

"Ducit Amor Patriae"

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RECORDS OF NIAGARA  
1784 - 1787

Collected and Edited  
By  
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## **RECORDS OF NIAGARA 1784-1787**

In anticipation of the impending disbandment of the Regiment when the Officers would become entitled to half-pay an official return was prepared of the Officers of Butler's Rangers, a majority of whom settled in the Niagara district. There were, however several notable exceptions. Captain William Caldwell settled in the Township of Malden in the Western District, and founded the new settlement on Lake Erie where he organized the Essex Militia. Captain John Macdonell and his brothers, Lieutenants Alexander and Chichester Macdonell, joined their kinsmen in the Eastern District. Captain Macdonell organized the Militia of Glengarry, which he commanded for many years, and raised the Second Battalion of the Royal Canadian Volunteers for general service in 1795. He was the first speaker of the legislative assembly of Upper Canada. Captain George Dame located his lands in the Township of Bertie, but went to reside at Three Rivers, in Quebec, where his descendants now live. Captain John McKinnon returned to Scotland. Captain Louis Genevay obtained an official appointment at Montreal. Lieut. David Brass settled at the Bay of Quinte. Lieut. Charles de Tonnacour returned to his family at Three Rivers. Lieut. Philip Luke settled in Lower Canada and commanded the 4th Battalion of the Militia of the Eastern Townships during the War of 1812.

As Lieutenant Colonel commanding, John Butler organized the Militia of the new District of Nassau, eventually forming three battalions. Peter Hare, Andrew Bradt, Thomas Butler, and Ralfe Clench all attained the rank of Lieutenant Colonel and commanded Regiments of Militia of the County of Lincoln in after years.

## **REPORT OF A MEETING WITH THE SIX NATIONS**

At a Meeting held at Niagara the 6th March 1784, at the request of the Sachems and Chiefs of the Six Nations, in consequence of a speech sent by General Schuyler, in Answer to the Six Nations & Confederates speech sent to him last fall by Pitorus and Little Beard.----

-- Present --

Lt. Colo. Hoyes, 34th Regt. Com't.  
Lt. Colo. Butler, Depy. Agt. Indn. Affrs.  
Capt. Forbes, 34th Regt.  
Capt. Hamilton, 8th Regt.  
Lt. Wade, Royl. Artily.  
Lt. Wilmott, 8th Regt.

Lt. Dodsworth, 34th Regt.  
Capt. Powell, Indn. Dept.  
Lt. Bowen, Indn. Dept.  
Lt. D. Servos, Indn. Dept.  
Mr. Wilkinson, Surg. I Dept.  
Mr. Nicholas Stevens, Interpr.

Sayengaraghta, Little Beard, Scanandoa, Pitorus, and the greatest part of the Chiefs and Warriors of the Six Nations Indians being assembled went through the usual ceremony.--

General Schuyler's Speech was read and interpreted to the Indians, the business was then adjourned to the day following:--

March 7th, present as before -- Sayengaraghta rose and spoke as follows: Brother. You yesterday communicated to us General Schulyers Speech, sent by Little Beard and Pitorus, which speech we have seriously considered, and have, agreeable to our promise, concluded to send Deputies to Canada and Detroit, to acquaint our Brethren with the same.--- And request that you will write to Mr. McKee (inclosing a copy of General Schuyler's speech) desiring him to explain it to the Hurons, that they may immediately dispatch Messengers to communicate the same to the different Nations to South'd and Westward, as also to desire the Sachems and Chiefs, to keep themselves in readiness to attend at a General Council or Treaty. Time and

place we will inform them by a runner, which probably will be immediately after we receive the Answer from Congress, that General Schuyler alludes to in his Speech -- We also desire that you will write to Capt. Brant, that he may acquaint our Brethren the Seven Nations in Canada with this important business, and also invite the principle Men to attend the General Treaty, to which they shall have timely Notice. And that Capt. Brant will dispatch his Business in Canada, and return to this place with every possible and convenient speed.

Four Strings Wampum

(Apparently in handwriting of John Butler).

FROM JOHN BUTLER TO SIR JOHN JOHNSON

NIAGARA, 17TH MARCH 1784

Sir,

Little Beard and Pitorus, with several other Indians that went with a Message to General Schuyler last Fall, is at last returned (as they say) in forty two days from the Settlements, their tedious march was owing to the severe Weather, and the vast quantity of Snow, they Brought General Schuyler's Speech, directed to Capt. Brant, a Copy of which I herewith inclose, and also a Copy of the Definitive Treaty, together with the proceedings at a Meeting held by the Six Nations in presence of the Officers of the Garrison &ca. in consequence of that Speech. ---

The Six Nation Indians appear very anxious to have that Speech communicated to all their Confederates and Allies, and a Warm Invitation given to all their great and Wise Men to attend at the General Treaty, mutually to consult and fix upon some measures that may lead to their Interest and safety; they think by calling all the principle Men of their Brethren together, and acting in conjunction with your good advice, which they hope to receive on the occasion, will be of great use to them on the Day of the General Treaty.---

The Chiefs also say, that they have during the late War, assisted the King every thing in their power, and done everything that was desired of them, therefore they are fully persuaded that he will not forsake them at this critical time, but when they reflect on the contraction, or scarcity of presents the last Fall and that before they could help themselves, let alone their families, and a number of distressed people by Hunting, almost induces them to think their Father means to leave them in that melancholy situation, that General Schuyler takes so much pains to inform them off, -- I have wrote Mr. McKee and Capt. Brant agreeable to the Indians request, they are very anxious indeed for Joseph's return.--

A young Man (a Son of Isaac's) who accompanied Pitorus &ca. to Schenectady, informed David Karaqunta, since the meeting, that Pitorus was frequently in private with General Schuyler, and a Canawarohara Indian by name, Grasshopper, Who have in conjunction sent a warm and friendly invitation (in private) to all the Oneidas, Aughquagas, Canaoughsaragas, and Tuscaroras, now with us, to return to their former possessions, on which they shall be protected, and have peaceable possession, on the (addition) Lands as far as the old Onandaga Town, from thence to Oswego, on the Susquehana, and also the Lands East of that River, that was allotted to the Aughquagas in 1768 -- this information has already kindled some Jealousy and very likely to create a good deal of uneasiness, yesterday Karaqunta brought the Indian to me, to vindicate his reporting Pitorus's guilt, who declared the above to be true, with this addition, that the young man asked Pitorus why he did not call the Indians of them four Villages together and deliver the Message he had to them, the latter Answered No, but that he knew the Chiefs whose Ears he could wisper into with safety and be kept a

profound secret and that he would advise them not to go away in a Body, but carelessly drop off and travel by one or two Canoes at a time, Karaqunta has promised me, that he will endeavour to point out all their hidden deceptions. -- I expect the Indians will soon receive the Answer from Congress, that General Schuyler alludes to in his speech, at which time you may expect an express to be sent to acquaint you with every particular and by the same opportunity, I will transmit to you the Acts, Returns, &ca. &ca. Poor old Friel died the 5th Instant, and left a young helpless family, with very little to support them.--- Lieut. Nelles accompanies the Indians to Canada, to whom I refer for any common circumstances regarding the department.

I have the Honor to be with due respect, Sir

Your Obedient and Humble Servant,

JOHN BUTLER

Brgadr. Genl. Sir John Johnson

(A.L.S.)

(State Records, Indian Papers.)



COLONEL JOHN BUTLER

RETURN OF OFFICERS OF THE CORPS OF RANGERS, COMMANDED BY LIEUT.-  
COLONEL JOHN BUTLER

<u>Rank</u>	<u>Name</u>	<u>Place of Nativity</u>	<u>Length of</u>	<u>Former Situations and Remarks</u>
Lt.Col.Comm'nt.	John Butler	New London In	29 yrs.	An Officer, from the year 1755.
Captain	William Caldwell		9 yrs.	Abandoned some property and considerable expectation from an opulent relation, strongly attached to the Americans by making his escape from Philadelphia to Niagara, in the year 1775. where was appointed an officer in ye Indian department and afterwards to a Company of the Rangers, in which line he has on frequent occasions distinguished himself as an active gallant partisan.
Captain	John McDonell	Invernesshire,	9 yrs.	Came to America with his father & Scotland and other Highland emigrants in 1773; settled in Tryon County, near Johnstown, in the Province of New York; entered in his Majesty's service as a subaltern officer, 14 <sup>th</sup> June, 1775, in the 84th or Royal Highland Emigrants.
Captain	Peter TenBroeck	In Co.of Alb'y Prov.	28 yrs.	A Captain in the York Provincial N.Y. Regt., last war, commanded by Col. Oliver deLancey, and one of His Majesty's Justices of the Peace.
Captain	Peter Hare	Mohawk River, Tryon Cy.	7 yrs.	Private gentleman
Captain	George Dame	Halifax, Nova Scotia	24 yrs.	A subaltern promoted from the 84th Regiment.
Captain	Bernard Frey	Tryon Cy.in ye Prov.	7 yrs.	A Gentleman's son; on the Mohawk New York river, served in ye Indian Dept.; two years; from thence joined the Corps of Rangers.
Captain	John McKinnon	Scotland		Served with the Southern Army and Recommended to His Excellency the Commander-in-chief by Lord George Germain.
Captain	Louis Genevay	Switzerland	28 yrs.	Joined the 60th Regt. as a Volunteer in the year 1756, and served until the reduction in 1763. Served as adjutant to ye British Militia when Canada was invaded in 1775, and was that year appointed Quarter Master to the 3rd Batt. of the 60 <sup>th</sup> Regt. & though upon service in Canada, with leave & paying another for doing his duty, he was suspended upon which he was appointed to a Company in this Corps.
Captain	Andrew Bradt	Schenectady	9 yrs.	Farmer's Son.
Capt. Lt.	Benjamin Pawling	Philadelphia	7 yrs.	Farmer

1st Lt. John Turney Stranford, Co.Down 25 yrs. 18 years in King's  
(or 8th) Regt.17 of Ireland which as non-commissioned officer.

1st Lt. Jacob Ball Schoharry, in ye County 6 yrs. A farmer. Captain  
of Militia. Left his of Albany, Prov. New.York estate & family in 1778 & brought off part of a  
Company of Men; joined the Corps of Rangers.

1st Lt. John Hare Mohawk River 7 yrs. Farmer's Son.

1st Lt. Peter Ball Co. Albany, Prov.N.Y. 6 yrs. Farmer's Son.

1st Lt. Thomas Butler Mohawk River 3yr.9m. Lt. Col. Butler's Son.

1st Lt. Alex. McDonell Inverness, Scotland 7 yrs. Came to America  
with his father & other Highland Emigrants, 1773, settled in Tryon Cty. near Johnstown,  
Prov. of New York; entered His Majesty's service as a Volunteer in the 84th or Royal Highland  
Emigrants.

1st Lt. Ralph Clench Pennsylvania 5 yrs. Farmer's Son.  
Served 1 year as a Volunteer in King's (or 8th) Rgt.

1st. Lt. Richard Hanson Co.Tryon Prov.N.Y. 4 yrs. Farmer

2nd Lt. David Brass Somerset Cty.E.New Jersey 6-1/2 yrs. Mill-Wright

2nd Lt. Charles Tonnancour Canada Son of Col. Tonnancour–Militia Three Rivers.

2nd Lt. John Bradt Mohawk River 4 yrs. Farmer's Son.

2nd Lt. Caleb Reynolds Plainsfield,Conn. 7 yrs. Farmer's Son

2nd Lt. Chichester McDonell Invernesshire 6 yrs. Came to America  
with father & other Scotland Highland emigrants - 1773; settled in Tryon Cty. near Johnstown  
in ye Prov. of New York; entered His Majesty's Service as a Volunteer in King's Royal Regt.  
of New York in 1778.

2nd Lt. Philip Luke Jericho Cty. Albany 6 yrs. Farmer, served 4  
yrs. in a body of Prov. of New York Refugees at New York & 2 yrs in Corps of Rangers.

2nd Lt. Samuel Tieffie 3 yrs. Volunteer in the  
44th Regt. Son of Quarter-Master Tieffie.

2nd Lt. Solomon Secord New Rochelle, Westchester 7 yrs. Farmers son (Son of  
James Secord) Prov. New York.

2nd Lt. David Sutherland Scotland Served a year as Volunteer 84th Regt.

2nd Lt.	Andrew Butler	Mohawk River	9 mos.	Lieut.-Col. Butler's son.
Adj'ant	William Smith	Halifax C. York, England	32 yrs.	In army, served 29 yrs. in 47th Regt. 19 as Sergeant & 3 years in Corps of Rangers.
Quarter Master	Jesse Pawling	Philadelphia	6 yrs.	Private gentleman.
Surgeon	Robt. M. Guthrie	Limerick, Ireland	8 yrs.	6 mos. hospital
Mate	Patrick Burke	Co. Mayo, Ireland	2 yrs.	A Surgeon to different trading vessels.

JOHN BUTLER,  
Lieut.-Colonel Commanding  
(B.105, pp 390-400)

Haldimand's mind was busy during the Winter with plans for the settlement of the Loyalists and Indians in the "Upper Country," as is shown by his correspondence with Sir John Johnson and others. He wished the Six Nations to settle upon lands in the Grand River Valley which had yet to be purchased for them from the Mississaugas. They wavered for some time between Catarqui, the Bay of Quinte, and the situation he proposed for them. A part of the Mohawks led by Captain John finally decided to settle at the Bay of Quinte, while the remainder under the leadership of Joseph Brant preferred the Grand River.

