MEETING OF THE COUNTY COUNCIL.

THE COUNTY COUNCIL will meet on Tuesday the 13th inst.
March 1st, 1855.

The Daily British Whig.

" Opifer per Orbem Dicor."

MONDAY MORNING, MARCH 12, 1855.

REORGANIZATION OF THE MILITIA AND POLICE.

REPORT

Of the Commissioners appointed to investigate and report upon the best means of reorganizing the Militia of Canada, and providing an efficient and economical system of Police, and for the better preservation of the public peace.

To His Excellency Sir Edmund Walker Head, Baronet, Governor General of British North America, and Captain General and Governor in Chief in and over the Provinces of Canada, Nova Scotia, New Brunswick, and the Island of Prince Edward, and Vice Admiral of the same, &c., &c., &c.

MAY IT PLEASE YOUR EXCELLENCY :—

The Commissioners appointed by Letters Patent under the Great Seal of the Province, dated 27th of October, 1854, for the purpose of investigating the state of the Militia of Canada, and reorganizing the said Militia, and of providing an efficient and economical system of public defence, and further to report on an improved system of Police for the better preservation of public peace :

Having given the above matters their best consideration, beg leave most respectfully to report to Your Excellency, that

1. That with regard to providing an efficient and economical system of public defence, the Commissioners are unanimously of opinion that the establishment of Volunteer Troops of Militia Cavalry, Field Batteries, and Foot Companies of Artillery, and Companies of Infantry, armed as Riflemen in the several localities set forth in the Schedule marked A, attached to this report, and under condition of service hereafter to be mentioned, will prove the most efficient, economical and popular system of public defence which can be adopted under the present circumstances of the Province, taken in connexion with such measures as they will also have the honor of submitting to Your Excellency for the re-organization and armament of the Sedentary Militia.

The defence of the Province, from the nature of the Country, must at all times be dependent upon Artillery and Infantry, the services of Cavalry being principally confined to keeping up communications, and to patrole and outpost duties, and the Commissioners need not enlarge upon the obvious advantages to be derived from the organization of a Volunteer Force of the several Arms of Artillery, Cavalry and Infantry in the principal Cities, Towns, and Villages in the Province, whereby such additional facilities are afforded for purposes of drill and target practice, frequent exercise at the latter being indispensable to the efficiency of both Artillery and Minnie Riflemen, and should their recommendations on these heads be carried into effect, they confidently believe such measures will be the means of forming an efficient body of Field Artillery, Cavalry and Riflemen; which, should occasion require their services in the field, would prove of the greatest possible advantage when acting in conjunction either with the Sedentary Militia or Her Majesty's Regular Forces, and besides this giving a general feeling of security throughout the Province, and being moreover available at all times to act in aid of the civil power.

From the spirit which animates the population of Canada, the Commissioners have every reason to believe that no difficulty will be experienced in obtaining the requisite number of volunteers to fill up the proposed force of that class which, under these arrangements, will consist

Of Sixteen Troops of Cavalry,
Of Seven Field Batteries of Artillery,
Of Five Foot Companies of Artillery, and
Of Fifty Companies of Riflemen,

amounting in round numbers to 3047 of all Arms for a Volunteer Militia Force.

2. The Commissioners have also considered what measures should be adopted with regard to the formation of a Provincial Marine for the service of the Lakes, and their report on this branch of the public defence is submitted for Your Excellency's consideration.

3. They have further directed their attention to the several Military Reserves and Public Buildings belonging to the Imperial Government in this Province, which under certain limitations, are proposed to be surrendered to the Province, and they have the honor of submitting to Your Excellency their views with regard to the assumption by the Province of such of these Reserves and Public Buildings as appear to them to be required for purposes of Public defence, or which not being particularly required for such purposes may be advantageously sold, and the proceeds applied towards defraying the expenses of measures connected with the defence of the Province.

VOLUNTEER MILITIA FORCE.

1. The Commissioners recommend that the strength of each Volunteer Troop of Cavalry, Foot Company of Artillery, and Company of Infantry, be as follows:—

1 Captain,
1 Lieutenant,
1 Cornet, 2nd Lieutenant, or Ensign,
3 Sergeants,
3 Corporals,
1 Trumpeter or Bugler,
43 Privates;

2. But they would not recommend the above numbers being the limit with regard to Infantry Companies, such Companies could be very conveniently increased to 75 Rank and File in localities desirous of enrolling such numbers, and whenever Your Excellency may consider such to be requisite.

