

Inclosure in No. 1.

Memoranda respecting the defence of Upper Canada with reference to the present state of the Province and the Hostility of the American Patriots.

1st. THE parts of the frontier which are most exposed to attack, are the townships of Malden and Sandwich on the Detroit.

2nd. The frontier township on the St. Clair.

3rd. The Niagara frontier from Fort Erie to Fort Mississagua.

4th. The townships on the St. Lawrence from Brockville to Prescott.

It may be assumed that the American Patriots, with an irregular force, would not venture to cross at any other points, aware of the difficulty of returning to their own shores, in case of failing to establish a communication with the disaffected.

It is proposed, therefore, to protect the frontiers above mentioned with forts, in which the arms and ammunition intended for the militia could be safely deposited, and which could be defended by 200 men.

These defensive works would give confidence to the settlers in remote townships, and to the public generally, and enable nearly the whole of the regular force to be moved rapidly to any disturbed district.

A considerable expence has already been incurred at Fort Malden in repairing the old fort, and in erecting barracks for 400 men.

This work, when completed, according to the estimate, will be sufficient to secure it from any attack from an irregular force.

On Bois Blanc three block-houses have been constructed to contain 40 men each, and the new barrack at Sandwich has been made defensible. It would require an outlay of about 70,000*l.* to construct a permanent work fit for the protection of this frontier.

The occupation of Amherstburg, and the island of Bois Blanc, and Fighting Island by the Americans, would give them the command of the water communication between Lake Erie and the Upper Lakes, and as the settlers in the townships of Colchester, Gosfield, and others in the vicinity of Amherstburg, can be depended on, it is of great importance to the province to hold this remote possession, and secure it from incursion.

The defence of the townships on the St. Clair, which have lately been opened, must be confided to the militia, and the troops stationed at London.

Fort Mississagua, at the mouth of the Niagara, has been repaired, and is now tenable against any attack which may be made by an irregular force.

If a permanent work be constructed between Fort Mississagua and the One Mile Creek, or on Queenston Heights, the Americans would scarcely venture to occupy the Niagara frontier, except with a large force. The possession of this district would give them a harbour in the River Niagara, and intercept our communication with the lakes by the Welland Canal.

The Americans are now improving Fort Niagara, in consequence, probably, of Fort Mississagua having been repaired and armed. The permanent work proposed to be constructed in this district would be completed for about 70,000*l.*

Fort Wellington, at Prescott, has been repaired, and is now a respectable work. This post should be maintained both with reference to the importance of protecting our communication with the loyal settlers of the Eastern and Midland districts near Cornwall, and to the narrow channel which separates the townships on this part of the St. Lawrence from the lawless American population of the opposite shore.

At Cornwall a block-house should be constructed, in which arms and ammunition for the militia could be secured. The block-house might be completed for 1200*l.*

Between Cornwall and the Coteau du Lac, no posts will be required.

LOWER CANADA.

St. John's is a station of great importance. It commands the bridge over the Richelieu, and the continuous navigation of Lake Champlain, the Richelieu and the Chambly Canal. Barracks have been built for 800 men, from which the frontier on both sides of the Richelieu can be easily reinforced.