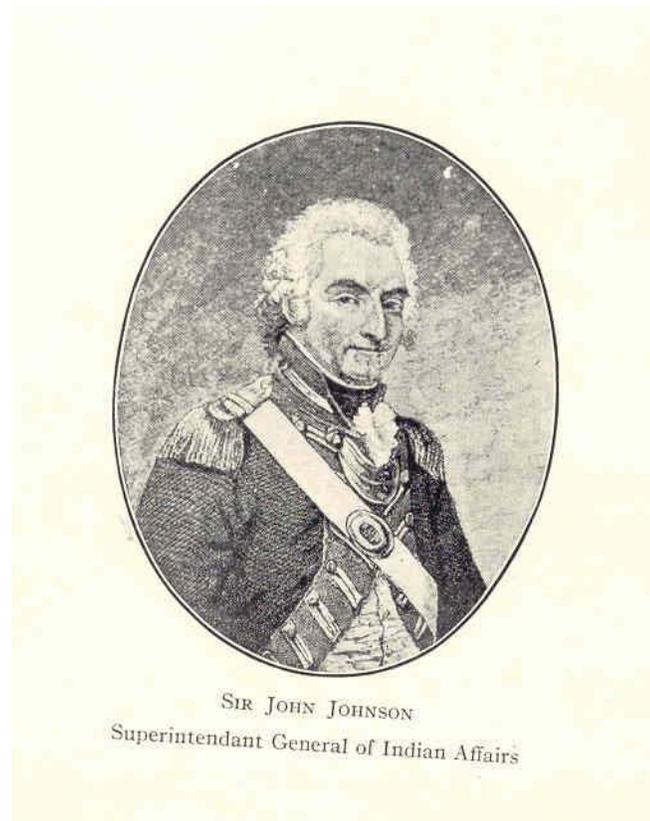
FROM GENERAL HALDIMAND TO SIR JOHN JOHNSON

Head Quarters, Quebec, 15th March, 1784.

Sir,

I have been favored with your letter of the 11th Instant by Captain Brant & David with whom I have fully conversed upon the Subject of the settlement they so much wish to form on the Grand River above the Head of the Lake Ontario. After examining the situation of the Country upon the Map, and considering the Reasons which incline Joseph to this measure, I am clearly of the opinion that an accomplishment of it, is much to be desired -- I have communicated my ideas upon it to Joseph, and have promised Him every encouragement in my Power towards the success of it. He tells me that Col. Butler is persuaded he can purchase the Right of the Lands from the Messessagues for a very trifling consideration -- You have therefore my Authority to instruct him upon that subject whenever it shall be thought best, after the necessary steps for carrying the matter into execution shall be decided upon with Joseph & his adherents in this Plan -- He informs me that altho' the Mohawks here, have not at first entered into his ideas they will soon perceive the advantages of extending themselves into so fine a Country, forming a communication with the Delawares and other Indians who are settled there and strengthening themselves by the emigration of some of the Six Nations who it seems are not inclined to remove to the Bay of Quinte. I nevertheless intend to reserve that spot for such of the Indians who may wish at present, or on a future day to settle there

(B. 63, pp.128-9)



FROM GENERAL HALDIMAND TO SIR JOHN JOHNSON

Head Quarters, Quebec, the 23rd March, 1784

Sir,

Inclosed I Transmit for Your Information the substance of Joseph Brant's Requisition with my answer thereto since my Letter to you of the 15th Instant. I have had frequent conversations with Joseph upon the subject of it, which have confirmed me in the opinion thereon Expressed respecting the settlement proposed upon the Grand River for such of the Mohawks, & others of the Six Nations who shall chuse to retire to it -- The Inclosed will show you that Joseph is so sanguine in the Business, as to expect it may be immediately carried into execution, desirous to gratify the wishes of these deserving people, no time should be lost in that part of it, which falls to our share you will please therefore to give Lieut. Col. Butler the necessary directions for purchasing without loss of Time, the Tract of Country as described in the enclosed, Viz. The Land situated between the Lakes Ontario, Erie and Huron, satisfied that you will be very particular in your Instructions to Col. Butler respecting the Terms of the purchase, I shall only observe that the Utmost Attention to Economy must be paid in this, & all future Expences in a Department which has so great a share in exhausting the Public Treasure. In regard to the claim made by the Mohawks to indemnify the losses sustained in their Settlements, I refer you to the enclosed, -- sensible of the Justice of their Arguments, & of the necessity they are driven to from their attachment to Government, uninstructed as I am with the intention of the Nation, I cannot help going some length in relieving them. You will please therefore to appropriate fifteen Hundred Pounds New York Currency to that Purpose, until His Majesty's Pleasure shall be known -- I leave to you to concert with Joseph, and determine upon

the mode most proper for the distribution of that sum. He has given me an abstract of their Losses, & says he has the particular accounts at Montreal -- It will be highly necessary that you see these Regularly made out & certified in the best manner possible, in order that they may be Transmitted to the Minister in support of the representation I shall make in their favor -- You will perceive the necessity there is of keeping this matter from the knowledge of the other Indians of the Six Nations who would not fail to make similar Demands tho' they have not the same pretensions. I have Instructed Joseph upon this head, you will say to Him what you think necessary upon the Occasion. His Reasons for wishing that the Cloathing promised to the Six Nations be given as soon as possible, are very Just, & I wish you to take the necessary steps that it may be forwarded as soon as the communication by water will permit. Joseph has requested that I would take the opportunity of his being here to say something to the Six Nations in answer to their last Speeches, which have been Transmitted to the Minister, in order to content them until such time as I shall be informed of the Result. I can say nothing but what has already been communicated to them thro' you, but as Joseph desires it, I enclose a short speech which you will Transmit by Him, with whatever you shall judge necessary to say from yourself. I have this day wrote a Letter to Col. Campbell upon the Subject of the claim of the St. Regis Indians which he will show to you, and confer with you upon it.

(B 63, pp. 143-5)

#### PROPOSAL BY JOSEPH BRANT

Substance of Captain Brant's wishes respecting forming a Settlement of the Mohocks and others of the Six Nations Indians upon the Grand River &ca. Sir John Johnson will be instructed to purchase the Tract of Country between the three Lakes, Ontario, Erie and Huron, out of which the Tract required by the Mohawks for the Six Nations will be Granted to them by a Deed. The rest will be reserved for Loyalists, or any future Purpose ---

"That His Excellency the Commander in Chief should give the Superintendant and Inspector General of Indian affairs Instructions and empower Lieut. Colonel Butler to purchase from the Mississaugas or Proprietors, a Tract of Land consisting of about Six Miles on each side of the Grand River called Oswego Running from the River LaTranche into Lake Erie, for the use of the Mohawks and such of the Six Nations as are inclined to join them in that Settlement ---- Colo. Butler is fully acquainted with the views and inclinations of Captn. Brant and the Mohawks Respecting this Settlement and only waits the General's approbation to make the Purchase. The sooner this can be done the better as they would remove this Spring time enough to plant Corn &ca and Captn. Brant would propose that some of His Party be sent off upon this Business, to Colo. Butler as soon as he Returns to Montreal. The above mentioned Limits are only meant for the Indians of the Six Nations who may settle there, but a more considerable Tract of Land may at the same time, be purchased on very Reasonable Terms whereon to Settle Loyalists, or for any other future purpose.

Orders, dated June 9, 1783, had been received from the War Office, reducing the strength of the Regiments of the Regular Army and authorizing the discharge of certain men who were to be granted land if they elected to remain in the Province. The final disbandment of all Provincial Military Units was authorized with a view to their settlement.

FROM GENERAL HALDIMAND TO LIEUT.-COLONEL A.S. DE PEYSTER

Head Quarters, Quebec, 29th March 1784

Sir:

You will herewith receive a copy of a Letter from the Secretary at War, accompanied with copies of His Majesty's orders for a reduction of the Staff of the Army, disbanding the 1<sup>st</sup> Battalion of the 84th Regiment, and for a reduction of the several Regiments, serving in this Province, together with a Plan of the Establishment to take place from the Reduction, orders were at the same time received for disbanding all the Provincial Troops and for allotting Portions of the Crown Lands to them, and to such of the Army disbanded or reduced in this Province. Extracts of the Instructions and Letters upon that subject, are herein transmitted.

These orders were not received until it was too late in the season to communicate them to the Upper Country, so as to have effect, and tho' I am naturally anxious that they should be executed as soon as possible, yet I have not received any Instructions concerning the Evacuation of the Posts in the Upper Country, nor even the definitive Treaty & that I am in Dayly expectation of them, I do not think fit to risk the consequences, which disbanding and reducing the Troops might have with the Indians, until I shall receive my Dispatches, at the same time I have to desire that you will be in readiness on the shortest notice to reduce the King's (or 8th) & 34th Regiments to the present Establishment and to disband the Corps of Rangers commanded by Lieut. Col. Butler, together with all Persons of every denomination and serving under your command, in the description of Provincials, the Navy excepted for which particular Instructions will be given. As it is my intention to settle such part of Lieut. Col. Butler's Rangers on the Tract of Land opposite to Niagara purchased from the Messessague Indians as it will contain & the rest at the Head of Lake Ontario, towards the Grand River, upon a new purchase, which Col. Butler will have directions by this opportunity to make, they are particularly fortunate in their present situation, for by the time you will receive this, the season will be sufficiently advanced for them to go to work upon their settlement, and I shall send a Proper Person when the Reduction takes place to distribute the Lands agreeably to the King's Instructions when the Lotts will be numbered and regularly drawn for, necessary preparations for the general good may, in the mean Time be making, by a Judicious Distribution of the Corps to which Colo. Butler is very equal, & will, I persuade myself, cheerfully give every aid and attention in his power. You will not lose time in communicating to Col. Butler, the Extracts inclosed, that he may in the fullest manner, explain their contents to his Corps, and at the time of its being disbanded, you will take down the names of the Officers and Men who wish to settle there. Their Desire must be signed by themselves, to prevent future claims, or Retraction which would otherwise happen if they are so fickle as the Loyalists here and you will perceive by the Instructions that Lotts are only to be given to those who will cultivate them & not for the purpose of Land Jobbing which was the case after the last War, an accurate Return of the Men's Names and Number of each Family that will settle must be Transmitted to me as soon as possible, you will allow the Rangers to occupy their Barracks, until their Lotts shall be assigned to them, but they must all winter upon their respective possessions, you will also allow them provisions in the following proportions from the day of their being disbanded until further orders.

To each man & woman in Family, one Treasury Ration.

To children above Ten Years old, one Treasury Ration.

To children ten years old, one half Treasury Ration.

To save time in case you should not arrive at Niagara as soon as this Letter, I shall direct it eventually to the Officer commanding there who will execute the contents as far as it relates to Niagara and forward it to you. I have for the same reason Transmitted copies of the

orders &ca. to Majors Harris & Ross, directing that the former may disband the 1st Battalion of the 84<sup>th</sup> Regt. and the latter the 2nd Battalion of the R.R. of N. York, as are no there. I would order Major Ross as Commissary of the 34th Regiment, down to Cataraqui but that I wish to avoid as much as possible any movement of the Troops in the Upper Country, until I shall receive instructions whether to evacuate or keep the Posts any longer in possession, should any of the men discharged from the Regiments, the Rangers, or other Loyalists, at Niagara, decline settling there, you will send them down to this Country without loss of Time. If any of them prefer settling at Cataraqui, they may stop there, which you will notify to Major Ross, who will have my directions to receive them. To avoid any depredations on the Barracks & Buildings belonging to the Crown, at present occupied by the Rangers, you will send an Officer with a small detachment to reside there from the Time of the being disbanded, who is to be answerable for the safety of them, as they will answer for Barracks, should Post be taken on that side the River on the Evacuation of Niagara; for which purpose the Surveyor will have directions in laying out the settlement to reserve the east end, comprehending the High ground above Navy Hall, across to the Four Mile Run, entirely for the Crown, in order that such parts of it as shall be found the most proper may be fortified whenever it shall be necessary. You will please as soon as possible to order down the Detachment of the 34th Regiment from Michilimackinac Capt. Robertson excepted, for whom I enclose a Letter of Service continuing him in command of that Post until further orders which you will please to seal and forward to him by the first opportunity notifying the appointment by an order from yourself. Indian Corn and Potatoes for seed are much wanted. General Maclean informed me there was a large quantity of the former in Store at Niagara, it must all be preserved for that purpose and send a few hundred bushels with what Potatoes can be spared to Cataraqui for that and the settlements downwards.

(B. 63, pp. 161-5)

The following letter indicates the anxiety of the government to induce all the Mohawks and other Indians of the Six Nations, who wished to remove from the United States, to settle at Grand River.

FROM MAJOR ROBERT MATHEWS TO JOSEPH BRANT

QUEBEC, 8th April, 1784

My Dear Friend,

I received with much Pleasure your Letter of the 4th Instant, and have shewn it to His Exc'y, the Commander In Chief -- You are so well Acquainted with the Interest he takes in the Welfare & Happiness of the Mohawks, that I need not tell you the concern which every circumstance will give Him that can interfere with either as such. He considers Captain John's unwillingness to unite with you -- His endeavours to Join the Mohawks at La Chine with those who are desirous to settle upon the Grand River, being satisfied that your strength, influence & existance, As a respectable Nation Depends entirely upon a perfect Union & close connection with each other, which can never subsist while you are so far separated -- The proposed Situation has climate, Soil, clear ground & every advantage in its favor, your interests would be united & your Nation would soon grow Strong, Rich, and Happy & Acquire its former consequence. His Excellency can have no other view in recommending this Plan, for He has already declared Sir John Johnson & to Yourself, that a large portion of Land is to be reserved at the Bay of Quinte for the Mohawks, and tho' He anxiously wishes for your own sakes, that

you would prefer the other situation, he, by no means insists upon, but leaves it entirely to your own decision. You & David are Masters of the Subject, you are Acquainted with the Advantages it promises, and with His Excellency's sentiments thereon – He thinks it is a Duty you owe to your Nation to state Them in the fullest manner, & to recommend to their example the Conduct you mean yourself to Adopt --Those who do not follow it, will certainly regret their loss of Time when they see you happily settled in a few years; and tho' late, will be glad to join you -- you will however have nothing to reproach yourself with, should you fail in the Attempt.

The General has desired me to tell you that you shall have an Order for the Bell before you leave Montreal, Accept my best wishes & believe me &c.