That each Field Battery of Artillery consist of

1 Captain,
2 First Lieutenants,
2 2nd Lieutenants,
1 Sergeant Major,
3 Sergeants,
3 Corporals,
3 Bombadiers,
1 Trumpeter,
1 Farrier,
29 Gunners and Drivers, including Wheeler, Collar Maker, and Shoeing Smith.

56 Horses, exclusive of Officers' Horses and of 5 Spare Horses requisite when called into active service.

3. They recommend that Cavalry Troops be armed with Sabres and Pistols.

4. That the Field Batteries of Artillery be armed with two Six Pounder Guns and two twelve Howitzers for each Battery, and that eight Percussion Carabines be supplied to every Field Battery, as also a Sabre to every Gunner and Driver.

5. That the Foot Companies of Artillery be armed with Percussion Fusils and Bayonets to make them more generally useful, and that the Infantry Companies be armed with the best description of Minie Rifle and Bayonet, and that the whole accoutrements supplied to the Volunteer Force be of Brown Leather, similar to patterns before the Commissioners, with certain alterations and modifications which will be specified in another part of the Report—which arms and accoutrements are to be provided free of expense to Volunteer Force.

9. To insure the efficiency of this Volunteer Force, the Commissioners recommend that Ball and Blank Ammunition, for practice, be issued annually in the proportions authorised in Her Majesty's Regulations for the regular Forces, to Cavalry Artillery and Rifle Regiments.

7. That the uniform of the Volunteer Force be prescribed by Your Excellency, and that a sum of £2 be granted to every non-commissioned Officer and, man on enrollment and on duty, providing such uniform, and that a further sum of £2 be granted to each Volunteer on the expiration of three years' service, and a further sum of £2 on the completion of seven years' service, and in case any Volunteer should retire from the service before the expiration of five years, that such individual be required either to hand over his uniform or to refund the sum of two pounds to whatever person shall enter in his place.

8. That the officers and men composing the Volunteer Force be exempted from serving on Juries, and the horses of officers and men in Troops of Cavalry and Field Batteries of Artillery, if duly enrolled, be exempted from distress or assessment.

9. That the Officers be nominated by Your Excellency, and the non-commissioned Officers by the Captain commanding every Troop or Company.

10. That the officers and men composing the Volunteer Force of Cavalry, Infantry and Foot Artillery be required to drill ten consecutive days every year, and to receive pay at the rates hereafter to be specified whilst at drill, &c.; but to ensure the efficiency of the Field Batteries of Artillery the Commissioners recommend that the officers and men of this important Arm be required to drill nine days annually, ten days of which are to be consecutive; a due attendance from every member of the Force at drill to be enforced, unless the cause of absence is satisfactory to the Captain commanding the Troop or Company to which he belongs, and non-attendance for five consecutive days from established parades and drills to be considered a disqualification for the Volunteer service, unless the cause of absence is satisfactory to the Captain.

11. That before any individual be enrolled as a Volunteer, he shall be required to sign, in the presence of the Captain of the Troop or Company and another witness, a Service Roll of the Troop or Company, which is to be carefully kept by the Captain or Officer commanding it, agreeably to the from in Schedule B attached to this Report.

12. The Commissioners recommend that the officers and men of the Volunteer Forces whilst at drill for the number of days as above stated, be paid at the following rates per diem, viz :—

	s.	d
Captains	10	6
Lieutenants	7	6
2nd Lieutenants, Cornets or Ensigns	6	6
Non-commissioned Officers & Privates	5	0

And that in Troops of Cavalry an additional allowance of 5s per diem be granted for every Troop Horse, whether of officers or men present at such parades and drills, towards defraying the expence of Forage and Saddler, and that in Field Batteries of Artillery a like allowance of 5s a day be granted for each Officer's and Battery horse actually present.

13. In consequence of the responsibility which is attached to the situation of Sergeant Major of the Field Batteries of the Artillery, they recommend that an annual allowance of £50 be granted to persons filling such situations as a suitable remuneration for drilling the Batteries, and exercising a charge and superintendence over the numerous stores attached to every Field Battery, and which duties entail a considerable amount of responsiblity, and require constant care to be properly performed,

14. That the officers and men serving in the Volunteer Militia Force be exempted from future service in the Militia of the Province after 7 years' service as Volunteers, except in the case of war or insurrection, and after such 7 years' service in the Volunteer Force to be exempted from serving on Juries.

