To His Excellency the Right Honourable SIR JOHN CAMPBELL HAMILTON-GORDON, EARL OF ABERDEEN; Viscount Formartine, Baron Haddo, Methlic, Tarves and Kellie, in the Peerage of Scotland; Viscount Gordon of Aberdeen, County of Aberdeen, in the Peerage of the United Kingdom; Baronet of Nova Scotia, etc., etc., Governor General of Canada.

My LORD,

I have the honour to forward to Your Excellency the accompanying Report of the Department of Militia and Defence of the Dominion of Canada for the year ended 31st December, 1896, which is respectfully submitted.

I have the honour to be,

My Lord,

Your Excellency's most obedient servant,

F. W. BORDEN,

Minister of Militia and Defence.

DEPARTMENT OF MILITIA AND DEFENCE, OTTAWA, 17th March, 1897.