

—No. 5.—

COPY of a LETTER from the Under Secretary of State for the Colonial Department to Lord *Aylmer*, dated Downing-street, 28 May 1831.

My Lord,

R. W. Hay, Esq. to
Lord Aylmer,
28 May 1831.

A CONSIDERABLE number of military pensioners having received permission to commute their pensions, with a view to their settling in British North America, I am directed by Viscount Goderich to transmit to you a memorandum, showing the vessels in which these persons are proceeding to Quebec. It is very probable that many of them may not wish to avail themselves of the free grant of land to which they are entitled, but may prefer employment as agricultural labourers or otherwise. The agent of emigrants will feel it his duty to afford them every assistance in his power in furtherance of their views. With reference to such as may be desirous of proceeding to their original destination in the Upper Province, I have to request that your Lordship will grant them every facility for that purpose.

I have, &c.
(signed) *R. W. Hay.*

—No. 6.—

COPY of a LETTER from the Under Secretary for the Colonial Department to Major-general Sir *John Colborne*, K. C. B., dated Downing-street, 28 May 1831.

Sir,

R. W. Hay, Esq.
to Sir J. Colborne,
28 May 1831.

I AM directed by Viscount Goderich to acquaint you that a considerable number of military pensioners have received permission to commute their pensions, and proceed to Canada as settlers.

It is very probable that many of these persons may prefer obtaining employment as agricultural labourers or otherwise, and the agent of emigrants at Quebec has been directed to further their views in this respect. In regard to such as may be desirous of proceeding to Upper Canada, to avail themselves of a free grant of land, Lord Aylmer has been requested to afford them every assistance in proceeding from Quebec to their destination, and I am to request that upon their arrival at York, you will take the necessary measures for ensuring their location in a body in as desirable a situation as circumstances will permit.

I have, &c.
(signed) *R. W. Hay.*

—No. 7.—

EXTRACT of a LETTER from Major-general Sir *J. Colborne*, K. C. B., to Mr. Under Secretary *Hay*, dated Government-house, York, 27 October 1831.

Sir J. Colborne to
R. W. Hay, Esq.
27 Oct. 1831.

THE pensioners have occasioned much embarrassment; we have now about 300 of them collected in the Newcastle district; many of them had not more than 5*l.* to receive out of their commutation-money, and are either too old or too idle to work. If an arrangement could be made with pensioners by which they could retain their pensions for two years after they may be located, and the commutation to be received at the expiration of two years from their commencing to clear their lots, deducting the sum which may be advanced to enable them to cross the Atlantic, the whole corps of pensioners might be provided for without any great inconvenience arising from their pouring into this province; but it appears to me almost cruel to tempt an old soldier, whose careless habits and improvidence are so well known, by offering him 40*l.* or 50*l.*, instead of his annuity, on which his family depends on for support.