15. That these troops and Companies be liable to be moved to other parts of the Province to quell Riots, or on other emergencies, and whilst so employed, to be paid at the same daily rates as when at drill, and which are already specified. The Municipality or County requiring their assistance in aid of the civil power to be moreover required to provide lodging of a proper description for the Volunteer Force whilst so employed in aid of the public peace, and to pay every officer and man 2s 6d per diem for their additional expenses.

16. That these Troops or Companies be required to move on requisition made in writing by one or more Magistrates in aid of the civil power, and if required to do so, to be sworn in as Special Constables, and whilst employed on such duties, to be considered as under the orders of the Magistrate or Magistrates charged with the preservation of the public peace, and if more than one Troop or Company is employed at any locality, the Senior Officer is to have the military command of the whole.

17. That the arms, accoutrements, &c., of these Troops of Companies, as a general rule, will be in the charge of the individual members unless otherwise directed to be placed in store, in which case, should there no public Armoury, or other Building available for storing the arms, &c., an annual allowance of £5 will be granted to the Captain for taking charge of the arms, &c., belonging to his Troop or Company.

18. That both the Captain of the Troop or Company and the individual members thereof, on receiving these arms, accoutrements, ammunition, &c., be required to sign a receipt for the same agreeably to the Form laid down in Schedule B attached to this Report.

19. That an allowance of 7s 6d a day be granted to the Pensioner or other competent person appointed to drill these Troops or Companies, with the exception of the Field Batteries of Artillery, the Sergeant Majors of which are recommended to receive an annual sum for such services.

20. That all defects to arms, accoutrements, &c., of the Volunteer Force, actually incurred on service, be made good at the public expense out of the general funds of the Province; but all such defects incurred through negligence or carelessness, be made good at the expense of the individuals who have caused such defects.

21. The Commissioners recommended that periodical inspections of the Volunteer Force be made by Field Officers appointed and paid for such duties, and, Reports on the efficiency of the Force, as well as the condition of their arms accoutrements, &c., be made under such instruction as Your Excellency may seem pleased to order.

22. They consider that the compilation of a simple and uniform code of drill and instruction for the use of the Volunteer Militia Cavalry and Riflemen, would materially tend to their efficiency, and that such should be issued to the Officers and non-commissioned Officers composing the Force. The Field Batteries or Artillery should adopt the instructions for drill, &c., laid down for the Royal Artillery.

23. An estimate of the probable annual amount of pay and allowance for the proposed Volunteer Force under the above mentioned conditions of service, is set forth in Schedule C attached to this Report.

24. With regard to the expense of the armament of the Volunteer Force the Commissioners herewith annex a statement of the probable cost of such armament, founded upon a list of prices furnished by Messrs. Hebbert &c., of Pall Mall London, Army Clothiers, and which was sent with the patterns of Arms, &c., before the Commission, set forth in Schedule D attached to this Report. In their statement, the Commissioners have not included the expense of the armament of the Field batteries of Artillery, as they have reason to know there are in the Ordnance Stores in the province, a sufficient number of Six Pounder Batteries complete to supply the number recommended by them; and they are under the impression that the Imperial Government will readily permit these Batteries to be handed over for the use of the Volunteer Force, on application to that effect being made.

Some trifling addition to the present estimate will be incurred by the adoption of such alterations as appear to the Commissioners to be absolutely necessary in the pattern accoutrements furnished by Messrs. Hebbert & Co., viz :—to add a Shoulder Belt to the Infantry Pouch, to increase the capacity of the Pouch so as to hold 60 Rounds of Ball Cartridge, to supply a stronger description of leather for the Pouch, and to assimilate the Bayonet Scabbard and its method of attachment to the Waist Belt to that adopted in Her Majesty's Forces; but these alterations will entail but a very small addition to the original estimate.

THE SEDENTARY MILITIA.

1. This force is the main source of the defence of the Province, and its successful organization is a point of the highest importance.

The proposed Volunteer Corps are the Auxiliary Forces of the three arms of Cavalry, Field Artillery and Riflemen, who having attained a certain degree of efficiency, as regards drill and knowledge of their respective arms, will thereby be enabled to render the greater service to the Sedentary Militia, when actually embodied for service; but, as before stated, it is upon the Sedentary Militia that the Province must depend in time of danger for its effectual defence.

