

early period, so that the winter shall not pass over without obtaining from the Legislature such powers as may enable you to commence a well arranged Military organization of the Provinces, and prepare for such emergencies as, though they cannot be accurately foreseen, it must be evident to everybody, may possibly arise, and are at present very inadequately provided for. It is in time of peace that preliminary measures of defence should be perfected, so that in the event of war they may be found so far ready as to ensure that an enemy shall not obtain a footing in the country, before aid is forthcoming from other portions of the Empire.

"I have, &c.,

"[Signed],

NEWCASTLE.

"Governor Viscount Monck, &c., &c., &c."

Lord Monck, whose astuteness and ability none can doubt, feeling, we must suppose, that the above despatch was in part aimed at him, for his apparent want of vigor, prepared the following Memorandum, which we lay before our readers, with the introductory correspondence:—

(Copy No. 4.)

"GOVERNMENT HOUSE, Quebec, January 9th, 1863.

"MY LORD DUKE,—I have the honor to transmit for your Grace's information a copy of a memorandum which I have thought right to place before the Executive Council of this Province on the subject of the Militia organization, together with a note from me to Mr. Macdonald, the Prime Minister, when sending him this memorandum.

"Early in the autumn the Governor appointed Lieut. Col. Wiley to proceed through the Province and make an inspection and confidential report on the state of the Active Force. This inspection occupied a considerable time, and the memorandum which I have now the honor to enclose to your Grace was written by me on the report made by Lieut. Col. Wiley.

"It is right I should add that the numbers of the Active Force have been largely increased since the time of Lieut. Col. Wiley's inspection, and that they at present amount to more than 18,000 men.

"I have, &c.,

"[Signed],

MONCK.

"His Grace the Duke of Newcastle, K.G., &c., &c., &c."

"QUEBEC, December 17th, 1862.

"MY DEAR MR. MACDONALD,—I send you some observations which have occurred to me in connection with Lieut. Col. Wiley's report on the state of the Active Force.

"I should be glad that you would bring these views before your colleagues in order that you and they may consider before the meeting of Parliament, whether you would think it well to introduce any measure to correct the defects of the present Militia Law.

"Believe me, &c.,

"[Signed],

MONCK.

"The Honorable J. S. Macdonald, &c., &c., &c."