

had been forwarded against the Loan Bill, and I therefore found it unnecessary to advert to it.

I then proceeded to submit to His Grace the views of this Government on the demand for payment of £4,979 11s. 2d. Sterling, for maintenance, &c. of Troops, which I contended should not be made, and which this Government should not be called upon to pay. I brought to His Grace's attention the various Despatches upon the subject which had passed between the Colonial Office and the Local Authorities of Prince Edward Island, with the view of satisfying His Grace that no agreement to pay for the maintenance of the Troops had been made or settled, or was contemplated by this Government, as apparently assumed by the Despatch No. 8, of 4th March, 1867, from Earl Carnarvon, then Secretary of State for the Colonies, to your Excellency. I also submitted to His Grace a statement of the heavy expenditure for Military purposes made by this Colony during the last three or four years, and adverted to the fact that the dissatisfaction which prevailed in Prince Edward Island in 1865—which was the cause of the Troops being sent there—arose entirely from the grievances in connection with the Land Tenures, which the Local Government, by means of the Land Purchase and Loan Bills were *bona fide*, anxiously endeavouring to redress and remove. I handed to His Grace an epitome of the Despatches, and he assured me that the matter should receive his consideration, and requested me to call again at the Colonial Office at an early day to receive his decision upon it.

On the following day, 9th July, I addressed to His Grace, through his Secretary H. J. Bryant, Esquire, the subjoined Letter on the same subject:—

“40, BURLINGTON ROAD,  
“ST. STEPHEN'S SQUARE,  
“9th July, 1867.

“SIR;

“When I had the honor of an interview, yesterday, with His Grace the Duke of Buckingham and Chandos, I left with him a paper containing a hastily drawn and rather informal epitome of various Despatches which, during the last two years, have passed between Her Majesty's Principal Secretaries of State for the Colonial Department and the Administrator of the Government and the Lieutenant Governor of Prince Edward Island, on the subject of the Detachments of Troops stationed there, and particularly in relation to an application recently made on behalf of the War Department for the payment of £4,979 11s. 2d. Sterling, by the Island Government, for the maintenance of those Troops.

“I should, perhaps, also have left the various printed Despatches and Minutes of Council, of which the epitome was drawn and to which it relates, and I therefore now enclose them. His Grace was good enough to say that the epitome should be returned to me when the consideration of the matter had been concluded, and I shall be glad if you will, at the same time, cause the present enclosed printed papers to be in like manner returned.

“My request to His Grace was that he would consent to reconsider the determination arrived at, and communicated in Despatch No. 8, of 4th March last, and recommend the Secretary of War not to demand from the Government of

Prince Edward Island the payment of the sum above specified for maintenance of Troops, and I endeavoured to bring to His Grace's notice the whole history of the unfortunate Land Question in the Colony, and what a constant source of trouble, expense, and discontent it had proved, and how much the advancement and prosperity of the Colony had been retarded by it. That it had, in a great measure, caused the troubles which led to the Troops being required there in 1865, and the claim which, on account of the Land Tenures, I thought the Colony had on the consideration of the Imperial Government, particularly in the matter of the present application. That the Island Government were by strenuous and *bona fide* efforts endeavouring to extinguish any cause for discontent by buying out the claims of Proprietors of Lands, and had of late been under heavy outlay for that purpose, having last year purchased 212,000 acres of Land, the Estate of the late Sir Samuel Cunard, at a cost of £53,000 Sterling, and were still continuing their efforts to acquire further Lands. That I am now in England for the express purpose of endeavouring to raise money on the Public Credit for the purchase of such other Proprietary Estates as could be acquired. That the Island Government had expended (when viewed in relation to its Revenues) a large sum during the last two years for building Barracks and other Military and Militia purposes and expenses, as specified in the epitome, fully as much as its resources could afford, quite irrespective of the present demand.

“That the Executive Government of Prince Edward Island in its Minute, dated 17th October, 1865, (now enclosed) while willingly submitting to pay the transport of the Troops from Halifax, and all expenses incurred, whether for maintenance or otherwise, “when they are sent into the Country Districts to assist the Sheriff and his Officers in maintaining the supremacy of the Law,” (which latter obligation had been faithfully discharged) respectfully remonstrated; and I again, on behalf of the Government, respectfully remonstrated against the hardship of paying the expenses of the maintenance of the Troops while stationed in the Colony, that is, their ordinary maintenance when in Barracks and not employed in assisting the Sheriff.

“I believe that the Detachment of Troops has, since the 20th June last, been withdrawn from Prince Edward Island, and, therefore, no such question as the present is likely again to arise.

“You will, perhaps, be so good as to communicate the contents of this Letter to His Grace, and oblige,

“Sir,

“Yours faithfully,

“JOSEPH HENSLEY,

“Attorney General of

“Prince Edward Island.”

I subsequently called on several occasions at the Colonial Office, as requested by His Grace, and had interviews with Mr. Bryant; and on 6th August last, being very desirous of ascertaining the views of the Imperial Government on the application made by me respecting the demand for payment, to which I have just alluded, I addressed the following Letter to His Grace, through his Secretary