(B 63, pp 190-1)

(Bell for a Church in the New Settlement on the Grand River).

The frequent changes of Ministers in the Colonial Office at this time seems to have had the effect of delaying correspondence in a disconcerting manner. Lord North had succeeded Thomas Townshend on 18 April, 1783, but gave way to Marquess Caermarthen on 23 Dec., 1783, who was followed by Townshend, who had become Lord Sydney, on 22 January, 1784. The new Secretary fully approved of Haldimand's refusal to deliver up the Frontier Forts and instructed him to delay their evacuation until the United States had fully complied with the Terms of the Treaty of Peace.

This letter, however, was not delivered at Quebec, until two months after its date.

#### EXTRACT OF A LETTER FROM LORD SYDNEY TO GOVERNOR HALDIMAND

DATED AT WHITEHALL, 8TH APRIL, 1784

"With regard to your refusing a compliance with the desire of Major General Baron de Steuben for delivering up to him the Posts within the Limits of the United States, you are certainly justified in every part of your proceedings, even if you had been in possession of the Definitive Treaty of Peace. The 7th Article stipulates that they shall be evacuated with all convenient speed, but no certain time is fixed, And as America has not, on her part, complied with even one Article of the Treaty, I think we may reconcile it in the present instance to delay the Evacuation of those Posts, at least until We are enabled to secure the Traders in the Interior Country and withdraw their Property.

The management of the Indians requires great attention and address, in This Critical Juncture, but I am persuaded that our retaining possession of those Posts will not even be detrimental to America, and may be the means of preventing mischiefs which are likely to happen, should the Posts be delivered up whilst the resentment of the Indians continues at so high a pitch. I hope the People of America will treat them with Kindness, indeed if they considered it for a moment, their own interest would prompt them so to do, but if they should be determined to pursue a different conduct, you may assure those unfortunate people, that they will find an Asylum within His Majesty's Dominions, should they be inclined to Cross the Lakes and put themselves under Our Protection. The Ship Lady Johnson is now loaded with a considerable Cargo of Articles for their use, and some Implements for Agriculture and Tools for erecting Habitations for the Loyalists and their Families who have taken refuge in the Province of Quebec, which are to be divided amongst them, according to your discretion upon an investigation of their wants."

(B.45 pp.132-3.)

Meanwhile Butler submitted a Report showing a very substantial increase in the number of settlers and the extent of land brought under cultivation by them, which amounted to 731 acres. He was notably perplexed by his instructions to purchase so great a tract of land from the Mississaugas which he feared might have a disturbing influence on the minds of the other Indians.

EXTRACT OF A LETTER FROM COLONEL JOHN BUTLER TO MAJOR ROBERT MATTHEWS, DATED AT NIAGARA, 8TH MAY, 1784

"Inclosed you receive a list of Farmers and their Improvements agreeable to His Excellency's former order, exclusive of those about eighty of my Corps have made a beginning and cleared Lands, expecting the Commander in Chief will permit them to enjoy their improvements, amongst which I am one, but worse situated as the Lands that myself and four or five Officers have cultivated and built good Farm Houses thereon falls within the limits ordered by His Excellency to be reserved for the King's use, but hope this will not prevent us possessing those improvements for should any part of these lots he hereafter wanted, a clause if agreeable might be made in the Deeds to that purpose, for my own part, I have already been at a considerable expence and am daily adding and mean to continue doing so till I have the pleasure of hearing from you.

I shall be greatly obliged to you by acquainting His Excellency with my present situation regarding these Lands, also wish to know whether Deeds will be given for the Lands already cultivated and those that are to be given hereafter, my reason for being so very anxious on the subject is that I cannot point out anything better than the Plough for my two sons at the present."

I have received His Excellency's Speech thro' Sir John Johnson, which I have delivered to the Indians. I also received orders to purchase all the Lands between the three Lakes Huron, Erie & Ontario, in consequence of which I have sent for the Mississaugoes & Chipawas, a few of the former is already here, & the Chiefs of whom tells me that a part of this Tract only belongs to the two Nations, that the other part is the property of the Hurons, Ottawas & a few Chipawas near Detroit -- and to some that are farther west than Michilimackinac and to the Northwards, a part belongs to the Indians that Hunt near Catarauqui.

I am persuaded that the Indians will be greatly surprised, (and I fear will alarm others who are not concerned), when they find that we want to purchase the whole Country. However, I shall in a few days make the Proposal to them and their Answer I shall immediately transmit to Sir John Johnson."

(B. 105, pp.412-5.)

LIST OF SETTLERS AT NIAGARA IN 1784

	Acres Cleared.
John McDonell	50
Peter Hare	25
Bernard Frey	8
Andrew Bradt	5
Benjamin Pawling	8
Jacob Ball	11
Peter Ball	5

Robert Guthrie	30
John Reilly	1
John Coon	6
Jacob Benner	12
George Rancier	4
Ezekiel Brown	4
Joseph Robeson	8
Peter Thompson	6
John McDonell	16
Brant Johnson	15
John Burch	20
Isaac Dolson	50
Elijah Phelps	50
Thomas Secord	40
Peter Secord	25
Samuel Lutes	30
George Stuart	12
George Fields	25
John DePue	12
Michael Showers	20
Daniel Rose	12
Thos. McMicking	6
Ralph Johnston	7
Philip Bender	6
John Chisholm	25
Francis Elsworth	5
James Forsyth	2
Thos. Millard	2
Allan McDonell	10
John Secord	50
Anthony Slingerland	3
Henry Mattice	10
Henry Volleck	11
Harmanus House	30
Adam Young	18
Joseph Petry	18
John Secord, Jr.	10
Samuel Sipes	4
McGregor Van Every	4
(B.168. p. 38.)	

In communicating the royal instructions of 16 July and 7 August, 1783, to the privy council of Quebec, it is perhaps worthy of remark that Haldimand emphasised them as "proofs of His Majesty's Determination to retain and defend it."

On Wednesday, the 14th Day of April, 1784

At the Council Chamber in the Castle of St. Lewis

Present

His Excellency Frederick Haldimand, Governor.

The Honble. Henry Hamilton, Lieutenant Governor.

Hugh Finlay	Picotee de Bellestre	Thomas Dunn	John Fraser
Francis Levesque	William Grant	Edward Harrison	Paul Roc St. Ours
John Collins	Francis Baby	Adam Mabane	Samuel Holland
La Corne St. Luc	George Davison	J.G.C. De Lery	Esquires

His Excellency in a Speech, acquainted the Council the Reason of his assembling them.

Copy of His Excellency's Speech

Gentlemen,

I have assembled you this day as the King's Council to communicate to you Two Additional Instructions which I have had the Honor to receive concerning the Allotments of Lands within this Province to be made to Reduced Officers, Disbanded Soldiers and Loyalists. Previous to the receipt of those Instructions, I had ordered the unconceded Lands above and below Quebec to be explored by proper persons, and I have had the Satisfaction to receive from them such favorable Reports, as induce me to hope that His Majesty's gracious Intentions towards the Loyalists will be fully answered. The Measures taken for the Settlement of the Loyalists in this Province are proofs of His Majesty's Determination to retain and defend it. The Surveyor-General, with his Deputy and other persons are employed in making out plans of Seigneuries agreeable to the Instructions. When they are finished, I shall assemble you again upon this business; in the meantime, the Instructions with Extracts of two Letters from the Secretary of State relating to them shall remain in the Council Office for the perusal and Consideration of the Members.

His Excellency delivered the said Instructions and Extracts to be read.

Read His Majesty's Instructions dated at St. James, the 16th of July, and another dated the 7th of August 1783 in both Languages ---

Read also the Extracts from Two Letters from the Right Honbl Lord North one of His Majesty's principal Secretaries of State to His Excellency General Haldimand dated Whitehall, 24th July and 7th August, 1783, ----

Ordered that the Instructions and Extracts remain in the Council Office for the perusal and consideration of the Members of the Council.

(Vol. D. Part I, pp.99-101)

His Plan of Settlement was made known to them at a subsequent special meeting called for that purpose.

JOURNAL OF THE PRIVY COUNCIL OF THE PROVINCE OF QUEBEC

SATURDAY 1ST MAY, 1784

At the Council Chamber in the Castle of St. Lewis

Present

His Excellency Frederick Haldimand, Governor.

The Honbl Henry Hamilton, Lieutenant Governor.

Hugh Finlay	John Fraser	Francis Levesque	William Grant
Edward Harrison	Paul Roc St. Ours	John Collins	Francis Baby
La Corne St. Luc	Joseph De Longueuil	J.G.C. De Lery	Samuel Holland
Picotee De Bellestre		George Davison	

His Excellency The Governor signified to The Council that seeing the Difficulties which present themselves to settle the Loyalists from the scattered and remote Situations where they are to be placed, He had planned a Mode which appeared to him proper for the purpose, and which is fully explained in a Book and Paper which His Excellency laid before the Council. In which Book his Majesty's Instructions regarding the Loyalists, and the Oaths directed by Law to be taken, together with the Declaration mentioned in His Majesty's Instructions are inserted. His Excellency was pleased to signify that He intends to confide different Copies of the said Book with such persons as He may think proper to empower to administer the Oaths and receive the Declaration, and Signatures of the persons intending to settle. When the lots are drawn, and the Boundaries can be ascertained, His Excellency said that the business should be again laid before the Council, hoping for the present that the Council approved of His Plan.

(Vol.D. Part I, p. 101)

Demands were again made upon him for the Evacuation of the Frontier Posts, by the Governors of the States of New York and Vermont, and although they were firmly resisted by Haldimand on the ground that he had received no orders for that purpose, he was in considerable doubt what course to pursue.

FROM GENERAL HALDIMAND to LORD NORTH. No. 33

Quebec, the 12th May, 1784

By The Bese, 2nd July, 1784

My Lord,

At the same time that I transmit a Duplicate of my Letter of the 26th April, I have the Honor to acquaint Your Lordship that the American Officer mentioned in it, arrived at Quebec on the 7th May, he brought a Letter from Governor Clinton, provided I had not received Orders for Evacuation of the Posts, to urge me to give a Promise of giving Notice, as soon as the Order should arrive, of the Time I thought the Evacuation could take place. This I easily evaded, by assuring him that I would scrupulously obey My Orders, and that, uninstructed as I was by His Majesty's Ministers, in Consequence of the Definitive Treaty of Peace, I could come under no engagement of any kind relative to the Measures to be adopted in carrying it into execution. But, however restrained I might be in my Public Answer to Governor Clinton's Letter, I could not hesitate to declare to Lieut. Colonel Fish that, in my Private Opinion, the Posts should not be evacuated, until such Time as the American States should carry into Execution, the articles of the Treaty in favour of the Loyalists, that in Conformity to that Article, I had given Liberty to many of these unhappy people to go into the States, in order to Solicit the Recovery of Their Estates and Effects, but that they were glad to Return, without effecting anything after having been insulted in the Grossest manner, that altho' in Compliance with His Majesty's Orders to shun everything which might tend to prevent a Reconciliation between the two Countries, I had made no Public Representation on that Head, I could not be insensible to the Sufferings of those who had a Right to look up to me for Protection, and that such Conduct toward the

Loyalists was not a likely means to engage Great Britain to evacuate the Posts for in all my Transactions, I never used the words either of my *delivering or of their receiving* the Posts, for reasons mentioned in one of my former Letters, to your Lordship; Lieut. Colonel Fish gave me the Strongest Assurances, that the Proceedings against the Loyalists were disapproved by the Leading men in the Different States, and gave me a Recent Instance of Governor Clinton having rescued Captain Mure of the 53rd Regiment from the Insolence of the Mob in New York. Lieut. Colo. Fish set off on his return the 10th Ultimo, and appeared sensible of the Civility and Politeness with which he had been received at Quebec and the different Garrisons and Posts Thro' which he had passed. The enclosure (No. 3) is a Copy of a Letter, which I received (Though I could not learn how it was brought) from Governor Chittenden, relative to the Time of my evacuating the Post on Lake Champlain, which he claimed as belonging to the State of Vermont. I have here to observe to your Lordship that these people have not lately had much Communication with me, and from the manner in which I received their Applications and Communications last summer and fall, seem to have turned all their thoughts to Establish their Interest in the Congress, at the same time that they are not neglectful of taking Measures and Steps which have the appearance of an Approaching Rupture with the State of New York. I have likewise to observe to your Lordship that I think myself more Justified in refusing the Application of the Governors of New York and Vermont, as I apprehend that Great Britain has Contracted the Definitive Treaty with the Congress of the United States of America, and that Consequently,

I am not bound to treat except with Persons Authorized by Congress, relative to carrying into Execution the Articles of that Treaty and it appears to me that the Evacuation of the Posts might be delayed as the means of obliging the Congress to prolong the Term of one year granted by the Treaty for the Loyalists to Solicit the Recovery of their Estates, for from the Want of Government and good Order in the different States, it has not, hitherto, been safe for the Loyalists to go amongst them for that purpose.

(B. 56, pp. 214-6.)

Anticipating that the Niagara Portage would be removed to the west bank, Lieut.-Colonel Butler made a formal application for the contract on behalf of two of his sons, Andrew and Thomas, both of whom had been Subaltern Officers in his Regiment.

FROM COLONEL JOHN BUTLER TO GENERAL HALDIMAND

NIAGARA, MAY 12, 1784

Sir,

My situation & circumstances not admitting of my providing for my Children in a manner more suitable to my own and their wishes, obliges me to settle two of my sons at this place, which I humbly conceive will be of some advantage to the Settlement as I flatter myself that it will be an additional inducement to many of my Corps to become Inhabitants thereof.— It being probable that a carrying place will be established by Government on the West side of the River between the Landing & Chippawa Creek -- I have therefore to solicit Your Excellency for the Contract thereof in their behalf. I am fully sensible of the favors conferred upon me already by Your Excellency and I have the honor to be, with great respect,

(B. 105, p 415.)

