

TO

THE RIGHT HONOURABLE LORD JOHN RUSSELL,

*Secretary of State for the Colonies, &c. &c.*12, CHARLES STREET, WESTMINSTER,
London, 28th June, 1855.

My Lord: The humble Memorial of William P. Smith, Naturalist, humbly sheweth—

That your Memorialist's father served in his late Majesty's 38th Regiment, and was killed at the battle of Salamanca, 22nd of June, 1812.

That your Memorialist also served in Her Majesty's 66th Regiment seven years, as a non-commissioned officer, four of which he was mess sergeant—that he also served four years as Librarian to Her Majesty's Forces in Quebec—that in these eleven years of military life he acquired, in a certain degree, sufficient experience to render his country valuable service. During this period Upper and Lower Canada were in a very disturbed and unsettled state, consequently upon which Her Majesty's Government considered it advisable to weigh up the Canada grievances—viz., Lord Gosford, Sir Charles Grey, and Sir George Gipps.

That during this time the British Government introduced into various branches of the service the system of close economy. Deputy Commissary-General Greigg, then stationed in Upper Canada, entered into the spirit of the then Ministry. He formed a combination by which there could be a saving of £15,000 per annum to Her Majesty's Government, which plan or combination consisted in drawing the troops from Upper Canada, dismantling the fortifications, selling at public auction the barrack bedding, barrack furniture, and barrack utensils. This plan he laid before the Governor-General Lord Aylmer, who declined having anything to do with it, but granted Commissary-General Greigg six months' leave of absence to lay the whole matter before Her Majesty's Government at home. After some consideration, Her Majesty's Government approved of Mr. Commissary-General Greigg's plans. The fatal order was issued in the autumn of the year 1837. The troops were ordered to the Lower Province, some of whom were sent to England; the fortifications were stripped of their cannon, although Her Majesty's Government knew well at the time that both of the Provinces were in a most disturbed and unsettled state. This plan of Commissary-General Greigg saved Her Majesty's Government, in the year 1837, the