

(R. 7,259.)

Military Secretary's Office, Montreal,  
6 May 1853.

Sir,

HAVING duly submitted to the Lieutenant General Commanding your letter, dated Montreal, 5th May 1853, relating to an application from the Toronto and Guelph Railway Company, to occupy a part of the Military Reserve at Point Edward, near Port Sarnia, I have the honour, by order, to state in reply, that while the Lieutenant General is not aware of immediate objections to the proposal contained in your letter, he considers it right to transmit for your information, the accompanying copy of a note by the late Lieutenant General, Sir Benjamin D'Urban, on the importance of Point Edward as a military position.

Colonel Dixon,  
Commanding Royal Engineers,  
Canada.

I have, &c.  
(signed) *H. Rowan*,  
Military Secretary.

(Extract.)

## PORT SARNIA.

" A TOWER, with a heavy traversing gun, at Point Edward, would give us the command of the entrance of Lake Huron, and if this should cause the Americans to resort to the Black River, and a canal to enter Lake Huron, another battery must be placed near Sarnia, to command the entrance of the Black River. These works would have nothing to fear from the United States Fort Gratiot. As it is, the Americans can prevent our intercourse with Lake Huron, while we have no control over theirs."

(No. 277.)

Gentlemen,

21 December 1853. (T. 724.)

THE Lords Commissioners of Her Majesty's Treasury having authorized the sale to the Toronto and Guelph Railway Company, at a fair and reasonable price, of the portion of the Military Reserve at Point Edward and Port Sarnia, which is necessary for the extension of the line of railway across the reserve,

I have received the Board's commands to notify the same to you, in reply to your letter of the 11th July last.

The Respective Officers,  
Montreal.

I have, &c.  
(signed) *G. Butler*.

— No. 3. —

(Ordnance, No 89.)

Office of Ordnance, Montreal,  
30 July 1855.

Sir,

WE have the honour to submit for consideration, with reference to the order of 21st December 1853 (T. 724), authorising the sale to the "Toronto and Guelph" Railway Company, since incorporated into the Grand Trunk Railway of Canada, at a fair and reasonable price, of the portion of the Sarnia Reserve required for the purposes of that work, the correspondence shown in the margin,\* from which it will be observed that in consideration of the sum of 10s. currency per acre, which is held to be the actual present value of the Reserve, it is proposed to dispose of the whole block described on the plan, with the exception of that part comprised within the radius of 300 yards round the projected work of defence; which is to be resumable whenever required for purposes of defence or military occupation, and is to be subject to the payment

\* Letter of Messrs. Gzowski & Co., 17th February 1855. Report thereon of Commander Royal Engineer, 26th February 1855.

Letter of respective officers to Provincial Secretary, 22d March 1855. Reply of Provincial Secretary, 23d June 1855.

Mr. Elliott's report of 10th July, with letter to Messrs. Gzowski & Co. of 14th, and their reply of 20th July 1855.