

**THE DEFENCE OF GREAT AND GREATER
BRITAIN; SKETCHES OF ITS NAVAL,
MILITARY, AND POLITICAL ASPECTS,
ANNOTATED WITH EXTRACTS FROM THE
DISCUSSIONS THEY HAVE CALLED FORTH
IN THE PRESS OF GREATER BRITAIN**

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The defence of Great and greater Britain; sketches of its naval, military, and political aspects, annotated with extracts from the discussions they have called forth in the press of greater Britain by J. C. R. Colomb

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J. C. R. COLOMB

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SKETCHES OF ITS NAVAL, MILITARY, AND POLITICAL
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ANNOTATED WITH EXTRACTS
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IN THE PRESS OF GREATER BRITAIN.

BY
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AND FELLOW ROYAL COLONIAL INSTITUTE,

With a Map.

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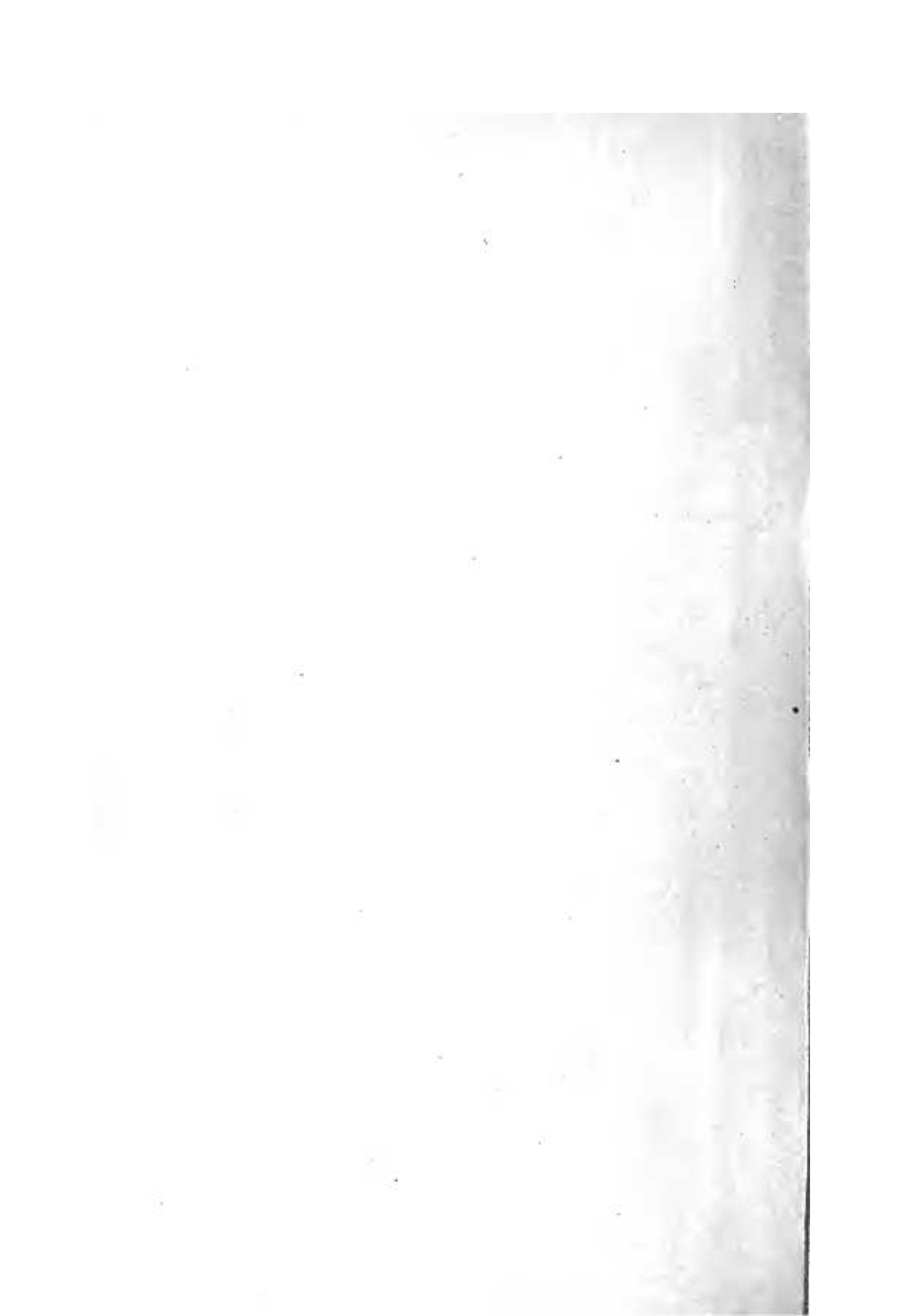
PREFACE.

As a Royal Commission, limited in its nature and local in its constitution, is now sitting to investigate portions of the subject of the following pages, I am induced to lay them before the general reader.

In doing so I venture to offer the facts they contain to the earnest attention of those whose broad national sympathies and instincts are superior to the provincial prejudices of political partizanship.

J. C. R. C.

DROUMQUINNA, KENMARE,
December 1879.



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Extract from 'Gazette,' 12th September, 1879.

DOWNING STREET, *September 9th, 1879.*

THE Queen has been pleased to issue a Commission under Her Majesty's Royal Sign Manual to the effect following:—

* * * * *

Whereas we have thought it expedient, for divers good causes and considerations, that a Commission should forthwith issue to inquire into the condition and sufficiency of the means both naval and military, provided for the defence of the more important sea-ports within our Colonial Possessions and their dependencies, and of the stations established or required within our said possessions and dependencies for coaling, refitting, or repairing the ships of our Navy, and for the protection of the commerce of our Colonies with the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Ireland, with each other, and with foreign countries :

And whereas it is expedient to consider and determine in which of our stations and ports it is desirable, on account of their strategical or commercial importance, to provide an organized system of defence, in addition to such general protection as can be afforded by our Naval forces ; and whether such defence should consist of permanent works manned by garrisons of Imperial or local troops, or both combined, or of any local naval organization or other armaments and appliances :

And whereas it is desirable to consider whether, and in what proportions, the cost of such measures of defence should be divided between the Imperial Government and

the Colonies to which they relate, or should be wholly defrayed by the Imperial Government or by the Colonies :

Now know ye that we, reposing great trust and confidence in your zeal, knowledge, and ability, have authorized and appointed, and do by these presents authorize and appoint you, the said Henry Howard Molyneaux, Earl of Carnarvon, Hugh Culling Eardley Childers, Sir Henry Thurstan Holland, Sir Alexander Milne, Sir John Lintorn Arabin Simmons, Sir Henry Barkly, Thomas Brassey, and Robert George Crookshank Hamilton to be our Commissioners for the purpose of such inquiries as aforesaid, and that you may offer such suggestions as may seem to you meet as to the best means (regard being had to the works completed and in progress, and to the ordinary number of our naval and military forces voted by Parliament) of providing for the defence and protection of our Colonial Possessions and commerce as aforesaid, special attention being given to the necessity of providing safe coaling, refitting, and repairing stations in such of our Colonial Possessions and their dependencies as you may deem best suited for the requirements of our fleet and mercantile marine in time of war.