In proposing to your Excellency such means as appear to be required for an efficient organization of this Forces the Commissioners have been guided by the principle that an organization which will enable the Sedentary Militia to take the field at the shortest possible notice, armed and equipped is for many obvious reasons, far preferable to any partial attemps to drill this force generally, and the therefore beg, to express their opinion to Your Excellency, that unless there, appears to be an evident necessity, the Sedentary Militia should not be required to assemble at all [with the exception of one annual mustar of each Regiment, that for Canada West on the Queen's Birthday], but that every means should be taken beforehand to render them efficient as regards organization and armament, so that whenever such necessity shall arise, and the whole or any portion of this force be called into active service, and embodied, they may be able to turn out in a satisfactory manner.

2. The Commissioners are of opinion that no alteration is requisite regarding the present division of the Sedentary Militia into classes for service according to age, that is to say, that the male population from 18 to 40 years of age should be the class from which the several Battalions in the Province are to be formed, and that the male population from 41 to 49 years of age inclusive, should neither be enrolled or called upon to serve, except in case of war or insurrection.

3. They have carefully abstained in their recommendations from interfering with the existing limits of Battalions; but they recommend that each Battalion of Militia consisting of the male population within its limits from 18 to 40 years of age inclusive, be divided into two Divisions; the men of the First Division to be called the Service Men, and to consist of all unmarried men and widowers without children, from the ages of 18 to 40 years; and the Second Division to be called the Reserve Men, to consist of all married men and widowers with children, between the same ages, within the limits of such Battalion.

4. The Service Men of each Battalion to be the first for service, the Reserve Men could only be required under extraordinary circumstances, as it appears there are in Canada East 72,927 Bachelors, between the ages of 18 and 40 years; and in Canada West 117,332 Bachelors of the same ages from as near an approximation as can be made from the Census returns of 1851-2.

5. They recommend that the Province be divided into 18 Military Districts, viz: 9 in Canada East, and 9 in Canada West, agreeably to the Map which accompanies this Report and to Schedule E, attached thereto, which likewise shows the approximate numbers of the male population in each Military District between the ages of 18 and 40 years, the number of Bachelors of the same age, and the number of Battalions of Militia in each District.

6. They recommend that a Field Officer of Militia, to hold the rank of Colonel, be nominated to command the Militia in each Militia District, and that an Assistant Quarter-Master General of Militia be appointed to each District, with the rank of Majors of Militia to act under the orders of the Colonel commanding the District; the Assistant Adjutant General of Militia to be held responsible for the due transmission of all returns of the Militia in the District which are required to be forwarded to the Adjutant General of Militia at Head-Quarters, for the performance of which duties, the Commissioners recommend that an annual sum of thirty pounds be granted. The Assistant Quarter-Master Generals of Militia in the several Districts, should be required to make themselves acquainted with the several roads, &c., in their respective Districts, so as to be able to perform the duties of the Quarter-Master General's Department in an efficient manner in case the Militia should be called into service; but under ordinary circumstances they will have no active duties to perform, and the Commissioners therefore do not think it necessary to recommend any allowance to these Officers unless they are called into service.

7. When the Service Men are embodied and formed in Companies of Battalions, the proper number of Staff and Company Officers selected for their qualification and fitness shall be appointed.

8. It is of great consequence that a correct enrollment of the several classes of the Sedentary Militia be enforced, and it appears to the Commissioners that if the Commanding Officers of Battalions are instructed to direct the Company Officers and Sergeants of each Company within the limits of their respective Battalions, to divide the labour of enrollment amongst them, the business would be better performed, and much more correctly done, than by requiring each Militiaman to appear before his Captain and enroll himself.

9. Several representations have been made to the Commissioners with regard to the inconvenience resulting from the Assembly of Militia Courts Martial, for the purpose of inflicting fines for breaches of the Militia Law, and they submit to Your Excellency their opinion that it is desirable to abolish such a course, and in lieu thereof, to make all fines liable to infliction and recovery before one Justice of the Peace, if the amount be under one pound, and before two Justices of the Peace, if over that amount, unless in case the Militia are embodied for service, when recourse must be had to Courts Martial.

