

"dusive of great Benefit and Utility, not only to Your Majesty's Service, but to the Public in general, We are not competent to form a Judgment of the Nature of these Losses sufficient for us to estimate the Amount thereof, or to propose (did it belong to us so to do) an equivalent Compensation. But we are nevertheless of Opinion, that the Memorialist may be deserving of some Mark of Your Majesty's Favour, as a farther Reward for his Zeal, Activity, and Ability, in prosecuting and completing the abovementioned useful Work, &c."

*Arrears* . . . . . £127 17 14 0  
Received, in January 1784, upon His Majesty's Order in Council . . . . . 3915 17 8

*Balance* [exclusive of Loss by Interests paid on the Advance of Money] . . . . . £8801 16 4

It will appear [P 5. N 26.] upon Comparison of the Reimbursement claimed by DesBarres for Advances incurred in the Prosecution of the abovementioned Surveys and in preparing Charts for the Public Exigency, with the *Sums actually paid* by the Public in the same Period of Time for Services of a similar Nature [the Land Surveys in America of Messrs. Holland and Debrahm, and for the Purpose of their preparing the same for Publication] that, the Public had regularly paid in *advance every Year* the average Sum of £1089 11s. 2d. for defraying the Contingencies of the Service carried on by the latter; whereas DesBarres, who had engaged in the Prosecution of a similar Service, far more difficult, laborious, extensive, and beneficial, implicitly trusting to be honourably recompensed in the End as well as reimbursed, claimed no more than his absolute and evident Disbursements—the average annual Amount of which was £469 7s. 9d. [P 3. N 19, 22 to 26.]

#### NAVIGATION AND COMMERCE, &c:

EARL HOWE had in Contemplation to institute an Office, [and to honour DesBarres with the Direction thereof] for the Benefit of Navigation and Commerce, productive also in Times of War of peculiar Advantages in facilitating the Execution of Designs of Enterprize, estimating and regulating the Forces and Expenditures requisite, obviating Difficulties, ascertaining the Permanency of acquired Success, &c: [P 6. N 27. P 84. N 350, 353.]

#### CAPE BRETON.

REASONS which induced the Measure of colonising Cape Breton—to extend the Field of Accommodation to the Loyalists and disbanded Troops, and Others in destitute Circumstances at the close of the American War, [particularly the Whalers and Fishermen of Nantucket, &c, who proposed continuing in Allegiance to His Majesty] as well as in the view of securing to Great Britain the Benefits which France formerly enjoyed from that Island—in the Employment of above Three hundred Vessels, Fifteen hundred Shallops, and Fourteen thousand Men, in it's Fisheries, producing nearly Half a Million Sterling per Annum—capable of being greatly enhanced in the more energetic Hands of Britons. Situation and peculiar Advantages of Cape Breton—the natural Place of Arms for the Protection of His Majesty's transatlantic Dominions, the fittest Emporium for Commerce in North America between Great Britain, the West Indies, the Gulph and River of St. Lawrence and the immense Countries in the Rear of the American States. [P 6, N 28, 30.]

DesBarres appointed Lieutenant Governor and Commander in Chief of Cape Breton and it's Dependencies. Sailed from England in October and arrived at the Infant Colony,

in December 1784. Exerted every means in his Power to forward the Objects of his Mission. Faithfully reported the State and Circumstances of Affairs. Submitted a Rule of proceeding to be observed until he should receive further Directions. Transmitted Accounts of the Expenditures incurred, with an Estimate of what appeared necessary to be incurred. The Bills drawn by him, on Account thereof, accordingly paid at the Treasury. The transmitted Accounts, received by the Public Offices and no Objections whatever signified therein. The Agent, upon official Communications, advised to pursue the Method DesBarres had adopted, as being regular and proper. [P 6. N 29, 31, P 8. N 37 to 46, 48 to 51.]

Advice of the Colonial Council "to procure Provisions for the existing Exigency, and to draw Bills for the Amount on the Treasury." [P 9. N 47.]

A considerable Body of Whalers and Fishermen proposed to emigrate from Nantucket, Martha's Vine Yard, Rhode Island, &c: with their Families and Property to Cape Breton. Proceedings thereon. Causes of Perplexity. [P 10 N 52, 54, 55.]

Progress—between Three and Four thousand People had been settled in the Infant Colony—It's Exports, for 1785, through the Customhouse, of the Proceeds of Industry, in cured Fish, &c, exceed £40,000 in Value [P 10; N 53, 56.]

#### OCCURRENCES.

Sources of Perplexity.—Whatever might have induced the Governor of Nova Scotia, to assign any Part of his Duty to the Commanding Officer of the Troops at Halifax; the peculiar Circumstances of the Infant Colony did not allow the Imitation of such an Example, if even DesBarres had been so inclined. [P 11. N 57.] While Provisions to above 30,000 People were issued in the District of Halifax alone, Cape Breton not only laboured under a singular Privation of a similar Aid; but also the Exertions used for the Preservation of the Lives of it's Colonists were by clandestine Means endeavoured to be frustrated. [P 11. N 58, 59.] Perplexities. Proceedings thereupon. Result. [P 12. N 60, 61, 63, 66, 68, 69.] The Provost Marshal is accused, and Colonel Yorke's Accusation proved to be unfounded. [P 12. N 62, 64, 65, 67.] Proceedings by the Chief Justice against Persons concerned in Acts of violent Opposition to the Legal Authority. [P 14. N 70, 71.] Advice of the Colonial Council. Colonel Yorke engages to issue 40,000 Rations of Provisions for the Support of the Inhabitants—about 5000 were received in Part—the Residue was to be called for as wanted. [P 15. N 72, to 74, 78.]

In the mean Time, the Brigantine Amella, having Provisions on Board, arrived at Sydney in December 1785.—Her Master John (Drummond) and the Supercargo (James Angel), being called before the Council, declared on Oath the Circumstances of the Vessel and Cargo. Resolution, Clandestine Proceedings of Drummond and Angel. They falsify their Declarations on Oath, &c. Further Resolutions. [P 16. N 74 to 77, 79, to 94.]

The Provisions in the Amella subsisted the Colony until the middle of February 1786. Application being made for the Residue of the 40,000 Rations, Colonel Yorke refused to comply with his Engagement. His Pretence. Precautions used. [P 18. N 93 to 105.]

The Colonial Council advise a Chancery Writ to be issued for entering Store to obtain the Balance of the 40,000 Rations. The Execution of the Writ delayed in order to expatriate with Colonel Yorke, who appears determined to oppose the Legal Authority by Force. [P 19, N 106 to 113.] Precaution. [P 21. N 114.] The Riot Act is proclaimed, and in the Execution of the Writ, on the 24 March 1786 the Person, directing on the Spot an armed Opposition to the Civil Authority, is taken Prisoner by the Provost Marshal; but immediately rescued. [P 21. N 115, 118.]

Colonel Yorke having formed a Disposition with the Troops, sent a Letter saying that, "He was unqualified with Legal Aid by Council and therefore wished to keep clear of any Intingement on the Constitution, till he could procure proper Advice and Assistance." [P 21. N 116.] The Chief Justice and the Attorney General are directed to give their Opinions on the Affairs, in order that the same be furnished to Colonel

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