As Haldimand was then preparing to leave the Province with little expectation of returning, he selected Sir John Johnson as the most eligible and competent person to Superintend the Settlement of both Loyalists and Indians.

FROM GENERAL HALDIMAND TO SIR JOHN JOHNSON

HEAD QUARTERS, QUEBEC, 17TH MAY 1784

Sir,

From your approved Zeal for the King's Service the Interest which you have at all times taken in the Happiness of His Loyal Subjects who owing to their attachment to His Majesty's Government, have been obliged to abandon their properties and take refuge in this Province, and from your knowledge in general of, and Influence with these people, I have thought fit to request that you will take upon you, the Management & Direction of distributing to the said Loyalists, and to the disbanded Troops in the Upper Part of this Province, the Crown Lands which, in pursuance of His Majesty's Instructions, I have allotted for their reception. You will herewith receive particular Instructions for your Guidance in the Execution of this important Public Service, in which the Officers Commanding Posts and all others, Civil & Military, are hereby Strictly required to afford you every aid and assistance in their power to give.

(B. 67, p. 170.)

About the same time the Surveyor General was given particular instructions for laying out lands for the accommodation of the disbanded Soldiers and Other Loyalists.

FROM GENERAL HALDIMAND TO SAMUEL HOLLAND

QUEBEC, 18TH MAY, 1784

Sir,

Having communicated to you His Majesty's Instructions for granting Lands in this Province, to such of His Disbanded Troops and Refugee Loyalists who are desirous of settling therein, and the Mode I have adopted for the Execution thereof, and having furnished you with copies of the same with every Instruction and Power necessary for laying out the Lands allotted for that Purpose -- You are hereby directed to proceed without Loss of time to Sorel, where I have ordered that all Persons of the above description in that District shall be assembled to declare ultimately their choice of situation -- You will therefore make out particular Returns Specifying their Names, number of each Family, and places where they shall choose to settle which you will communicate to Capt. Barnes of the Quarter Master General's Department who has my directions to forward them without delay on their different routes -- from Sorel, you will proceed to Montreal, where you will confer with Sir John Johnson, to whose direction I have thought fit to commit the settlement of the Disbanded Troops and Loyalists in the Upper District of the Province, and to whom you will give every assistance in your Power in the Execution of that Service -- Sir John Johnson will communicate to you my Instructions to Him upon this Subject, and you will deliver to Him the Books containing the King's Instructions, Oaths & Declarations to be made and Subscribed together with the Certificates for the Settlers, which are to be distributed thro'out the Settlements as Sir John Johnson and you shall think best. The advanced Seson of the Year requires the utmost dispatch in this Business. You will, of course, first proceed to settle the Royal Regt. of New York upon the ground Allotted for them, which I hope is by this time nearly laid out, from thence upwards to Cataraqui - His Majesty's Instructions respecting the manner of laying out the Land, and the Portions to be

distributed are so full, that it is unnecessary for me to add to them, further than to remind you of what I have verbally mentioned that every partiality is to be avoided, for which purpose my Instructions to Sir John Johnson direct that the Townships, and lots in each are to be indiscriminately drawn for, as well by the Officers as the Men -- Your Progress in this Business will depend so much upon local circumstances, and unforeseen Contingencies that it would be in vain to offer any other than general Instructions. -- On Sir John Johnson's & your zeal for the King's Service, I therefore rely for a successful Execution of it.

You shall hear from me upon the Subject of the Settlement at Niagara, concerning which I shall send directions to Lt. Colo. De Peyster and to Major Ross to send up Lieut. Tinling to lay out the ground lately purchased at that Place, which considering the quantity that must be reserved for the King, is by no means to settle all the Corps of Rangers, part of whom will consequently come down to Catarqui.  
(B. 67, pp.171-2 )

EXTRACT FROM A LETTER FROM GENERAL HALDIMAND TO SIR JOHN JOHNSON  
DATED HEAD QUARTERS, QUEBEC, 20TH MAY, 1784.

"The Land opposite to Niagara which was purchased from the Mississague Indians is by no means sufficient to settle all the Corps of Rangers, particularly as I am obliged to reserve the East end of it as far as the high ground above Navy Hall for the King, in case that a Post should be established there upon the Evacuation of Niagara -- Upon Joseph Brant's Plan of Settling at the Grand River, I have prepared the remaining part of the Rangers to go there, but I shall now call them down to Catarqui -- I say nothing of the Mohawk Settlement at the Bay of Quinte as you are acquainted with my intention to gratify their wishes on that subject, after which, there will be Land sufficient for the Settlers."

Butler succeeded in obtaining a large tract of Land from the Mississaugas, containing, it was estimated at the time, 2, 842,840 acres and the price paid was about one-tenth of a penny per acre.

INDIAN COUNCIL AT NIAGARA

A Meeting held at Niagara, 22nd May, 1784 with the Mississaga Indians Accompanied by the Chiefs and Warriors of the Six Nations, Delawares &c.

Present

Lieut. Colonel Hoyes, 34th Regiment

Capt. Forbes, 34th Regiment

Lt.Col. John Butler, Dy Agent, Indian Affairs

Capt. Hamilton, 8th Regiment

Major Potts, Corps Rangers

With many other Officers of the Garrison

Captain Parke, 8th Regiment

Mr. Nicholas Stevens & Mr. William Bowen, Interpreters

After the usual Ceremonies and Compliments was made Pokquan a Missisaga Chief rose and spoke as follows:

Father, Some days ago your Message with the Belt was received desiring us to assemble at the Great Council Fire, kindled at this place by the King, Our Father, we according collected our people as soon as possible and are now ready to hear your business with us.  
Returned the Belt.

Lieut. Colonel John Butler then spoke.

Children: I have received the Commander In Chief's order thro' Sir John Johnson, to purchase some Land, the property of you, the Mississagas, laying between the Lakes Ontario, Huron & Erie, for the use of such of your Brethren of the Six Nations, as may wish to Plant and Hunt thereon, as well as for an intended Settlement for such of His Majesty's faithful Subjects who have assisted him during the late War, as wish to settle and improve the same; it would be needless for me to add more at present as I have already explained every Circumstance of our present Business, as well as future intentions in as clear a light to you, the Chiefs, as in my power to do. Therefore expect your Immediate Answer.

A Belt

Pokquan Mississaga Speaker  
Father & Brethren  
Six Nations.

We have considered your Request. Father. We the Mississagas are not the owners of all the Land laying between the Three Lakes, but we have agreed and are willing to transfer our right of soil & property to the King our Father, for the use of his People, and our Brethren the Six Nations from the Head of the Lake Ontario, or the Creek Waghguata to the River LaTranche, then down that River until a South Course will strike the Mouth of Catfish Creek on Lake Erie, this tract of Land we imagine will be quite sufficient both for the King's People and our Brethren the Six Nations, who may wish to Settle and Hunt thereon; Your request or proposal does not give us that trouble or concern, that you might imagine from some of our people the other day, that difficulty is intirely removed, we are Indians and consider ourselves and the Six Nations to be one and the same people, and agreeable to a former and mutual agreement we are bound to each other. Brother, Captain Brant we are happy to hear that you intend to settle with your people, we hope you will keep your young men in good order, as we shall be in one neighbourhood, and to live in friendship with each other as Brethren ought to do.

Colonel Butler

Children. I have paid strict attention to your Answer and I now Thank You for the Friendly Attachment you show to your Brethren, the Six Nations and I imagine that the Lands you have now agreed to dispose of will be satisfactory both to the Commander in Chief and Sir John Johnson. Your Brethren, the Six Nations will Answer for themselves.

(Q. 23, pp. 349-52)

#### DEED OF LAND FROM THE MISSISSAGAS

This Indenture made at Niagara the Twenty Second Day of May in the year of our Lord, One Thousand Seven Hundred & Eighty Four, Between Wabakanyne, Nannisbosure, Poquan, Nanaghkagwiskam, Peapamaw, Tebandan, Sawarmaneck, Peasonish, Wapamonisschisqua, Wapeanoghqua, Sachems, War Chiefs and Principal Women of the Mississaga Indian Nation on the one Part, and our Sovereign Lord, George the Third by the Grace of God, King of Great Britain, France and Ireland, Defender of the Faith, &c., &c., &c., on the other Part, Witnesseth, that the said Wabakanyne, the above-mentioned Sachems, War Chiefs & Principal Women, for and in Consideration of Eleven hundred and Eighty Pounds Seven Shillings & four Pence, Lawfull money of Great Britain To Them the said Wabakanyne, the Sachems War Chiefs and Principal Women in hand well and truely paid, at or before the

Sealing & Delivery of these presents, the Receipt Whereof they the said Wabakanyne, the Sachems, War Chiefs and Principal Women doth hereby Acknowledge, and therefore doth Acquit, Release, Evonerate, and forever Discharge His Britannic Majesty, His Heirs & Successors and Every of them, by these presents, hath granted, Bargained doth Grant, Bargain, Sell, Alien, Release & Confirm unto His Britannic Majesty, and to His Heirs & Successors, all that TRACT or Parcel of Land, laying & being between the Lakes Ontario and Erie, beginning at Lake Ontario, four miles South westerly from the Point opposite to Niagara Fort, known by the name of Mississaga Point and running from thence along said Lake to the Creek that falls from a Small Lake into the Said Lake Ontario, known by the Name of Waghquata, from thence a North West Course until it Strikes the River La Tranche, or New River, then down the Stream of said River to that part or Place, where a due South Course will lead to the mouth of Catfish Creek emptying into Lake Erie and from the above mentioned part or Place of the aforesaid River La Tranche following the South Course to the Mouth of the said Cat Fish Creek, thence down Lake Erie to the Lands heretofore Purchased from the Nation of Mississaga Indians, and from thence along the Said Purchase to Lake Ontario at the Place of Beginning as above mentioned, together with the Woods, Ways, Paths, Waters, Water Courses advantages, emoluments and Hereditaments whatsoever, to the said Tract or Parcel of Land, Situated as Above Mentioned, belonging or in any wise apertaining, or which to and with the same now are, or at any time heretofore have been held, used, occupied, Accepted, reported, taken or known, as part parcel, or member thereof, or any Part thereof, and the Issues and Profits of all and Singular, the said Premises, and Every Part & Parcel thereof, with the appurtenances; and also all the Estate, Right, Title, Interest, Property Claim, and Demand whasoever of them the said Wabakanyne, the Sachems, War Chiefs and Principal Women, of, in and to all and Singular the said Premises above mentioned, and of, in, and Every Part and Parcel thereof, with the Appurtenances; TO HAVE AND TO HOLD, all the Singular the said TRACT or Parcel of LAND, hereditaments and Premises in and by these Presents released and Confirmed, and Every Part & Parchel thereof, with the Appurtenances, Unto his Britannic Majesty, his heirs and Successors forever, and to and for no other use, intent, or purpose Whatsoever; and the said Wabakanyne, The Sachems, War Chiefs and Principal Women for them Selves, their Heirs and Successors doth Covenant, Grant, Promise and Agree to and with His Britannic Majesty, his Heirs and Successors, that they the said Wabakanyne, the Sachems War Chiefs & Principal Women now are the true Lawfull and rightfull Owners of all and Singular the Said TRACT or Parcel of LAND, hereditaments and premises above mentioned, and of Every Part or Parcel thereof, with the Appurtenances; and at the time of Sealing & delivery of these Presents, are Lawfully and rightfully Seized in their own right of a Good, Sure, Perfect, Absolute, and Indefeasable Estate of Inheritance in fee simple of and in all & Singular the said premises above mentioned, with the Appurtenances, without any Manner of Condition, Limitation of use or uses, or matter, cause or thing Whatsoever to alter, change, charge or Determine the Same; and also that His Majesty, his heirs and Successors Shall and may at all times for ever hereafter, Peaceably and quietly have, hold, Occupy, Possess, and enjoy all and Singular the said Tract or Parcel of LAND, hereditaments and Premises aforesaid with the Appurtenances and every Part or Parcel thereof, without trouble, hindrance, molestation, interruption, or disturbance, of them the Said Wabakanyne, the Sachems, &c., their Heirs, or Successors, or any other Person or Persons Lawfully claiming, or to claim, by, from, or under them, are any of them, and Freed, Discharged, and kept harmless and Indemnified of, from, and against all former and other Gifts or Grants Whatsoever.

In Witness whereof we have hereunto set our hands and Seals the Day and Date above mentioned.

Witness Present.

Mark

His

Robt. Hoyes, Maj'r, 34th Regt.

Wabaka

X nyne

Mark.

His

D. Forbes, Capt., 34 Regt.

Nanne

X bosure

Mark

His

Joseph Brant, Thayendanagea

Pokque

X an

Mark

His

David Hill, Haronghyoutye

Nanaghkag

X wiskam

Mark

His

R. Wilkinson Act'g. Secret'y Six Nation Dept

Peapam

X aw

Mark

His

Tabend

X an

Mark

His

Sawa

X mencke

Mark

His

Peasa

X nish

Mark

Her

Wapamones

X chiqua

Mark

Her

Wapeanogh

X qua

Before the result of this Meeting with the Indians was known to him, the Governor had addressed special instructions to Colonel Arent Schuyler de Peyster, a Member of a well known Loyalist Family in New York, who had been ordered from Detroit to Niagara to take over the Command of the Upper Posts.

FROM GENERAL HALDIMAND TO LIEUT.-COLONEL DE PEYSTER

HEAD QUARTRS, QUEBEC, 24TH MAY, 1784

LIEUT. COLO. DE PEYSTER

Sir,

The advanced season of the year prevents me waiting any Longer for the Instructions concerning the Evacuation of the Posts in the Upper Country, which I expressed my desire of receiving in my Letter to You on the 29th March, last previous to disbanding and reducing the

Troops which occupy them. Having with that Letter transmitted to you the King's order for the said reduction with Instructions to hold yourself in readiness for the execution of it upon the shortest notice, I have now to desire that you will order the Accounts of Lieut. Colonel Butler's Corps of Rangers to be made up to the 24th of next June inclusive, and also of such Non-commissioned Officers and Private Men of the King's (or 8th) and 34th Regiment, as are to be discharged in consequence of the general Reduction of the Army; and that you will on the said 24th Day of June, disband the said Corps of Rangers & reduce the 8th & 34th Regiments to the Establishment according to the Plan which accompanies the order for the Reduction.