10. There are certain portions of the Province more liable to invasion than others, and in case there should be a probability of war or invasion, it may not be desirable to retain the Armament of the sedentary Militia in Armouries in those sections of the Province which are so situated as to be liable to sudden attack, but instead of allowing the Armaments to remain in such Armouries, it may be expedient to require the Sedentary Militia in such localities to be armed and equipped at once, in readiness to act against an enemy, without having in the first instance to repair to an Armoury and receive their equipment. The Commissioners thereof, beg to submit to Your Excellency, that it appears to them very desirable to have a clause introduced into the Militia Law requiring the Sedentary Militia, whenever called upon to do so, by due authority, to attend and receive Arms, Accoutrements, Ammunition, &c., and to give a Bond for the safe custody of the same, similar to Section 31, Chap. 29, in the Militia Law of Nova Scotia.

11. They recommend that every Officer in command of a Battalion, and every Officer in command of a Company of Militia who shall neglect to furnish such returns as may be required of the Battalions or Companies under their respective commands be made liable to fine.

12. It has been suggested to the Commissioners that advantage should be taken to form a Corps of Provincial Engineers from the number of Civil Engineers, and their Assistants, Chain-bearers, and others, now employed throughout the Province.

They concur in the suggestion, and recommend that a Company of Engineers be formed in every Military District, to consist of 1 Captain, 1 Lieutenant 1 Second Lieutenant, and such number of men as can be conveniently enrolled, and be attached to the Sedentary Militia.

ARMAMENT OF SEDENTARY MILITIA.

13. With respect to this important measure, the Commissioners recommend that application be made, in the first instance, to the Imperial Government, to supply the Arms, Accoutrements, Ammunition, &c., which appear to them to be absolutely necessary to arm the Sedentary Militia so as to meet an invasion of the Province.

14. They are of opinion that no less than 50,000 stand of Percussion Arms, with a like number of Accoutrements and Ammunition in the proportion of 100 Rounds for each Musquet, should be deposited in the Armouries set apart for the Sedentary Militia, for the immediate armament of that Force, and that a like amount should be retained in Stores at Kingston, Montreal and Quebec, with reserves of Ammunition for Artillery and Infantry in due proportion.

These numbers may at first sight be large, but when the extent of Frontier to be defended is taken into consideration, as well as the largely increased means of aggression which since the last war, could be brought to bear against the Province, they submit that a less amount would not suffice for a successful defence.

The Imperial Government has fully recognized "the duty and responsibility of affording protection to the Colonies against aggression, and has stated that the strength of the Empire would be put forth in defence of any part of it, which might be placed in jeopardy from such a cause;" and such being the views of the Home Government, Commissioners have reason to hope that an application for the necessary armament of the Sedentary Militia would be met in the spirit of this declaration and be granted, for, without the assistance of the Militia of Canada, the Province could not be successfully defended, and it is of the greatest consequence to have all the requisite preliminary measures of defence perfected and in readiness in time of peace, so as to enable the Province, now that the number of Regular Troops is so much reduced, to be able to meet any emergency, and to prevent an enemy from getting any permanent footing in it before further aid could be obtained from England.

15. They recommend that Armouries and Magazines for the use of the Sedentary Militia be established at the several localities set forth in Schedule F attached to this Report, for the purpose of furnishing the Armament and Equipment to the Sedentary Militia in their respective Districts.

The Commissioners have in every practicable instance, selected the public buildings in the Province as being applicable for Armouries and Magazines, bearing in mind that it is not desirable to place arms, &c., in situations exposed to sudden attacks. It, however, becomes necessary to place Armouries and Magazines in some localities were there are no public buildings available for such purposes, such as Peterborough, Guelph and Hamilton, in Canada West, and at River-du Loup, in Canada East.

16. They therefore recommend that in those places Armouries and Magazines be built, at the expense of the Province, of a fitting description, according to a plan and estimate of the probable cost of such buildings which accompanies this Report, and that a Gun Shed be erected at Hamilton, for the protection of the Field Battery of Artillery recommended to be established at that place.

17. The Commissioners are of opinion that sufficient force should be placed on permanent duty at Fort Wellington, Prescott, for the purpose of protecting that work and the arms, &c., proposed to be placed in it in consequence of its proximity to the Frontier of the United States.

18. The Commissioners recommend to Your Excellency that a Storekeeper, with a daily rate of pay of 5s. and lodging in the Armoury, be appointed to take charge at each proposed Station, and who should also have the duty of issuing to the several Volunteer Corps in the District the amount of practice ammunition required for their annual practice, under such instruction as may be given by Your Excellency's orders

19. They are impressed with the belief that great advantage will be derived by keeping in Store a certain number of Great Coats for the use of Sedentary Militia, in case that Force should be called into active service.

