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Since the peace of eighteen hundred and fifteen, the Province has, so to speak, only had a Militia on paper. The war which has afflicted the neighbouring states for more than three years must naturally have aroused in us the instinct of self preservation. If our proximity to the scene of war does make it necessary for this Province to incur some unwanted expenses at the present time, we ought to consider ourselves very fortunate to have come off so cheap, in comparison with the enormous sacrifices in men and money by which our neighbours are weighed down. The sacrifices imposed upon us by present circumstances cannot long continue to be required of us; and I cannot see why, when once peace has been re-established upon this continent, the cost of the militia should not be reduced to the average of its annual amount previous to eighteen hundred and sixty.

It would be of no use to enter into a long detail. I have  
repetition of what is to be found in all the Acts respecting the  
militia which have been passed, at different times, during  
very many years.