

This Report will be found to embody all the information called for by you Lordship, and will, I trust, enable you fully to comply with the anticipated application of the House of Commons.

In connexion with this subject, I have further the honour to transmit a recapitulative statement of such claims as have come before me for losses which, subsequent to the rebellion, have been sustained by individuals in this province, from the acts of piratical bands armed and organized within the jurisdiction of the United States of America.

The documents having reference to the claims of most of the parties mentioned in this list have been already brought under the notice of your Lordship's predecessor in my despatches noted in the margin.

Your Lordship will perceive that the only fresh claims preferred are those numbered 4, 5 and 6, being the cases of Messrs. Holditch, Fraser and Macdonell, for losses on board the "Sir Robert Peel."

I beg to refer your Lordship to my despatch last quoted, as containing the only remarks which at present I have to offer respecting these or similar applications.

I have, &c.

(signed) *G. Arthur.*

Enclosure 1, in No. 5.

Encl. 1, in No. 5. To His Excellency Sir *George Arthur*, K. C. H., Lieutenant-Governor of the Province of Upper Canada, Major-General Commanding Her Majesty's Forces therein, &c. &c. &c.

THE Commissioners appointed under the provincial statute, 1st Vict., c. 13, "to investigate the Claims of certain Inhabitants of this Province for Losses sustained during the late unnatural Rebellion," respectfully beg leave to report:

THAT immediately after their appointment they gave public notice of their being prepared to receive claims for investigation under the Act of the Legislature, with a request that they should be forwarded to Toronto, the place appointed by your Excellency for the sittings of the board.

In the performance of their duties under the statute, the following claims have been brought before them for investigation, copies of which accompany this report:—

No. 1. John Butler—for loss of household furniture, &c., burned by the rebels	£.	s.	d.
	102	8	9
No. 2. Robert C. Horne, Esq.—dwelling-house, with other buildings and their contents, burned by the rebels	2,369	2	9
No. 3. Mrs. Margaret Washburn—dwelling-house, barn and contents, burned by the rebels	1,310	6	5
No. 4. William Burrows—loss of furniture, &c. in house burned by the rebels	448	9	5
No. 5. Nicholas Burrows—clothing, &c. in house burned by the rebels	33	5	3
No. 6. Michael Murnan—clothing in house burned by the rebels	7	4	—
No. 7. Jane Milligan—clothing in house, burned by the rebels	9	—	—
No. 8. Clarke Gamble, Esq.—as acting executor and trustee for sundry property of the estate of the late Benjamin Whitney, Esq., in house burned by the rebels	125	—	—

Copy of the evidence adduced on these several claims is also annexed for your Excellency's information.

Taking each claim in its order, with the evidence brought before them in support of the demands made upon the public by the parties who have suffered loss by the acts of traitors during the late rebellion, the Commissioners respectfully beg leave to submit the following observations for your Excellency's consideration:—

No. 1. *John Butler*.—It appears from the evidence of Richard Butler, who was left in charge of the family, that his father, the claimant, was meritoriously employed in the discharge of his duty as a militia-man on the Niagara frontier during a threatened invasion of the province, and that this period of his absence on such an occasion, when it is probable, too, that his fellow loyal subjects and neighbours were called from their homes, and his family left in comparative insecurity, was deemed most opportune by incendiary rebels to deprive them of their shelter, and to ensure the complete destruction of their property.

The evidence is not so clear and pointed in this case as in all the others, as to the act having positively been that of the rebels. In all the other cases no doubt whatever remains on this point, as the acts of destruction took place in open day, in the presence of several witnesses; in this, however, the dead hour of night, when the inmates were at rest, and

* These Despatches referred to the cases of particular individual claimants for compensation.