These articles are, however, subject to a certain deterioration from Moths, &c., if kept for any number of years in store, and the question is one of expense only, for the utility cannot be doubted, as the Sedentary Militia, if called out in the winter months, would be exposed to great privation, and their efficiency marred if not furnished with Great Coats. The Commissioners have therefore deemed it their duty to bring the subject under Your Excellency's notice, as one of which demands attention in the event of there being at any time an interruption of our present friendly relations with the neighboring States.

20. With reference to their recommendation that the Volunteer Force be inspected by Field Officers appointed and paid for such duties, the Commissioners beg leave to submit to Your Excellency, that they are of opinion much advantage will be derived by the appointment of an Inspecting Field Officer for each section of the Province, viz; one for Canada East and one for Canada West, whose duties should be to inspect the Volunteer Force in their Districts, to report on their efficiency, to attend to all measures connected with their drill, discipline and organization, and through whose hand all correspondence should pass connected with these points, before being submitted to Head-Quarters, and who, moreover, should be required to inspect the several Arsenals and Magazines in the Province, and report upon condition of the Arms and other Public Stores belonging to it; officers selected for these duties should possess a thorough knowledge of the details of the service.

PROVINCIAL MARINE.

21. In case of war the services of a Provincial Marine for the purpose of manning Gun Boats, of working Great Guns, as well as being trained to small arms, becomes of much importance to the defences of the Province.

22. The Commissioners therefore, beg to recommend to Your Excellency, that there be appointed a Commodore of Provincial Marine, to rank as Lieutenant Colonel of Militia; Captains and Lieutenants of Provincial Marine, to rank as Majors and Captains of Militia respectively.

COMPANIES OF PROVINCIAL MARINE.

23. They recommend that Provincial Marine Companies be formed at the following localities, viz: Kingston, Cobourg, Toronto, Hamilton, Port Stanley, Dunville and Oakville.

24. The strength of the Companies to consist of 1 Captain, 1 Lieutenant, and 50 men each.

25. The Commissioners have made no suggestions relative to the General Staff of Militia at Head-Quarters, as they do not see a necessity of any alteration in the provision of the present Militia Law of the Province on that head.

26. With regard to the additional expense of the measures connected with their recommendations respecting the Sedentary Militia, they beg to observe that the annual cost will be as follows, viz.

	£	s.	d.
18 Assistant Adjutant Generals of Districts at £30 each	540	0	0
15 Storekeepers in the several Armouries proposed to be established in the Province, at 5s. per diem each	1368	15	0
2 Inspecting Field Officers at £400 each, and travelling expences extra			
Total	£2708	15	0

27. The probable cost, as per estimate attached to this Report of the 5 Armouries and Magazines recommended to be built, will be as follows, viz:

	£	s.	d.
Armoury, Magazine and Gun Shed at Hamilton	1820	0	0
Armouries and Magazine at Guelph, Peterboro, and Riverdu-Loup at £1066 each, exclusive of the cost of the Sites for these Buildings	3199	4	0
Total	£5019	4	0

So that without taking into account the expenses necessarily contingent on the first arrangement of the Volunteer Force, and the building of Armouries and Magazines, which are first expenses only, the annual cost of the Volunteer Force, and the Sedentary Militia, as set forth in this Report, will not exceed £24,000, a sum which perhaps will be considered moderate, when it is borne in mind that a Regiment of the Line of 952 Officers and Men, costs about £13,000 currency annually.

And moreover it must be remembered that the Imperial Government are prepared to hand over to this Province a large and very valuable amount of Ordnance Lands, in consideration of the Provincial Government making ample provision for the ordinary defence of the Colony, and occupation, by a local force, of those posts, which, in the event of war, require to be garrisoned by British Troops, as will be shown by the succeeding portion of this Report on the subject of the surrender of the Ordnance Reserves in Canada.

