

Probable cost.

86. MONTREAL.—As regards the probable cost of the proposed defences, it is calculated that about 1,800 acres of land would be required opposite the City at Montreal, and about 1,400 at Caughnawaga and Vaudreuil; total 3,200 acres. Estimated to cost - £118,000
The cost of the works at Montreal is estimated at - - - - - 325,000

Total, Montreal - - - - - £443,000

KINGSTON.—At Kingston, about 2,100 acres of land would be required on the City side and in front of Fort Henry; about 1,200 acres on Wolfe Island and Simcoe Island; the cost of the whole is estimated at - - - - - £ 66,000

The cost of the works at Kingston is estimated at - - - - - 325,000

Total, Kingston - - - - - £391,000

The works at Toronto would cost about - - - - - 90,000

That at Hamilton about - - - - - 30,000

At Quebec, the purchase of land and cost of works is estimated at - - - - - 200,000

For Depôts at Toronto, Ottawa, Montreal, and Kingston, would probably be required - - - - - 100,000

For armaments, say - - - - - 200,000

For gun-boats - - - - - 301,000

Total - - - - - £1,754,000

Time required for execution.

87. It may be of advantage to state, as regards the time requisite for the construction of the fortifications, that the exterior ramparts of the works covering Montreal might be completed in one year, but that it would take two years to complete the forts at that place. The works at Kingston and Quebec would probably take three years to complete, but they would afford a means of defence to a certain extent from year to year in proportion to the amount of work executed.

Conclusion.

88. The foregoing proposals are submitted for consideration with an earnest recommendation that there should be no unnecessary delay in carrying them into effect. If preparation for war were postponed until a period when hostilities were seriously threatened, no steps that could then be taken either by Great Britain or by Canada herself could be of any avail. Effective resistance to the invasion either of Canada or of any other State by a powerful neighbour similarly situated with respect to it can alone be made by adopting a permanent basis for defence.

By means of the measures recommended in this paper, Canada, aided by Imperial troops, would be enabled to resist American aggression with success; and who shall say that, thus tiding over the time of her dependence and comparative weakness, she may not, united with the other provinces of British North America, at length become a great and powerful nation which may hold her own against the world!

WM. F. DRUMMOND JERVOIS.

Quebec, 10th November 1864.

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