Having communicated to you in the fullest manner, in my letter of the 29th March, my intention of settling upon the Crown Lands, the Corps of Rangers, and such of the discharged Non-commissioned Officers and Men of the Established Troops as wish to remain in this Province, in conformity to the King's Instructions, and Extracts of Letters from His Ministers, Copies of which were transmitted to you, I refer you to that Letter. In addition to it, I have to observe that finding the Mohawks, and other Indians of the Six Nations who wish to retire from the Territory of the United States, more partial to Cataraqui than to the situation at the Head of Lake Ontario mentioned in my former letter, I must for the present abandon my intention of forming a Settlement there. You will please therefore to send down to Cataraqui such part of the Rangers as cannot be settled opposite to Niagara; if this Division cannot be made by mutual agreement, it must be decided by drawing Lots. I have appointed Sir John Johnson to take the direction of settling the disbanded Troops & Refugee Loyalists in the Upper Part of this Province, but having so much to do from the Long Saut upwards to Cataraqui, I am apprehensive it will not be in his Power to proceed to Niagara in time enough to complete the business there. I have therefore to desire that you will take it upon you, and I have for that purpose, ordered Lieut. Tingling, Assistant Engineer at Cataraqui to proceed immediately to Niagara. You will carefully examine with him the Ground necessary to be reserved for a Post, should one be taken upon the evacuation of Niagara, and as it is impossible to say what the nature of that Post may be, provision must be made for Strength, it will be necessary therefore that the whole East End, comprehending the high ground above Navy Hall be reserved for that purpose, with a proportion in depth.

The Land for the Settlement is to be laid out in Lots and distributed in like manner as in the Lower Part of this Province, for which purpose I herewith transmit to you a Book (which is to remain with the Commanding Officer) containing the King's Instructions for granting Lands to Disbanded Troops and Loyalists, with other necessary Instructions and the Oaths of Allegiance &c., and Declarations required to be made and subscribed by each Settler - I also send you a special commission empowering you to administer the same, and a Parcel of Certificates, to be filled up with the Names & Nos. of Lots drawn by each Person which must at the same time be entered in the Book, to be referred to at the expiration of the Twelve Months, specified in the Certificates, when Deeds are to be delivered. A proportion of Axes &c., allowed to Settlers will be forwarded to Niagara, and also of Fall Wheat, Indian Corn you have, and will distribute as you see needful, some small seeds will be forwarded.

To save time, I shall direct Major Harris to disband the Battalion of the 84th Regiment under his Command and Major Ross, that of the Royal Regt. of New York, and to Garrison Carleton Island and Oswego by detachments of the 34th Regiment, such of the men of all Corps and such Loyalists as do not chuse to settle in the Upper Country, must cease to receive the King's Provision and must be sent down to Montreal by the first opportunity.

In order to prevent Jealousy, and to give as much general satisfaction as possible in the Distribution of Land, I have determined that the whole, Officers and Men, shall indiscriminately draw for their Lots; I had it an Idea that the Officers should have a certain portion of Land in Front, but upon reconsidering the King's Instructions, and the good effect such an evident impartiality must have, I have adopted the latter Plan; the inconvenience will be very Trifling to the Officers, Their proportions being so much larger than those of the Men, it will be in their Power to make Exchange for Front Lots should any particular Situation make it desirable.

(B. 63, pp. 334-7)

This Letter was accompanied by the following Document.

DEDIMUS POTESTATEM GEORGE THE THIRD,

By The Grace of God, King of Great Britain and the Territories thereunto belonging, Defender of the Faith, and so forth -

To our trusty and beloved Aaron Schuyler DePeyster of the District of Montreal in our Province of Quebec, Esquire.

Greeting.

KNOW You that We have thought fit to empower you and We do hereby give and grant unto you full Power and Authority to tender and administer unto All Persons whom it may concern, the Oaths directed by Law, and the Declaration following, that is to say, I "do promise and declare that I will maintain and defend the Authority of the King in His Parliament, as the Supreme Legislature of this Province, And to receive from such Persons their Subscriptions severally to the Oaths and Declaration. And of what you shall do herein, you are to make Return into the Office of our Clerk of the Council for our said Province with this Writ. WITNESS our trusty and well beloved FREDERICK HALDIMAND, our Captain General and Governor in Chief of our said Province of Quebec at our Castle of St. Lewis in our City of Quebec, the twenty fourth day of May -- in the year of our Lord, One Thousand, Seven Hundred and Eighty Four--"

FREDERICK HALDIMAND

By His Excellency's Command

ALEX. GRAY A.C.C.

RETURN OF WRIT

I Certify that I have administered to the several Persons named in the Annexed Paper, the Oaths directed by Law and the Declaration mentioned within, and have received their Subscriptions severally

SO ANSWERS

At. S. De Peyster Lt. Col. Kings Rgt. Commanding the Upper Posts  
Niagara this 25th June 1785

Endorsed: -- Writt of Dedimus Potestem

To

A. S. Depeyster, Esq. Com'g the Posts in the Upper Country --  
(State Records)

Haldimand lost no time in communicating Lord Sydney's momentous decision to retain possession of the Military Posts to Sir John Johnson with instructions "to make a prudent Use of it with the Indians."

EXTRACT FROM A LETTER FROM GENERAL HALDIMAND TO SIR JOHN JOHNSON  
DATED QUEBEC, 14TH JUNE, 1784

"Persuading myself that you will participate with me in the Pleasure which every mark of attention that the King shall bestow on our Faithful Indian Allies must give, I wish to acquaint you that by a Letter from Lord Sydney, my refusal of giving up the Posts to the Americans has been approved of, the Article of the Treaty of Peace upon that Subject stipulating that they shall be evacuated with all Convenient Speed, but not fixing any Certain Time and as America has not on her Part complied with even one Article of the Treaty, it is thought but reasonable that the Evacuation of the Posts should be delayed until Indian Affairs are in a more settled State, and that our Traders in the Interior Country can withdraw their Property -- It is to be hoped that Retaining the Possession of the Posts will gave the Indians an opportunity of arranging Matters more to their advantage with the American States and will induce the latter to treat with them upon reasonable and kind Terms, but if they should be determined to pursue a different Conduct, I have the King's authority to acquaint them that they will find an Asylum within His Majesty's Dominions, should they be inclined to cross the Lakes and put themselves under His Protection - I have already from myself signified that to them, but as it will be more satisfactory to receive it from the authority I now give, you will please to take a Convenient opportunity to communicate it to them -- The Ship Lady Johnson was to sail in a few Days with a Considerable Cargo of Articles for their use -- I wish you to consider that I mention the Circumstance of not evacuating the Posts for your Private Satisfaction, and to make a prudent Use of it with the Indians, for I would by no means have the declaration of the Minister on that Head transpire, as it would soon finds its way to the States and, of Course, be turned to bad account."

(B. 63, pp. 407-8.)

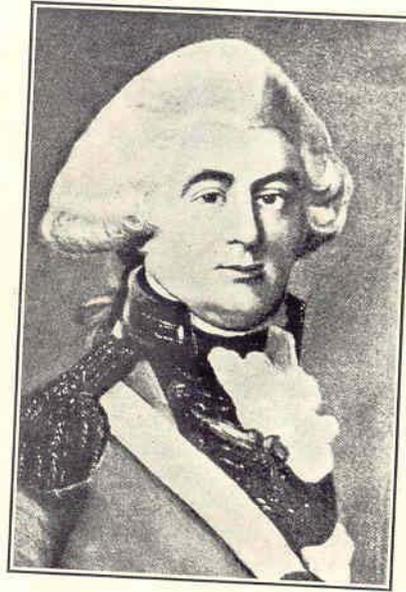
Butler had been given orders to proceed with the disbandment of the Rangers many of whom had been in Military Service under his Command for seven years.

EXTRACT FROM A LETTER FROM LIEUT.-COLONEL ROBERT HOYES TO MAJOR ROBERT MATTHEWS, FROM NIAGARA, UNDATED BUT PROBABLY WRITTEN IN APRIL OR EARLY IN MAY, 1784.

"I have communicated to Lieut. Colonel Butler, the extracts from Lord North's letter, as also the General's Orders respecting the settlement of the Corps of Rangers; and he is preparing to fulfil His Excellency's intention."

(B. 103, p. 423.)

The long delay in making arrangements for their settlement and the unsatisfactory proposal to make them tenants of the Crown Lands at a moderate quit rent, had dispiriting effects.



ARENT SCHUYLER DE PEYSTER  
Lieut. Colonel  
Sth or King's Regiment of Foot  
1777-1793

EXTRACT FROM A LETTER FROM LIEUT.-COLONEL A.S. DEPEYSTER TO  
GENERAL HALDIMAND

DATED "NIAGARA, THE 28TH JUNE, 1784"

"In compliance with your Excellency's Orders of the 29th March and 24th May - On the 24th Instt. I reduced the King's & 34th Regts. and the Corps of Rangers were disbanded. Orders were sent for the reduced troops from Detroit & Michilimackinac, but I fear contrarywinds will detain them long.

The people sign to their desire for cultivating Crown Lands but slowly, we have not above an hundred on the List. They seem to dislike the Tenure of the lands; and many wish to fetch their relations from the States by the shortest route -- I have permitted some of the most decent people to wait your Excellency's pleasure on that head But last night about Seventy of the people which had refused to Sign went off, without leave with the intent never to return." (B. 103. p 441.)

One well known officer of the Indian Department sought permission to make private arrangements for the purchase of land from the Mississaugas for himself and his family.

MEMORIAL OF CAPTAIN HENDRICK NELLES

To Frederick Haldimand, Esqr. Captain General & Governor In Chief, in and over the Province Of Quebec and the Territories depending thereon in America, Vice Admiral of the same, &c., &c. &c.

The Memorial of Hendrick Nelles, Captain in the Indian Department at Niagara.  
Humbly Sheweth:-

That Your Memorialist before the late War was possessed of a Dwelling House, Barn & Offices situated on the Banks of the Mohawk River, with a Farm of Three Hundred Acres of rich Land, valued at Two Thousand, Five Hundred Pounds, which he could have got for it, together with four other farms each containing One Hundred Acres with a House & Barn on each Farm, for which Farms he paid Twelve Hundred and Sixty Pounds besides Stock and Farming Utensils of no small value and had the exclusive of the above 3,200 acres of Wood Land.

That your Memorialist took the earliest opportunity to shew his Loyalty & abandoned then a Wife & eight sons to join the King and from his knowledge of the Indians attached himself to Colonel Johnson, then sole Superintendent at New York, in 1777 was appointed a Lieutenant in the Indian Department commanded by Him and promoted to Captain in 1779.

That your Memorialist recovered one of his sons, who first acted as a Volunteer in the Dept. & afterwards was made a Lieutenant and they were each at one time both together employed on Scouts, where they believe they acquitted themselves becomingly.

Your Memorials therefore humbly begs that Your Excellency will consider the intent of this Memorial as meant to request a favour from His Majesty, which the Friendship of his old Friends, the Mississaugas suggested to him to grant him a Tract of Land in their Country sufficient for himself and his sons and therefore Your Memorialist humbly hopes that the Petition of this Memorial may be granted in such a manner as your wisdom shall direct and if the Purchase is made in the name of the Crown that he may be employed in it and obtain the preference on a small acknowledgement and Your Memorialist will every pray, &c., &c., &c.

(B. 105, pp. 432-3.)

The Governor considered it expedient to give supplementary instructions for the benefit of the Settlers at Niagara.

FROM GENERAL HALDIMAND TO LIEUT.-COLONEL DE PEYSTER

HEADQUARTERS, QUEBEC, 15 JULY, 1784

Sir,

I have received Your Letter of the 28th Ultimo, acknowledging the receipt of mine of the 29th, March & 24th May upon the Subject of the Disbanding & Reduction of the Troops under Your Command, & reporting Your Compliance with their Contents--- I am Sorry to find that the Spirit of Cultivation prevails so Little at Niagara, and that so many of those whom I expected to reap benefit from the King's Bounty have relinquished it --the Departure of People so inclined is only to be regretted as it may affect themselves -- I have given some Persons who came by your Leave to Montreal, permission to go into the States for their Families, and if any in that Predicament remain with you, you will please to give the same indulgence by any Route they wish to take -- Those desirous of remaining for the present at Niagara Without taking Land and Consequently Without being victualled, may be gratified provided that their residing at that place will not in any respect, Militate against the King's Service, or the Convenience of Such as Settle with a View to become permanent Inhabitants.

I am pleased to find that Joseph (Brant) and other principal Chiefs are Still Inclined to form a Settlement at the Head of the Lake Ontario -- I only abandoned the Idea for the present, and from an apprehension that it Might Cause some division in the Mohawk Nation, many of whom had declared a preference in favor of the Bay of Quinte -- please to inform Colonel Butler & Joseph that as I have no other View in proposing one Situation before another except as it appears to me conducive to their general Strength & Happiness, I very readily Consent to their Wishes of Settling at the place, and for the Purposes agreed upon with Joseph and that, with every Dispatch that their public Business, and private Convenience will admit of.

P.S. If you find (which it is not unreasonable to suspect) that there are amongst those who have desired to remain, without settling, at Niagara, who do it in expectation of the Post being given up, and joining the Americans (whose Emmissaries they Perhaps are at the moment) please to send them off the ground without hesitation.  
(B. 64, pp. 51-2.)

EXTRACT FROM A LETTER FROM LIEUT.-COLONEL A.S. DE PEYSTER TO  
GENERAL HALDIMAND, DATED AT "NIAGARA, THE 15TH JULY 1784."

