



*General Order*  
G. O.

HEAD QUARTERS,

Quebec, 6th February, 1808.

THE GOVERNOR and COMMANDER IN CHIEF has learnt, with regret, that an erroneous opinion has been adopted, by some Individuals of the part of the Militia that is selected and directed to hold themselves in readiness to assemble at a short notice, which, if suffered to spread and to become general, might occasion uneasiness, and be the means of introducing ill humour and discord among the Companies, who would naturally differ among themselves on a point in which all are concerned. He therefore directs that the several Colonels, and under their directions the Field Officers and Captains, do take pains to explain to their Men, very fully and pointedly, that this Order, being only that they should be chosen and that they should hold themselves in readiness, is not limited by the term of six months as many have imagined. That limitation applies, solely, to their period of actual service, and dates only from the day of their assembling when called together for that purpose; and from which they will receive pay and provisions. The terms of the Law are direct and express upon the point; which is further corroborated by the Military custom of all services, in which no tour of duty is ever allowed unless the detachment ordered actually marches—altho' it is then allowed, tho' it marches only a quarter of a mile and is then countermanded.

The GOVERNOR and COMMANDER in CHIEF therefore expects, that the same Officers and Men do continue to hold themselves in readiness to assemble, till otherwise ordered, in the same manner that they have hitherto done, and notwithstanding that the term of six months may be expired. He takes this opportunity of further explaining, that it is not the intention that the men selected should be restrained from proceeding in their ordinary pursuits by which they are in the habit of gaining their livelihood at this season of the year, even tho' by doing so they should be carried to a distance from their homes. All that is required, in such case, is, that they should inform their Captains of their departure, so that they may be duly apprized when ordered to assemble.

J. H. CRAIG,

*Gov'r.*

By HIS EXCELLENCY'S Command,

HERMAN W. RYLAND,

Secretary.

To COLONEL BABY, *Adjutant*  
General of the Militia of Lower  
Canada.