28. With regard to the occupation of the posts referred to, viz: Isle aux Noix, St. Johns, Sorel, Three Rivers, Bytown, Coteau du La, Fort Wellington, Toronto, Fort Missisauga, London, Chatham, Fort Malden and Penetanguishene, by a local force as essential to the security of the building, &c., it appears to the Commissioners that 100 men would be a sufficient local force to take charge of these Forts and Barracks under ordinary circumstances, of which Fort Wellington should have 20 men, and Fort Missisauga 10, and Isle aux Noix 15; and the Commissioners consider that if their recommendations on the subject of a Police Force are carried into effect, the above number of men could be furnished from the Police for the protection of these points and consequently there would be no necessity for the continuence of the Pensioner Force in Canada for such purposes; and with reference to the employment of that force for the preservation of the public peace, the Commissioners are of opinion that the proposed Volunteer Force, and Police, will be ample for such purpose, and far more efficient when these two forces are established and in due operation; and therefore, after such is carried into effect, they do not recommend that the Pensioner Force be any longer paid by the Provincial Government for the performance of those duties.

ORDNANCE LANDS IN CANADA.

The Commissioners, after an attentive consideration of a Despatch from the Secretary of State for the Colonies, which has been brought under their notice, in which an offer is made by the Imperial Government to surrender all the Military Reserves in the Province with the exception of some portions of these Lands at Kingston, Montreal and Quebec, as are essential to the Military defence of the Colony, in consideration of the Provincial Government making ample provision for the ordinary defence and Protection of the Province—

They are unanimously of opinion that this offer should be excepted; and in order to carry out the conditions they recommend, with reference to a Report made on this subject by the Lieutenant General commanding the Forces in Canada, that the Lands and Buildings at the several localities set forth in Schedule G attached to this Report, be retained for the purpose of Military defence generally.

As however the whole of the Lands of the Schedule refered to will not be wanted for the purpose of defence, the Commissioners recommend that such portions of these Lands as are not so required, together with the remaining Ordnance Naval Lands in the Province, as set forth in Schedule H attached to this Report, be sold, and the proceeds applied to form a Fund for the general defence of the Province.

POLICE FORCE.

In entering upon this branch of their enquiry the Commissioners gladly avail themselves of the labours of the gentlemen appointed last year to inquire into the state of the Police at Quebec, from whose able report they propose to quote such parts as appear to them to coincide with their views, and to be applicable to the Province in general.

It will scarcely be denied that the Police Force at present existing in different parts of the Province is in anything but a satisfactory state; among the causes to which their inefficiency may be assigned, the Commissioners would point out the following:

1. The annual appointment of men to the Force by the members of the Police Committee of the City Councils, instead of a regular system of enlistment by the Officers of the Force, and the uncertainty of constant employment arising from the frequent reductions and changes in the Force inseparably from civic management.

2. The practice of permitting men to live among, instead of isolating them from those against whom they may be required to act.

3. The want of Rules Orders and regulations for the government of the Force and the guidance of the individuals belonging to it.

4. The entire absence of discipline, and of any means to enforce it, and of any power to encourage and reward the meritorious, and to punish the negligent and refractory.

5. The want of proper gradations of ranks, holding out the prospect of promotion to the deserving, and stimulating the men to acquire the practical knowledge and education requisite for the attainment of the higher grades.

6. The improper admixture of judicial and executive duties in the Office of the Inspector and Superintendant of Police.

To remedy these evils, the Commissioners are of opinion that the Police Force for the whole Province should be organized, without delay, by the Government.

This Force should be armed, clothed, equipped and lodged in Barracks; the men should be required to go to any part of the Province, and prevented as much as possible, from acquiring local feelings or sympathies; they should be trained to such movements, as should enable them to act effectively together in Streets or Fields, and accustomed to the use of arms, which should always be kept at their Barracks ready for use at any emergency, but not carried on ordinary duty.

Every City or Municipality requiring Police should be supplied from this Force, the Government taking upon itself one third of the expence of the requisite number of officers and men; where an additional number may be required for a Water Police, the Port or Harbor Funds should contribute to the expence in the same proportion as the Cities and Municipalities.

This Force should be required to perform:

1. All the duties of a Municipal Police for the City or Town in which they are employed; they should be instructed to pay due respect and attention to the Mayor, City Councillors and other authorities of the place, and to render the Force more efficient for municipal Service, their duties in this capacity should be fully detailed in the rules and orders of the Corps.

2. The duties of River Police.

3. The charge of guarding the Jails but not acting as Turnkeys.

4. Attendance upon the several Criminal Courts to perform the services now discharged by the Constables.

5. The service in the localities where they are quartered or employed, of all criminal or quasi criminal process now performed by the Constables in the several Districts of the Province; and whenever fees of office are exigible from any public body or individual for such service, the same to be paid to and accounted for by the Officer in command on the spot, and is to form part of the Police Fund, and the service of all such processes should be by law confined exclusively to the Police in the locality where they are quartered.

