

The wives of the married men should be provided with marriage certificates, so that in case they become widows, they might be able to claim the balances due to their husbands.

I am not aware if there is any objection to the payment of these commutations by daily pay-lists; it is a plan that would obviate much labour and loss of time, and the adoption of which would relieve this department from a great mass of papers and extra duty. I should feel much indebted to my Lords to request a decision on this point; but in the meanwhile I abstain from acting upon it, until I can ascertain, through you, the opinion of the Chelsea Board.

The Honourable James Stewart,  
&c. &c. &c.

I am, &c.  
(signed) *R. J. Routh, c. g.*

—No. 11.—

EXTRACT of a LETTER from Major-general Sir *John Colborne*, K. C. B., to Mr. Under Secretary *Hay*, dated York, Upper Canada, 6 November 1832.

THE pensioners who have commuted their pensions are in many instances found to be in great distress, while all those who retain their pensions are going on prosperously. A soldier of 45 or 50 years of age, with a large family, who squanders away his commutation-money, and has neither stamina nor perseverance to cultivate his land, becomes a discontented, troublesome subject, and thinks himself cruelly treated if he can obtain no relief nor assistance.

Sir J. Colborne to  
R. W. Hay, Esq.  
6 Nov. 1832.

I have called for a return of the pensioners who are without means to remain on their locations. In certain cases I should suggest that the pensions might be renewed and continued for two years, provided that the pensioners recommended for this indulgence remain on their land and clear a sufficient number of acres for the future support of their families. Some modification of the present system must take place, for the sending to the province so many discontented old soldiers may embarrass the local government. If soldiers should still be allowed to commute their pensions, a certain advance might be made to them to enable them to reach the colonies, and a reduced pension granted to them conditionally for a few years, while they are employed in clearing their land.

—No. 12.—

EXTRACT from Mr. *Buchanan's* REPORT ON EMIGRATION, enclosed in Lord *Aylmer's* Despatch, 9th January 1833, No. 3.

I WILL here take the liberty of soliciting your Lordship's consideration to that portion of the emigrants under the denomination of commuted pensioners; the number of whom arrived this year is 1,700; those of the past season were in general better adapted for farming pursuits than the pensioners of last year. It is to be exceedingly desired that in future, in lieu of advancing them their money at the port of embarkation or landing, it ought in all cases to be paid to them at their final destination. Every possible facility under the existing regulations was given by the Commissariat Department here, and at Montreal printed notices and instructions, for their especial guidance, were prepared and distributed to them (*gratis*) by this department.

Extract from  
Mr. Buchanan's  
Report on Emigra-  
tion.

—No. 13.—

(No. 1.)

EXTRACT of a DESPATCH from Major-general Sir *John Colborne*, K. C. B., to Lord *Goderich*, dated Upper Canada, York, 10 January 1833.

I REGRET to state that many of the pensioners who arrived last season, having commuted their pensions, are in great distress; they have squandered away their commutation allowance, and cannot, without further assistance, remain on their land, and are either too indolent or unable to labour with energy sufficient to provide for their families. They generally are led to believe that they have been dealt with unfairly, and, being destitute and discontented, and having passed their

Sir J. Colborne to  
Lord Goderich,  
10 Jan. 1833.