.)

“DOWNING STREET, 21st August, 1862.

“MY LORD,—Now that the Session of Parliament has been brought to a close, I feel it my duty to call your Lordship's attention, in a more formal manner than I have hitherto done, since the rejection of the Militia Bill by the Legislature of Canada, and the consequent change of your responsible advisers, to the want of preparation for defence of the British North American Provinces, in the event of an interruption of the present amicable relations of this country with the United States, and to the anxiety which was expressed upon this subject, on more than one occasion, both in the House of Lords and in the House of Commons.