

No. 21.

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COPY of a Despatch from Secretary Sir George Murray to Lieutenant General Sir James Kempt.

SIR,

Downing-street, London, 30th September, 1828.

12 Sept. 1828.

I HAVE the honour to transmit to you herewith a copy of a letter which has been received from the secretary to the Board of Treasury, relative to the office of receiver general of Lower Canada. Your Excellency will perceive that, provided Mr. Hale's securities shall be approved, and it shall appear that he has strictly adhered to the regulations which were laid down by the minute of the Board of Treasury, of the 26th October 1826, for the future controul and management of the office of receiver-general, their lordships will give directions for confirming Mr. Hale in that appointment, with the increased salary of 1,000*l.* per annum. The period from which Mr. Hale will be entitled to receive this increased rate of salary must depend upon the date from which (after his succession to the office upon the removal of Mr. Caldwell) he ceased to derive advantage from balances of public money remaining in his hands; and as it is desirable that no further delay should take place in concluding the necessary forms for Mr. Hale's appointment, I have to request that you will lose no time in enabling me to furnish the Lords Commissioners of the Treasury with the necessary information upon the several points connected with this subject, which you will find enumerated in the enclosed letter.

I have, &c.

(Signed) G. MURRAY.

SIR,

Treasury Chambers, 12th September 1828.

THE Lords Commissioners of His Majesty's Treasury have had under consideration a memorial from Mr. John Hale, stating, that in the year 1823 he was appointed by Lord Dalhousie to execute the Duties of the Office of receiver-general of Lower Canada, upon the dismissal of Mr. Caldwell, and praying that, in consideration of his long services, his appointment may be confirmed; and also a representation from the Commissioners of audit, dated 25th ult., upon the present state of Mr. Hale's accounts, and the amount of salary which he is to be allowed to charge; and I am to acquaint you, for the information of Secretary Sir George Murray, that provided Mr. Hale's securities shall be approved, and the regulations contained in the letter of this Board to Mr. Wilmot Horton, of the 30th October 1826, for the future control and management of the office of receiver-general in Lower Canada, have been established and strictly adhered to, my lords will give directions for confirming Mr. Hale in the appointment; with the increased salary of 1,000*l.* per annum. With regard to the period from which Mr. Hale is to be allowed to charge the increased rate of salary, my lords request that you will call Sir George Murray's attention to the minute of the Board of the 26th October 1826, which was communicated to His Majesty's Secretary of State for the Colonies, by their lordships' direction, in the letter to Mr. Horton above alluded to, of the 30th of that month.

My lords have not been apprised that any revision of the office of receiver-general took place prior to the regulations established by that minute; but it appears to them that, between the period at which Mr. Hale was appointed to act as receiver-general, upon the removal of Mr. Caldwell, and that at which the restrictions imposed by their said minute were carried into effect, Mr. Hale ought not to be allowed to charge the increased rate of salary unless the balances of public money, which his predecessor had been allowed to retain, had been previously withdrawn, the proposed increase of salary being only to be justified on the ground of the withdrawal from Mr. Hale of that source of emolument which the retention of the balances afforded to Mr. Caldwell. My lords request, therefore, that Sir George Murray will direct them to be informed at what period the regulations established by their said minute of the 26th of October 1826 were carried into effective operation in Lower Canada, and whether, in the interval that had previously elapsed subsequent to the appointment of Mr. Hale by Lord