

the Provincial Government and the people of Canada. It is difficult to see how, when my Despatch contemplates legislation on the subject of the militia by the Canadian and not the Imperial Parliament, the Executive Council can justify such grave apprehensions of an invasion of their liberties.

These considerations will show that the general doctrines referred to by the Report have little application to the present peculiar case of Canada, and little force against the suggestion of my Despatch, which, however, I have no desire to press upon the attention of your government, upon whom, and the parliament of Canada, must rest the responsibility of providing adequate means for meeting the efforts of the mother-country to secure the safety of the Province.

The Report dwells at length upon the fact, that the policy of the Empire in all its relations with Foreign Powers, upon which peace and war depend, is regulated by the Imperial Government and Parliament, over which Canada has no controul.

I agree with the Executive Council in regarding this circumstance as one of primary importance, as lying indeed at the very root of the relations between the mother-country and her colonies, with respect to military and naval defences. They cannot fail, however, to see that Canada, though liable, as they repeatedly point out, to be involved in Imperial wars in which she may have no immediate interest, has yet a manifest interest, under all circumstances, in contributing to maintain the power of the Empire of which she forms so important a part, and with which the maintenance of her own independence, and of her commanding position in the world, is so essentially connected. The main security against aggression which Canada enjoys as a portion of the British Empire, is the fact,—known to all the world,—that war with Canada means war with England, not in Canada only, but upon every sea, and upon the shores, wherever situated, of the aggressive Power itself. It does not therefore follow that this country can consent or afford to maintain an unlimited number of troops in Canada at her own cost, even in time of war, much less in time of peace. And it remains true, that the defence of Canadian territory must depend mainly upon the Canadian people itself.

Governor General Viscount Monck,
&c. &c. &c.

I have, &c.
(Signed) NEWCASTLE.