

Treasury Chambers,
12th September 1828.

SIR,

The Lords Commissioners of His Majesty's Treasury have had under consideration a memorial from Mr. John Hale, stating, that in the year 1823 he was appointed by Lord Dalhousie to execute the duties of the office of receiver-general of Lower Canada, upon the dismissal of Mr. Caldwell, and praying that, in consideration of his long services, his appointment may be confirmed; and also a representation from the commissioners of audit, dated 25th ult. upon the present state of Mr. Hale's accounts, and the amount of salary which he is to be allowed to charge; and I am to acquaint you, for the information of Secretary Sir George Murray, that provided Mr. Hale's securities shall be approved, and the regulations contained in the letter of this Board to Mr. Wilmot Horton, of the 30th October 1826, for the future control and management of the office of receiver-general in Lower Canada, have been established and strictly adhered to, my lords will give directions for confirming Mr. Hale in the appointment, with the increased salary of 1,000 *l.* per annum. With regard to the period from which Mr. Hale is to be allowed to charge the increased rate of salary, my lords request that you will call Sir George Murray's attention to the minute of the Board of the 26th October 1826, which was communicated to His Majesty's Secretary of State for the Colonies, by their lordships' direction, in the letter to Mr. Horton above alluded to, of the 30th of that month.

My lords have not been apprised that any revision of the office of receiver-general took place prior to the regulations established by that minute; but it appears to them that, between the period at which Mr. Hale was appointed to act as receiver-general, upon the removal of Mr. Caldwell, and that at which the restrictions imposed by their said minute were carried into effect, Mr. Hale ought not to be allowed to charge the increased rate of salary, unless the balances of public money, which his predecessor had been allowed to retain, had been previously withdrawn, the proposed increase of salary being only to be justified on the ground of the withdrawal from Mr. Hale of that source of emolument which the retention of the balances afforded to Mr. Caldwell. My lords request, therefore, that Sir George Murray will direct them to be informed at what period the regulations established by their said minute of the 26th of October 1826 were carried into effective operation in Lower Canada, and whether, in the interval that had previously elapsed subsequent to the appointment of Mr. Hale by Lord Dalhousie in 1823, he had continued to retain in his hands balances of public money, and to what amount.

My lords also request to be informed, whether the restrictions imposed by the minute of this Board above referred to are at the present time strictly enforced.

I am, Sir, your obedient servant,
(signed) *J. Stewart.*

No. 22.—COPY of a Despatch from Secretary Sir George Murray to
Lieutenant General Sir James Kempt.

Downing-street, London,
16th Feb. 1829.

SIR,

I beg leave to refer your Excellency to that part of my despatch, No. 1, of the 29th September last, explanatory of the arrangements which I had considered it expedient to make with the Lords Commissioners of His Majesty's Treasury, for the payment into the custody of commissary-general in Lower Canada, of any balances of public monies, which might from time to time remain in the hands of the receiver-general and sheriffs of the province. Since the date of that despatch it has been thought advisable to modify in some degree the arrangement which had been therein contemplated, their lordships having been apprehensive that some inconvenience might arise from the negotiation of Treasury bills which might be issued from the military chest on account of monies so deposited therein. The plan which their lordships have suggested, and which you will find more particularly described in the enclosed letter from Mr. Stewart, appears to me to be well calculated to meet the object intended; and as you will, in conformity with the

12 January 1829