6. The custody and conveyance of all Lunatics, Convicts or other prisoners, to or from Jails, Courts, and Lunatic Asylums.

7. The duties of Police in maintaining order on Public Works or those of incorporated Companies under the 8 Vict., cap. 6, and 14 and 15 Vict. cap 76.

8. To occupy and to take charge of the Posts and Barracks which in the arrangement made between the Imperial and Provincial Governments, it may be deemed necessary to maintain.

And such other duties or services as may, from time to time, be imposed upon or required from them either by Legislative enactments or by order of the Secretary of the Province.

They should be expected to put down impartially all tumultuous disturbance, from whatever party or sect, political, national or religious, they may proceed; the Officers should be responsible for all serious breaches of the Peace, which should always be followed by Court of Inquiry into the conduct of the Officer in command at the locality.

In order to remove the objections of the improper admixture of Judicial and Executive duties of the Inspector and Superintendents already adverted to, the Commissioners are of opinion that the Stipendiary Magistrates should be wholly unconnected with the Police, but should exercise a judicial check upon the Force, in the same manner as the London Police Magistrates of the present day, and should be paid sufficiently to command the services of able men. The Commissioners beg to call Your Excellency's attention to the accompanying Tabular Statement taken from the Report of the Commissioners appointed to enquire into the state of the Quebec Police, from which it appears that the total expence of Police and Constabulary in Canada East is about £26,000 per annum, and from the best information they are able to obtain, they are of opinion that the expense in Canada West, Including the payment of the embodied Pensioners, does not fall short of £20,000.

Statement of the Expense of the Police and Constabulary in Lower Canada, for the year 1853, distinguishing by whom the same is paid:—

Quebec Municipal Police, paid by Corporation of Quebec	£3832	16	0
Quebec River Police, paid by tax on Shipping, 14 & 15 Vic. cap. 25	973	11	5
Quebec Gaol Guard, paid by Government	893	3	0
Constabulary at Quebec, for service of process of Criminal Courts, paid by Government	1930	13	8
Constabularly, for attendance at Criminal Courts, at Quebec, paid by Government	129	13	9
Inspector and Superintendent of Police at Quebec, paid by Government	300	0	0
Two Constables attending Police Office, and contingencies at Quebec, paid by Government	150	0	0
Approximate estimate of amounts paid by individuals for service of Criminal Process at Quebec	100	0	0
Total Expense attended upon the above service at Quebec	£8309	17	10
Montreal Municipal Police paid by Corporation of Montreal	8666	16	8
Montreal Water Police, paid by Harbour Commissioners at Montreal	1188	13	9
Montreal Gaol Grd. £600, paid by Corporation, the balance by Government	924	0	0
Constabularly at Montreal, for service of process and attendance on Criminal Courts, p'd by Government	1089	15	0
Inspector and Superintendent of Police at Montreal, paid by Government	300	0	0
Constables attending at Police Office Montreal, paid by Government	125	0	0
Approximate estimate of amount paid by individuals for service of Criminal Process by Constable at or near Montreal	150	0	0
Total Expense for above service at Montreal	£12437	5	5
Sheriffs of different Districts in Lower Canada for expense of transmitting Convicts to Provincial Penitentiary and Lunatic Asylum, paid by Government	335	8	0
Sheriffs of St. Francis, £100 and Kamouraska, £187 7s 6, for Constables, paid by Government	287	7	6
High Constables of Three-Rivers £300; St. Francis, £655; Ottawa, £263; Kamouraska, £89 for service of Warrants and Subpœnas paid by Government	1307	0	0
Expense of maintaining Police at or near Public Works, and Railroad Works, under 8 Vic. cap 6 and 14 and 15 Vic. cap. 76	2389	8	1
Total Expense of Police and Constabulary in Lower Canada	£26059	6	10

The Commissioners are of opinion that this Force, to perform the duties required of it, with efficiency, should be composed as follows:—

	£ s. d.	£ s. d.
1 Commissioner	750 0 0	
2 Clerks	250 0 0	
Contingencies	50 0 0	
		1050 0 0
1 Assist Commissioner		500 0 0
1 Paymaster	200 0 0	
1 Clerk	150 0 0	
Contingencies	50 0 0	
		500 0 0