

STATE PAPERS—LOWER CANADA.

GOVERNOR J. H. CRAIG, 1808.

Q.—107.

1807.
November 16, Quebec. Ryland to Sir John Johnson. Encloses copy of complaint delivered to him by three Indians. His Excellency desires the fullest information. Page 348

(In Craig's No. 34 of 22nd October.)
November 24, Quebec. Return of ammunition (No.1) required to complete the proportion for this garrison. Signed by George Glasgow, Col. commanding Royal Artillery. 10

December 1. Gore to Craig. (Extract.) As a means of defence the Indians may prove useful; the apprehension of the Americans at Detroit on this head has caused them to issue a proclamation threatening retaliation on the wives and children of those joining the British Standard. Their resolution shaken. He should not trust too much to Indian assistance. 221
December 1, York. Queries by Gore respecting the Indians, and answers by Craig. 220

December 2, Quebec. Demand for ordnance stores (No. 2) wanted from England, signed by J. Danford. 13

December 6, Quebec. Craig to Gore. Owing to severe illness has been unable to communicate with him sooner. Hoped to have received information before now by which he might have been enabled at least to conjecture as to the probable issue of the pending controversy. A sufficient time has not elapsed for the means he (Craig) has employed to take effect. Has had no communication as yet from the British Minister in the United States; he therefore knows little except the slender information which can be gleaned from the papers and the temper of the President's speech at the opening of Congress. A state of defence necessary. His Majesty's instructions, as well as his own views, on the subject, seem to point to the preservation of Quebec as the first consideration; it is the only post, defective as it is, that can be considered tenable for a moment. If America decides to attack us, powerful assistance will be needed from home. Is ignorant of the state of the Militia in the Upper Province, but is sure that he (Gore) knows the value of the co-operation and concentration of the forces, but leaves all that in his hands, as he knows the upper country. If the Americans should turn their attention to the Lower Province, which is most probable, operations must terminate in a siege; the artillery, &c., for this purpose will surely exhaust all their means and occupy all their attention, and so prevent any attack being made on the Upper Province at the same time. Has no hope that the forces here can accomplish anything more in case of attack than the checking the enemy for a short time; will eventually be compelled to take refuge in this place (Quebec); when collecting all the forces possible from both provinces we must endeavour to get as far as possible to the rear of the besiegers and cut off convoys and communications. In this way time at least can be gained. The destruction of the magazines would be very distressing to them. The American Militia are little to be feared. The command of the lakes is of great importance. If the Indians are not employed with us, they will certainly be employed against us. Caution necessary in dealing with them; the loss of the valuable Indian trade if they