

"It appears to Her Majesty's Government that this advantage ought to carry with it corresponding responsibilities; and that the time is now come when the people of Canada must be called upon to take upon themselves a larger share than they have hitherto done of expenses which are incurred on this account, and for their advantage."

"Of these expenses by far the heaviest charge which falls upon this country, is that incurred for the military protection of the Province."

"Regarding Canada as a most important and valuable part of the Empire, and believing the maintenance of the connection between the Mother Country and the Colony, to be of the highest advantage to both, it is far from being the view of Her Majesty's Government that the general military power of the Empire is not to be used in the protection of this part of Her Majesty's Dominions."

"But looking to the rapid progress which Canada is now making in wealth and population, and to the prosperity which she at this moment enjoys, it is the conviction of Her Majesty's Government, that it is only due to the people of this country, that they should now be relieved from a large proportion of the charge which has hitherto been imposed upon them for the protection of a Colony now well able to do much towards protecting itself."

"In adopting this principle I need hardly observe to you that Her Majesty's Government would merely be reverting to the former Colonial policy of this country."

"Again in 1853, the Duke of Newcastle, then Secretary of State for War and the Colonies, acquainted the Governor General that Her Majesty's Government thought it necessary to reduce the force then in Canada, that is to say, in the present Provinces of Ontario and Quebec from 4,110 to 3,170 bayonets; and pointed out to him that in doing so they were only reducing the Garrisons of Canada to the establishments of 1792 and 1822."

"Very exceptional circumstances have no doubt, prevented the application of these principles to the British North American Provinces during the last few years; but these circumstances have in my opinion ceased, and I am not aware of any sufficient reason which should prevent our returning to the policy laid down in the despatches to which I have above referred."

"The Government of the new Dominion has displayed an anxiety to improve the organization of its own defences which is deserving of encouragement on our part; and, in doing so, has availed itself of the assistance of some of Her Majesty's regiments in training the officers and men of its own volunteers and militia. The reductions which I now propose to your Lordships will not interfere with these arrangements."

I shall be glad therefore to be favoured with your Lordships opinion, whether it is necessary that any portion of Her Majesty's troops should be left in the Dominion of Canada beyond such as it may be deemed expedient to retain with a view to the training of the militia and the volunteers, and the maintenance of the schools of instruction."

"This number would be sufficient in any case of emergency to furnish the garrison of Quebec."

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"Upon the whole therefore with a view to the preparation of the estimates for the ensuing year I should propose that the following troops should be immediately recalled from the Colonies, and that the addition to their number to those which at present constitute the whole Force in this Country should be borne in mind in considering what number it is necessary to include in the votes to be submitted to Parliament, viz:

*From Canada*

One Regiment of Cavalry, Three Battalions of Infantry.

*From Nova Scotia and New Brunswick.*

Two Battalions of Infantry.

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"I further propose the withdrawal from Canada of three Batteries of Field and three of Garrison Artillery; and from Nova Scotia of one Field Battery; which will cause a total reduction of 1,124 artillerymen."