"As nothing is Yet settled with respect to Mr. Brass and the people employ'd by him in building the Grist and Saw Mill, at the Four Mile Run -- I shall be glad to have your Excellency's final orders on that head. The account amounts to 465 Pounds New York Currency, which is thought not unreasonable by those who are esteemed judges, but on the contrary, that much useful work has been done for the money."  
(B. 103, p. 445.)

Haldimand reported the acquisition of lands for the settlement in terms which indicated the importance he attached to it.

EXTRACT FROM A LETTER FROM GENERAL HALDIMAND TO LORD SYDNEY,  
DATED AT QUEBEC, "THE 16TH JULY, 1784."

"In consequence of the desire which the Mohawks and some of the other Indian Nations expressed to remove to a Tract of Land between the Head of Lake Ontairo, Lake Erie & Huron, I gave Sir John Johnson Instructions to make a purchase of the same from the Messessague Indians. A copy of the proceedings relative to this Transaction (No. 6) is inclosed for Your Lordship's Information. The Settlement proposed there, will not only be a Frontier to our other Settlements in that Quarter, but may be conducive to securing the Fur Trade to this Province.

I have the Pleasure to acquaint Your Lordship that the Lady Johnson arrived two days ago, but as the Westerly winds now prevail, I have been obliged to consent that the Indian Presents and Implements of Agriculture should be embarked on Board small Vessels in order to be forwarded with greater expedition to Montreal at the expence & Risk of the Owners of the Vessel."

(Q. 23, pp.330-1.)

De Peyster's report showed a considerably larger number of persons wishing to settle than he had at first anticipated.

FROM LIEUT.-COLONEL A.S. DE PEYSTER TO GENERAL HALDIMAND  
NIAGARA, the 21st July, 1784.

Sir,

The annexed list of subscribers being a copy of the original in the office will I hope be satisfactory. The Surveyor has not finished his survey which is attended with great inconvenience to him - nor are the Certificates or Tools of husbandry yet come to hand. So soon as the Survey is finished, the Lots shall be drawn for, and the oaths taken conformable to orders."

(B. 103, p.451.)

A LIST OF PERSONS WHO HAVE SUBSCRIBED THEIR NAMES IN ORDER TO SETTLE AND CULTIVATE

THE CROWN LANDS OPPOSITE TO NIAGARA, JULY 20TH, 1784

SETTLERS WHO RECEIVE RATIONS

B - Bender, Philip; Burch, John.

C - Chisholm, John

D - Dolson, Isaac

J - Johnson, Rudolph

P - Phelps, Elijah

R - Rose, Daniel

S - Sampson, Jutes; Secord, John, Senior; Secord, Peter; Secord, Widow (James)

SETTLERS WHO ARE TO RECEIVE RATIONS TO 24TH DECEMBER, NEXT.

E - Ellsworth, Francis

H - House, Hermanus

L - Lyons, William

M - Mattice, Henry

Y - Young, Adam

YOUNG SETTLERS WHO RECEIVE RATIONS

B - Bruner, Jacob; Brown, Ezekiel

C - Coon, John

D - Depue, John

F - Fields, George; Forsyth, James

J - Johnson, Brant

Mc - McMicken, Thomas; McDonell, Allan; McDonell, John, Corpl.

M - Millard, Thomas Sr.

P - Petry, Joseph, Junior

R - Rancier, Geroge; Reilly, John; Robeson, Joseph

S - Secord, Silas; Showers, Michael; Stewart, George

T - Thompson, Peter

YOUNG SETTLERS, LOYALISTS AND BRANT'S VOLUNTEERS WHO RECEIVE RATIONS

B - Barnes, James; Brigham, Elais; Brown, Elijah; Bryan, Patrick.

C - Cole, Daniel; Colerick, Peter

D - Davis, John; Depue, Charles; Depue, William; Dolson, John; Drake, Joseph.

E - Emmett, Stephen; Every, Jordan.

L - Land, Robert; Lang, John.  
M - Miller, Andrew; Miller, Peter.  
P - Park, James; Petrey, Joseph Senior.  
S - Seally, Lodowick; Secord, John Junior, Secord, Peter; Slingerland, Anthony; Soper, Samuel.  
T - Terry, Parhsall; Thompson, Archibald; Turner, Edward.  
W - Westbrook, Anthony; Wing, Abram.  
V - Volick, Isaac.

#### LIEUT. COL

B - Butler, John

#### CAPTAINS

B - Bradt, Andrew  
D - Dame, George  
F - Frey, Bernard  
H - Hare, Peter  
Mc - McDonell, John  
T - Tenbroek, Peter

#### LIEUTENANTS

B - Ball, Jacob; Bradt, John; Butler, Andrew; Butler, Thomas.  
H - Hanson, Richard; Hare, John.  
R - Reynolds, Caleb; Rosecrantz, Michael.  
S - Secorfd, Solomon  
T - Turney, John.

#### SURGEON'S MATES

B - Burke, Patrick  
G - Guthrie, Robert

#### SERGEANTS

B - Bebee, Adin  
C - Campbell, James; Campbell, Robert.  
D - Dell, Henry  
F - Fedrick, Jacob (Dittrick)  
K - Kooman, Adam (Vrooman)  
Mc - McDonell, Peter; McDonell, Randal.  
M - Mabee, Lewis; Mount, Moses.  
S - Secord, Stephen; Smith, Peter  
V - VanEvery, David  
W - Warner, Christian; Wynn, Thomas.  
Y - Young, David; Young, John.

#### CORPORALS

A - Anderson, Elias;

F - Fralick, Benjamin  
H - Heaslip, James; Hagerman, Arnold  
S - Schram, Frederick.  
W - Wintermute, Peter.

#### DRUMMERS

P - Philips, John  
W - Withy, John

#### DISBANDED RANGERS

A - Adams, William; Anguish, Jacob; Arner, Jacob; Arnold, Oliver; Austin, Joel.  
B - Basset, John; Bebee, Adin; Bell, Derick; Ben, Tom; Benson, Thomas; Berger, Frederick;  
Bowman, Adam; Bowman, Jacob; Bowman, Peter; Boyce, John; Bradt, Minart;  
Brown, John; Brown, William; Burns, John; Bush, Peter.  
C - Campbell, James; Campbell, Thomas; Cassady, Daniel; Cassady, Luke; Chambers, Francis;  
Chorus, Castel; Coghill, George; Conway, Patrick; Countryman, Jos.; Cox Samuel;  
Cummings, Thomas.  
D - Doyle, Benjamin  
F - Farrell, John; Field, Gilbert; Fields, Nathan; Fleming, Patrick; Foryea, John  
Foskit, Silas; Fridenburg, Matthew;  
G - Gahagan, Oliver; George, John; Gould, John; Goulding, Thomas, Grellinger, John.  
H - Hargison, William; Hare, Peter, Volun.: Hare, William, Vol: Harper, Thomas;  
Harris, Henry, William; Hicks, Benjamin; Hicks, Edward; Higbie, Chris; Hohandoran, Herms.;  
Hollenbake, Henry; Hombeck, Lodk.; Horton, Edmund; Houghdeline, James: House, George;  
Hoverland, Andrew; Hudson, John.  
J - Jackson, James; Jacobs, John A.C.; Jago, Henry; Jones, James.  
K - Kairns, Mathias; Kooman, (Vrooman) Mends.  
L - Lampert, Aiker; Laraway, Abram; Laraway, Jonas; Laraway, Peter; Lazear, Hyatt.  
Mc - McDonell, Christy; McDonell, William; McLeod, Norman; McMichael, John;  
McPherson, James;  
M - Maycock, John; Millard, Dan; Millard, Jesse; Millard Thomas; Marseles, John B.;  
Mitchell, Gilbert.  
N - Napp, Benjamin  
P - Page, Joseph; Parks, John; Phillips, Nicholas; Pierpoint, Richard; Poole, Hendrick;  
Prout, Shuman.  
Q - Quick, Benjamin; Quick, Solomon.  
R - Ramsay, Henry; Rowe, John.  
S - Schram, VanAlstyne; Segoe, Frederick; Segoe, Jacob; Shelding, John;  
Shoulitz, Frederick; Sips, Andrew; Skuse, John; Smith, Adam; Snider, John;  
Spencer, Robert; Springer, Richard; Springsteen, Caspar; Stedman, William;  
Stuffle, John; Sutton, Thomas.  
T - Topp, John; Townshend, James; Turnbull, William.  
V - VanAlstyne, Jacob; Vandecar, John; Vandyke, Graus; VanEvery, Benjamin;

Van Every, McGregor.

W - Walker, Jacob; Wheeler, Samuel; WIndecker, Hendrick; Wormwood, Mathias;  
Wormwood, Peter.

#### LOYALISTS ARRIVED THE 19TH JULY FROM CANADA

B - Bowman, Adam; Brown, Joseph; Buck, Philip.

E - Eyckler, William

H - Huffman, Michael

J - Johnson, Conrad; Johnson, John.

L - Lampman, Frederick; Lampman, Peter.

Mc - McClallin, William.

N - Nullard, Josiah

S - Skinner, Henry; Skinner, Josiah; Skinner, Timothy

V - Veders, Cornelius; Vanderlip, Frederick

W - Wickoff, Peter.

Number of Souls: Men, 258; women, 99; children above 10, 148; children under 10, 115.  
Total 620. Rations per day 521- 1/2

A. S. DePeyster, Lt.-Colonel  
(B. 168, p. 38)

Meanwhile the Reverend John Stuart, who had been missionary to the Mohawks at Fort Hunter for more than ten years, and was then stationed at Montreal, paid a visit to the Settlement of which he made a report to the Society for the Propagation of the Gospel in Foreign Parts, which has been recorded in the Journals of the Society.

#### FROM REVEREND JOHN STUART TO THE SOCIETY FOR THE PROPAGATION OF THE GOSPEL.

"Letter dated Montreal, July 17th, 1784, acquainting the Society, that on the 2nd of June, he (Reverend John Stuart) set out & visiting on his way to all the New Settlements of Loyalists on the River and Lake, on the 18th arrived at Niagara.

"On the Sunday, after he landed he preached in the Garrison and on the afternoon of the same day, to satisfy the eager expectations of the Mohawks, he proceeded on horseback to their village, nine miles distant (At the temporary Camp of the Six Nations at or near Lewiston, before these had removed to the Grand River) and officiated in their church. After a short intermission, they returned to the Church, where he baptized 78 infants and 5 adults; the latter having previously instructed by his Indian Clerk who regularly read prayers on a Sunday, and lives a very sober and exemplary life. The whole ceremony was concluded with a discourse on the nature and design of Baptism.

It was very affecting to Mr. Stuart to see those affectionate people, from whom he had been separated more than seven years, assembled in a decent commodious Church, erected principally by themselves with the greatest seeming devotion and a becoming gravity. Even the windows were crowded with those who could not find room within the walls. The concourse of Indians on this occasion was unusually great; owing to the circumstances of the Oneidas and Cayugas and Onondagas being settled in the vicinity. All those people speak

different dialects of the same language. Before Stuart left their village, he afterwards baptized at different times, 24 children & married 6 couples.

(Vol. 23, p. 409)

(Quoted by Dr. A.H. Young in Papers & Records of the Ontario Historical Society, Vol. XIX, p.172)

Before retiring from office, Lord North signified his cordial approval of all Haldimand's arrangements.

EXTRACT OF A LETTER FROM LORD NORTH TO GENERAL HALDIMAND  
DATED WHITEHALL, 8TH AUGUST, 1784

"You have without doubt judged wisely in sending Sir John Johnston to Niagara, as his influence with the Indians, from the favorable Opinion which they have always entertained of him, may at this critical Juncture, be a means of preventing disagreeable consequences, which might otherwise happen. The King at the same time much approves of your having sent Major Holland to inspect into the State of the Post at Cataraguay and to survey the North Side of Lake Ontario, as well as of your intention of carrying into execution your endeavor to prevail upon the Mohawks to settle to the Northward of that Lake, provided the country should be found well suited for their Convenience.

These people are justly Entitled to Our peculiar Attention, and it would be far from either generous or just in Us, after Our Cession of their Territories and Hunting Grounds, to forsake them. I am, therefore, Authorized to acquaint you that the King allows you to make those offers to them or to any other Nations of the friendly Indians, who may be desirous of withdrawing themselves from The United States, and occupying Any Lands which you may allot to them within The Province of Quebec.

It is to be hoped that from thence, they will be able to carry on their Hunting on their former grounds, and return with their Furs and Peltry, where the British Traders can meet them with their wives and children, in security, And being under Our Protection their Attachment to His Majesty may Continue. And this Country may enjoy the Advantages of their Trade. In the Assortment of Presents to be sent out to you for these People, you will find a supply of Tools and Implements, which, it is judged will be useful in the formation of their new Settlements, in case they avail themselves of the Offers you may make to them."

(B. 45, pp. 117-8.)

The long outstanding account for building the Mills was at last approved in a letter which showed the interest Haldimand still took in the progress of the settlement.

EXTRACT OF A LETTER FROM GENERAL HALDIMAND TO LIEUT.-COLONEL DE PEYSTER,  
DATED 'QUEBEC, 4TH SEPTEMBER, 1784.'

"As the Grist and Saw Mills built by Mr. Brass are completed and are estimated by good Judges to be worth the Sum He charges for them (465 Pounds, New York Currency) which is within the Original Estimate He gave in for that Work, You will please to draw upon me for the Amount as soon as you shall think fit.

.....

"I have in your Letter of the 21st July received a List of Subscribers for Lands at Niagara and hope the Survey has been long since completed and that the Settlers are in possession of their Lotts."

(B. 64, pp. 215-6)

The following letter from the person acting as Superintendent of Indian Affairs at Niagara, in the absence of Lieut. Colonel Butler who had obtained permission to go to England, shows that some discontent existed among the Mississaugas respecting their sale of lands, which was a apparently allayed without much difficulty.

