

DESPATCH TO THE LIEUTENANT-GOVERNOR OF NEW BRUNSWICK.

NEW
BRUNSWICK.

No. 25.

No. 25.

COPY OF DESPATCH from the Right Hon. Sir GEORGE GREY, Bart., to
Lieutenant-Governor Sir E. HEAD.

No. 5.

SIR,

Downing Street, 18th August 1854.

I TRANSMIT to you herewith, for your information, a copy of the Despatch which I have written to the Earl of Elgin, explanatory of the grounds on which Her Majesty's Government have been led to withdraw a large portion of the forces serving in Canada. The like considerations have induced them to order home the 72nd Regiment, and one company of the Royal Artillery, from the Nova Scotia command; thus reducing the force there to a single regiment, the 76th, which will be increased to 850 rank and file, and two companies of artillery. The Lieutenant-General in command has been instructed that the whole of this force is to be quartered at Halifax, but that he is to detach for service either at Fredericton, or St. John's, in New Brunswick, one or two companies of the 76th Regiment and half a company of artillery.

I have, &c.
(Signed) G. GREY.

No. 17.
11th Aug. 1854.
Vide page 9.

No. 26.

CANADA.

No. 26.

REPORT of the COMMISSIONERS appointed to investigate and report upon the best means of re-organizing the MILITIA of CANADA, and providing an efficient and economical System of PUBLIC DEFENCE, and to report upon an improved System of POLICE, for the better Preservation of the Public Peace.

To His Excellency SIR EDMUND WALKER HEAD, BARONET, Governor General of British North America, and Captain General and Governor in Chief in and over the Provinces of Canada, Nova Scotia, New Brunswick, and the Island of Prince Edward, and Vice Admiral of the same, &c., &c., &c.

MAY IT PLEASE YOUR EXCELLENCY:

The Commissioners appointed by Letters Patent under the Great Seal of the Province, dated 27th October 1854, for the purpose of investigating the state of the Militia of Canada, of re-organizing the said Militia, and of providing an efficient and economical system of public defence, and further to report on an improved system of Police for the better preservation of the public peace—

Having given the above matters their best consideration, beg leave most respectfully to report to Your Excellency, that

1. With regard to providing an efficient and economical system of public defence, the Commissioners are unanimously of opinion that the establishment of Volunteer Troops of Militia Cavalry, Field Batteries and Foot Companies of Artillery, and Companies of Infantry, armed as Riflemen in the several localities set forth in the Schedule marked A, attached to this report, and under conditions of service hereafter to be mentioned, will prove the most efficient, economical and popular system of public defence which can be adopted under the present circumstances of the Province, taken into connexion with such measures as they will also have the honour of submitting to Your Excellency for the re-organization and armament of the Sedentary Militia.

The defence of the Province, from the nature of the Country, must at all times be mainly dependent upon Artillery and Infantry; the services of Cavalry being principally confined to keeping up communications, and to patrol and outpost duties, and the Commissioners need not enlarge upon the obvious advantages to be derived from the organization of a Volunteer Force of the several Arms of Artillery, Cavalry and Infantry in the principal Cities, Towns and Villages in the Province whereby such additional facilities are afforded for