EXTRACT FROM A LETTER FROM DEASE TO SIR JOHN JOHNSON

DATED AT NIAGARA, "SEPTR. 18TH, 1784"

"I have had some Messages from the Messasagas Regarding the Sale of their Lands & I understand that there were some Geographical Errors happened On that Occasion by running the line farther N.W. than they intended -- There is Also some Rum & Other Articles still Due to them, when Enabled I shall visit them (& the New Ind'n Settlement at the Head of the Lake) & \_\_\_ satisfy them -- Captn. Nellus who has the Commander In Chief's Permission to trade with the Messasagues on the Grand River where the Delawares are settled, has requested I should Mention to You that he will Esteem it a Great favor to be permitted to take up his Lands There, I hope his Losses & long Services will plead with You in his favor - he is certainly an honest man."

(B. 103, p.460.)

FROM LIEUT.-COLONEL A.S. DE PEYSTER TO GENERAL HALDIMAND.

Niagara, 39th Sepr. 1784

Sir,

Agreeable to your Excellency's order to me in your Letter of the 4th instant - I have this day drawn upon you for 465 pounds New York Currency, in favour of Messrs. Hamilton and Cartwright being the Amount of Mr. Brass's Account for building a Saw Mill and a Grist Mill near this place.

(B. 103, p. 465)

Shortly before his departure disquieting reports were received by the Governor which induced him to give particular instructions for the defence of the Military Posts against a prospective attack.

FROM GENERAL HALDIMAND TO LIEUT.-COLONEL DE PEYSTER

QUEBEC, 15th Octr. 1784.

Lieut. Colonel DePeyster

Sir,

Finding from different Reports which have been circulated here by means of American News Papers & Travellers from their States, that Preparations are making for taking Possession of the Posts in the Upper Country, and as it is highly probable that the execution of this Measure with Respect to the manner & time of doing it, will turn upon the Result of the Meeting they are now holding with the Indians, the complexion of which will soon declare

itself to you, I think it necessary to recommend to you every precaution that Can be taken for the security of the several Posts in the District of your Command. - Oswego is, from its situation, and the advantage they would derive by being in Possession of it, the first to be apprehensive about altho' the definitive Treat of Peace has been communicated to me, I have not yet received Instructions nor the least Authority for evacuating the Posts - I am therefore determined upon no Account whatever to give up the Posts until I have received His Majesty's Order for that Purpose. You will vigilantly Attend to the safety of Oswego by sending a proper Garrison to it, upon the first certain Intimation you shall receive of the Americans moving a Force that way & in case Force should be attempted you have my Authority & Commands to defend it to the last and I have by this opportunity transmitted a similar order to Major Ross that no time may be lost in reinforcing Oswego should it be found necessary, in which case he is to repair there himself to take the Command.

Lieut. Tinling, Assist. Engineer, is the Bearer of these orders he will proceed to you without loss of time, & render every Service in his Power, should this even happen or otherwise in completing the settlement of the Loyalists upon their Lots, and taking charge of whatever may eventually be ordered to be done in the Engineer Line should the Posts be evacuated. In regard to Querries which you have transmitted to me by Mr. Tinling, I refer you to my answers opposite to them, herein transmitted. Should Major Ross receive any intelligence that may make a movement to Oswego necessary, Lt. Tinling is to forward this to you from Cataraqui and proceed directly to Oswego.

Arent Schuyler De Peyster

Lieut. Colonel, 8th or King's Regiment of Foot 1777-1793

This was followed by the publication of an official statement authorizing the Mohawks and other Indians of the Six Nations to take possession of the lands purchsed for them in the Grand River Valley.

OFFICIAL NOTICE

FREDERICK HALDIMAND

Captain, General, &c., &c. &c.

Whereas His Majesty having been pleased to direct that in Consideration of the early Attachment to His Cause manifested by the Mohawk Indians, & of the Loss of their Settlement there thereby sustained, that a Convenient Tract of Land under His Selection should be chosen as a safe and comfortable Retreat for them & others of the Six Nations who have either lost their Settlements within the Territory of the American States, or wish to retire from them to the British -- I have at the earnest Desire of many of these His Majesty's faithful Allies purchased a Tract of Land from the Indians situated between the Lakes Ontario, Erie & Huron and I do hereby in His Majesty's Name authorise and permit the said Mohawk Nation and such other of the Six Nations Indians as wish to settle in that Quarter to take Possession of, & Settle upon the Banks of the River commonly *called Ours* (A misspelling in the MS. It was called the Ouse.) or Grand River running into Lake Erie, allotting to them for that Purpose Six Miles deep from each Side of the River beginning at Lake Erie, & extending in that Proportion to the Head of said River, which them & their Posterity are to enjoy forever.

Given under my Hand & Seal, &c., &c. 25th Octr. 1784

(P.222. p.106.)

The following memorandum submitted by Hugh Finlay, Deputy Postmaster General shows that the opinions of the new settlers were not unknown at an early date.

#### MEMORANDUM

That the Loyalists are well pleased with their lands in the new settlements, but are dissatisfied at being oblig'd to take them on the same footing as the Canadians take lands of their Seigneurs with respect to paying 8 per Cent. on the sales of their farms as often as them may be sold, and also of being debar'd from building Mills, &c. on their own estates. That to satisfy those people, Government should relinquish all kind of right of restraint on the subjects from building or disposing of their own Estates as they think proper, provided they do it to such as are or may thereby become British subjects, and that nothing more than the annual quit rents be paid on any account except what may be laid on them by their own representatives for the necessary support of good order among them.

And the inhabitants of the new settlements in General wish (both on their own accounts as well as to encourage those who still remain in the United States tho' attached to the British Government to settle among them) that a system of Government be formed for them as near to that of the English Constitution as their situation will admit of, or at least as any other British Colony in America as far as it may relate to their civil Government but not to affect the religious rites of any Society or Denomination of people.

N.B. It may be of public utility if Government should grant all Mill places now in their lands in those new settlements to such persons as will actually build Mills on them immediately.

Endorsed Memorandum.

In Mr. Finlay's of the 6th Novr. 1784  
(C.O. 42, Vol.16, pp 220.)

The merchants interested in the fur trade both in Canada in London were naturally anxious that the Frontier Posts at Niagara, Detroit and Mackinac should be retained as long as possible and their influence was very powerful.

"Regulations proposed by the Merchants Interested in the Trade to the Province of Quebec to secure & withdraw their Property, dispersed through that part of the Province now about to be ceded to the United States of America.

"First, - That the several Forts of Carleton Island, Niagara, Michilimackinac & Detroit may continue in His Majesty's Possession for the Term of Three Years, thereby giving only a sufficient time for securing & withdrawing the very valuable Effects of the British Subjects and allowing the Inhabitants of the Towns or Settlements, particularly at Detroit, to dispose of their Estates & settle their Affairs, for should the American States obtain Possession sooner under a promise of giving us protection, we are persuaded they would not have it in their power, as the Indians would not only prevent it, but probably take the Lives, of many British Subjects, encouraged by the hope of Plunder & stimulated by resentment for their Country being given up to the very People against whom they have been encouraged to carry on the War & whom they consider at this time as their most inveterate Enemies.

"From our knowledge of the Temper of the Indians we will venture to say it would be agreeable to Humanity as well as good Policy for the United States not to wish Possession of

those Posts at an earlier period. And it will probably be the Interest of both Countries to unite in this measure as the means of preventing the Horrors & Cruelties of an Indian War.

"Second - That after His Majesty's Garrisons are withdrawn an equal & free Participation of the different Carrying Places & the Navigation of all the Lakes & Rivers throughout that Country shall be enjoyed fully & uninterrupted by both Parties."  
(C.O. 42, Vol. 16, p. 124.)

The following extract of a private letter from Mr. (afterwards Sir George) Pownall found its way into the records of the Colonial Office in some unexplained manner.

EXTRACT OF A LETTER FROM GEORGE POWNALL ESQR. SECRETARY TO THE PROVINCE OF QUEBEC TO J.P. DATED QUEBEC, 11TH NOV. 1784.

"The Loyalists and Disbanded Soldiers who are chiefly settled upon Crown Lands lately bought from the Indians on the north side of Lake Ontario, together with some families at Sorel and in the vicinage of Montreal may amount to between five and six thousand souls including a Party of Butler's Rangers who are settled at Niagara, they are settled in fifteen Townships which I understand extend from about fifty miles above Montreal to the Bay of Rente (Quinte) included. I am told that these people are very well satisfied and are most of them under Cover, if they possess a spirit of Industry and perseverance they may possibly thrive there, the Soil is by all accounts very rich and fit for the produce of every grain, the Woods produce fine white Oak and other timber, fit for the purpose of the West India Market and the Seasons are milder and the Climate better than in the lower part of the Province; but they still have Difficulties to encounter, one of which is from being at the Mercy of the Savages whenever these people may take it into their heads to quarrel with them: at present I understand they are in good humour, and I am apt to think as these new Settlements will drive away the game from those hunting grounds the Indians will consequently retire further back, for the better advantage of that pursuit on which they entirely depend. Should however these Savages disagree with the New Settlers which it must be policy in the latter studiously to avoid, they are certainly at their Mercy and they would drive them from these Lands, particularly as they are only allowed a few fire Arms, least that should be a means of their not attending to the culture of their Lands. Another great disadvantage these people will meet with is from their situation, which places them so far from any Market for their produce and the rapids which they have to pass in order to get down the River are both critical and dangerous until well known. I trust however that these people will succeed from the very flattering Accounts I hear the only doubt with me is from the very great partiality they still, by all accounts, entertain for their old Country, if the Colonists see the policy of regaining these people and hold out the most trifling encouragement for their return, whether they would not take the bait. If they remain, they will without doubt, prove of the most essential service to the Province, which from the unhealthiness of the last year stands in need of some such help to replace the sensible loss it has met in regard to the population.

"Whether these people would not have been more useful to Great Britain, to the Province & to themselves, had they been settled below Quebec, is a question which seems to me to admit of some doubt; or if they had been settled more in the center of the Province whether their example of Industry and enterprise would not have been more useful to the Province and at the same time have sooner extended amongst the old inhabitants; I should at

least think it would have been a means of avoiding those difficulties and expences to Governemnt from the necessity there must be of appointing other Officers of Civil Government for this new Settlement, from the great distance it is from the other Seats of Government." (C.O. 42. Vol. 16, pp. 70-1.)

Haldimand sailed from Quebec on 16 November 1784, and one of his latest official acts was to send further instructions to De Peyster respecting the settlement of the Six Nations on the Grand River.

EXTRACT FROM A LETTER FROM GENERAL HALDIMAND TO LIEUT.-COLONEL DE PEYSTER

DATED QUEBEC, NOVEMBER, 1784

"This Letter is forwarded by Lieut. McDonell of the 34th Regim't, lately arrived from England, Capt. Brant and David and a Cayuga Chief will follow immediately, the former will remain this Winter at Cataraqui, the others will proceed to Niagara, thence to the New Settlement at the Grand River, where I have promised they shall receive every assistance that Circumstances will admit of. A saw, and afterwards a Grist Mill be built for them and also a Church and School -- an allowance of 25 pounds sterling per annum for a School Master (whom they are to choose themselves) will be made and paid every six months by Warrant upon the Receiver General of this Province -- and as the strength and Advantages of this Settlement will depend upon the Choice of a proper situation for the Town, you will direct Lieut. Tinling to accompany Capt. Brant in the Spring to lay it out, and divide their Farms, but he is not by any means to Control or lay any Restraint upon their Opinions in this Matter, but to advise and explain to them His Reasons for what He shall recommend. A proper person should also be sent to undertake the Construction of the Mills, Church and School. He is promised every assistance from Capt. Brant and the Indians and you will of Course make the most advantageous Agreement possible, or take such Measures in the Execution of this service as shall be the least Expensive to Government ."

(B. 64, pp. 392-3.)

Lieut. Governor Henry Hamilton, who succeeded Haldimand in the administration of the Government had been Lieutenant Governor of Detroit and consequently had considerable personal knowledge of the Upper Country. He promptly urged the Legislative Council to establish some form of civil courts in the new settlements.

MINUTES OF THE LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL OF QUEBEC

Thursday, the 3d March, 1785

"Read in English and French, a Letter or message from His Honor the Lieutenant Governor addressed to the president of the Legislative Council in the words following. February 28th, 1785

Sir,

Upon the Representations made to me of the Circumstances of a number of Loyalists Settled in various parts of this Province whose distance from the Courts of Civil Judicature renders it next to impossible to obtain relief in a variety of cases, I have thought proper to signify to you my desire That you would lay this business before the Legislative Council That they may take the same into Consideration and make such provision as their Judgement may

point out for the satisfaction and benefit of the Loyalists in particular and for the maintenance of good order in the Province at large.

I have the honor to be &c.

HENRY HAMILTON.

To The Honble Hugh Finlay Esqr. Presidt. Leg. Council.

(D. Part II, Pg. 240)

Resolved That the Letter or Message from His Honor the Lieutenant Governor to be taken into further Consideration on Wednesday next.

(Ibid. p. 241.)

Wednesday, 9th March 1785

Resolved that the Consideration of the business recommended by His Honor be postponed till the return of the Judges, now absent on the Circuit of the Court of Kings Bench When the Ordinance for regulating the Courts of Civil Judisdiction in the Province will be read a Second time.

(Ibid. p. 243.)

Saturday, 23rd April 1785.

Read in English & French the Heads of "an Ordinance for Granting to the new Settlers at Cataraqui and the Townships above that place and at Gaspey and the Bay of Chaleurs in the Lower parts of the Province, The means of Settling differences and recovering Small debts in a Summary way -- 1st reading.

(Ibid. p. 292.)

Read a second time, Monday 25th April.

(Ibid, p. 295.)

Read a third time and passed, Wednesday 27th April.

(Ibid. p. 300.)

April 30th, 1785

The ordinance received the assent of the Lieutenant Governor.

#### MEMORANDUM BY GENERAL HALDIMAND

Memorandums respecting Public Matters in the Province of Quebec submitted to the consideration of the Right Honble Lord Sydney by General Haldimand - 16th March, 1785 --- 1st. Means the most probable to retain the Six Nations and Western Indians in the King's Interest.

The Indians of the Six Nations, the Oneidas excepted, having taken an early, and very sanguine part with Government have, by the Fate of the War, and Treaty of Peace, forfeited their Country, and many of Them have been entirely driven out of it, with the loss of valuable Settlements and Stock -- seeing the Policy, as well as necessity of providing a Retreat for Them, I made a purchase of a Tract of Land for that Purpose, from the Chippawa and Messessague Nations on the North side of Lake Ontario, where numbers are now settling, having assisted Them with Provisions and Implements for building and establishing Themselves; all which I had the Honor duly to report to your Lordship. -- At my departure from Quebec, I left directions to send the Engineer from Niagara to mark out Their Towns &c., and to assist them in building a Church and School-House, for which they expressed great anxiety -- This Settlement should meet with every Indulgence and Encouragement from Government, not only in consideration of Their past Services but in

proportion as it shall be thought necessary to preserve the Friendship of the Indians, in other Words, *the possession of the Upper Country and the Furr Trade* -- and these measures should be taken without delay; that the Indians may be comfortably established, and experience the Sweets of the King's Protection before the Posts shall be evacuated by us: otherwise even should we take Post on the North side of the River, They will assuredly abandon us, and return to their former settlements, which the Americans already hold out to Them in order to detach them from us. -- A certain quantity of Provisions will be indispensibly necessary; they should be punctually supplied so as never to disappoint the Indians -- but it is full time that the Expencc attending these donations be reduced to a narrow Compass which with prudent Management and a judicious distribution of the Presents may be done without alarming or distressing the Indians.--- The Conduct of the Western Indians, (tho' infinitely a more numerous People) will always be governed by that of the Six Nations, so nice a management of Them may not, therefore, be necessary -- some Presents and marks of Friendship are nevertheless due to Them for Their past Services, and should from time to time be dispensed amongst them.

I also think that the Establishment of the Indian department may be still much reduced, and put upon the same footing it was in Sir William Johnson's Time, which will be a further saving to the Public -- Sir John Johnson and some of the Principal Officers are in Town and may be consulted on such Refors as many thought proper.  
(Q. 25, 295-7)

The wishes of the settlers in the "Upper Parts" of Canada were brought very forcibly to the attention of the Ministry by a Petition rather unusually addressed directly to the King, which was signed by several of the former Officers of the Loyalist Regiments to which they had belonged, who happened to be in London. It seems to have been presented by Sir John Johnson, although his signature does not appear upon it. There is little doubt that it had considerable influence in bringing about the division of the Province, which they proposed and the formation of the Province of Upper Canada.

#### THE PETITION OF SIR JOHN JOHNSON AND OTHER LOYALISTS

Copy of a Petition intituled, "The Petition of Sir John Johnson, Bart, and other in Behalf of the Loyalists settled in Canada." Dated London, 11th April, 1785; and signed by Col. Guy Johnson & others.

To The King's Most Excellent Majesty.

The Petition of Sir John Johnson, Baronet, and others whose names are hereunto subscribed, on Behalf of the Officers and Soldiers of the Provincial Troops and Indian Department, who served under their Command during the late Rebellion; and of the other Loyalists, their Associates, who have taken Refuge in Canada. Most humbly Sheweth,

That the Persons of the above Description, animated by your Petitioners' Example, having sacrificed their Estates and Properties in support of Your Majesty's Laws and Government, did faithfully serve in Canada, and on its Frontiers, till the Reduction of these Corps; when being still actuated by the same Principle of Loyalty and Affection, they, to the number of Several Thousands, resolved to settle within Your Majesty's Government, on the Lands assigned them as a Reward for their Services, and in pursuance of the Proclamation of Your Majesty's Commissioners in the year 1776; and entered earnestly on the Improvement thereof, with a Prospect of making a Provision for their Families, and thereby contributing to

the Advantage, Strength and Security of that Province, and to the Increase of Your Majesty's Revenue.

That the Tenure of Lands in Canada is such as to subject them to rigorous Rules, Homages, and Reservations, and Restrictions of the French Laws and Customs, which are so different from the mild Tenures to which they had been ever accustomed, and which continue to be enjoyed by the rest of Your Majesty's Subjects, has occasioned a general Discontent, and would have many to decline accepting their Locations, and to resolve on abandoning their Enterprize, but for the influence of Your Petitioners, who had first led them into the Service, and on whose Endeavours they relied for obtaining through Your Majesty's Favour, the Grant of such Terms and Tenures, and the Establishment of the same Laws as they formerly enjoyed under the Auspices of Your Majesty's Government. In full Confidence of this happy Event they were prevailed upon to persevere in their Settlements, on which they have already, as some Expence, and much Labour, erected Habitations, and cleared Part of the Lands allotted to them.

For the Attainment of these Objects, so essential to the Happiness of Your Majesty's faithful Subjects, so conducive to the Increase of these new Settlements, and so salutary in their Consequences to the Public, we have, upon mature deliberation, formed a Plan, which with the reasons in support of it, we humbly presume to submit to Your Majesty's Royal Consideration.

1ST. It is proposed that the Country of Point Boudet, on the Lake St. Francois, in the River St. Lawrence, and from thence Westward, shall be comprehended within One District, distinct from the Province of Quebec under the Government of a Lieutenant Governor and Council, to be appointed by Your Majesty, with the necessary Powers of Internal Regulation, but subordinate to the Governor and Council of Quebec, in the same manner as the Island of Cape Breton now is, to the Government of Nova Scotia. This Territory will include all the Settlements made or intended to be made by the Disbanded Corps, and the Other Loyalists, while it leaves all French Canada and the French Seigneuries as they were before.

2ND. That this Territory shall be subdivided into smaller Districts or Countries, Cataraqui being the Metropolis, with Courts of Justice to be established by Your Majesty. In support of such an Arrangement, we beg leave to remark, that it will be productive of the most beneficial Consequences, not only to the Settlers, but to the Nation at large -- Whilst this Territory remains a Part of the Province of Quebec, and the Inhabitants amenable to the Courts of Justice there and at Montreal, the Delay and Expence of an Attendance on those Courts, both to Suitors and Witnesses, will be enormous, the distance from Detroit to Montreal being not less than Six Hundred Miles, without any Road whatsoever, and the water communication exceedingly tedious, precarious, and during The Winter Season, absolutely impassable; Crimes will be committed with impunity, from the difficulty of Prosecutions; and Civil Remedies in effect rendered burthensome from the same causes. The Inhabitants of this Territory, already amounting to several Thousands, conceive with all Humility that they have the strongest Grounds to hope for such an exempt Jurisdiction as they ask for; They were born British Subjects, and have ever been accustomed to the Government and Laws of England. It was to restore that Government, and to be restored to those Laws, for which from Husbandmen, they became Soldiers, animated with the Hope, even in the most gloomy Aspect of Public Affairs, that should they fail in their Attempts to recover their former Habitations by a Restoration of Your Majesty's Government, they would still find a Resource in some Parts of the British Laws and of the British Government; and they still possess the greatest Confidence, that by Your Majesty's Gracious Interposition, they will be exempted from the Burdens of

French Tenures, which however congenial they may be to Men born and bred under them, would be in the highest Degree exceptionable to Englishmen.

The Petitioners have the more Confidence in the Success of their Application, from reflecting that they do not ask for more than has been already granted to their Fellow Sufferers in Nova Scotia, far less indeed than is enjoyed by those who settled in the Province of New Brunswick, and only to be in the same situation with the Settlers in the Island of Cape Breton: A distinction between men under the same circumstances of Prescription, Confiscation, and Attainder, and who had been invited into the Public Service, and to take Part in the Royal Cause, by the same assurances of Protection, and the same Gracious Offers of Rewards, in the one case continuing to Settlers the Blessings of the British Constitution and in others, subjecting them to the Hardships of French Tenures and French Laws, they trust will not be permitted by a Gracious Sovereign, who is the Father of all His People.

In consideration of the vast extent of this Territory, along an important and valuable Communication, which is not only the channel of the Fur Trade, but the Residence of those Nations of Indians who took part in Support of the Royal Cause, the Security, Growth, and Extension of these Settlements must evidently be an object of the utmost Consequence, not only as it will most essentially secure and promote that Trade, but as it will preserve those Indians in their adherence to Your Majesty.

The United States are duly impressed with this Idea, and have already manifested a purpose of supplanting us in the Friendship of the Indians; and unless they are counteracted, the British Interest with those Nations will very rapidly decline. We humbly presume that effectually to counteract them., nothing would be so conducive as the Establishment of a Liberal System of Tenure, Law and Government in this New Settlement; this would best contribute to the Growth and Increase of it: whilst it would stimulate the Adventurers themselves to the most vigorous Exertions, it would invite and encourage Emigration to it; for s the present Inhabitants before the Rebellion principally resided in the now United States, their extensive connections there, from their Attachment to Your Majesty, their ancient Predilection in favour of the British Government , their Dislike of the Republican Government they now live under, as well as from their Family and Personal Attachments, would be strongly induced to remove to this new Colony; Should Your Majesty graciously vouchsafe Your Royal Protection to these Settlements, we are confident that in every Competition for the Favour of the Indians Your Majesty will have a decided Advantage, not only from the Influence which many of your Petitioners are known to have over them, but because Numbers of the present Settlers have long been in Habits of Friendship and mutual good Offices with them, sharing the same Dangers, and fighting in the same Cause, and whose former Prepossession would thus, by means of a familiar and constant Intercourse with Your Majesty's Faithful Subjects, be best preserved and rendered permanent. Upon the whole, whether we consider the Relief and Prosperity of the Setters as Sufferers in the Cause of their King and Country, for whom Your Majesty has ever expressed so Benevolent a Disposition, or the Advancement of the Settlement, as conducive to the Benefit of the Nation, in either View, and much more in both respects, do we conceive that the Plan now proposed is such an one as will merit and obtain Your Royal Attention and Patronage.

For our Part, we conceive ourselves bound by the strongest Ties to use every Endeavour in our Power to promote the Wishes of These People: It was by our Example that numbers of them were induced to quit their former Possessions, and take up Arms, by which they have been deprived of their Property, and Banished from their Country; and it was from

their expectation of the Success of our Representation to their Sovereign, that they have entered upon the arduous undertaking of forming Settlements in a wild and inhospitable Country; - Well knowing the Disposition of these People, and the Habits in which they have been bred, we think it our Duty most respectfully to declare it to be our opinion, that unless they can obtain the object they are in pursuit of, they will be discouraged from Carrying on their present Enterprize, and prefer some other part of Your Majesty's Dominions, where they may enjoy the Blessings of the British Constitution, but where perhaps they would not equally useful as they will be in their present situation, should they receive the Protection they solicit.

Your Petitioners, therefore, impelled by motives of Humanity towards a Number of Distressed Families, by a sense of Honor and Justice to a set of Deserving Men, who placed Confidence in them, and to whose Eventual Loss of Property and Reverse of Fortune, they consider themselves in a great Degree accessory, and at the same time by a Conviction of the Public Utility of the Measure, most humbly implore Your Majesty that the Blessings of the British Laws and of the British Government, and an exemption from the Tenures, may be extended to the aforesaid Settlements.

London,

11th April, 1785

ROBT. LEAKE, Major late 2nd Battalion,

GUY JOHNSON, Col. 6 Nations & Superintendent of Their Affairs. K.R. Regt., New York.

JOHN MUNRO, Capt. late 1st. Battalion

JOHN BUTLER, Lt. Colonel Commanding late K.R. Regt. New York. Rangers.

P. DALY, Capt. late 1st Battalion

EBEN JESSUP, late Lt. Col. Commanding K.R. Regt. New York. King's Loyal Americans.

THOS. GUMMERSAL, Capt. late 1st Battalion,

EDW. JESSUP, Major Commanding late K.R. Regt, New York. Corps of Royal Rangers.

John Butler took the opportunity to present soon after a narrative of his services, justifying his conduct, particularly at Wyoming, which had been much misrepresented in hostile accounts that had been republished in some of the English Newspapers and formed the basis of Thomas Campbell's well known poem, Gertrude of Wyoming, which, however, did not appear until 1809, thirteen years after Butler's death.

#### NARRATIVE OF THE SERVICES OF LIEUT.-COLONEL JOHN BUTLER.

The object of Enquiry under the Act of Parliament for the relief of the American Loyalists, being *Services* as well as Losses, I have thought proper to give this Detail to be subjoined to the Schedule of my Confiscated Property, & I feel the less Embarrassment upon the Occasion because I have full confidence, that in such Instances, from which I may appear to claim Merit for myself, I may safely appear to the Testimony of the General Officers under whom I have served.

From the year 1755, & during the continuance of that War, I was continually employed in the Indian Department in Military Services, & was in the action of Lake George when Baron Dieskau was defeated and taken, at the attack upon the Lines at Ticonderoga, on the Expedition against Cadarqui & at the taking of Niagara, Oswegatchie & Montreal.

In 1760 when the Officers of the Indian Department were principally dismissed, Sir William Johnson thought proper to continue me, on Account of my Knowledge of the Indian

Languages & after Sir William's Death, I acted under his Successor Colo. Guy Johnson, the Acting Superintendent.

Upon the Revolt of the Colonies in 1775, Colo. Johnson found it impossible to do his duty in the Place of his Residence & having every Reason to apprehend that Schemes would be formed against his personal safety, the Indian Department being viewed with a jealous eye by the Americans, went to Canada, whither I accompanied him, and on his going to England in the Autumn of that year, he appointed me his Deputy & I was ordered by Sir Guy Carleton to Niagara, where I arrived the 17th Nov. 1775. The part that the Indians would take was at that time very doubtful; Many Rebel Emissaries had found their way among them, & availing themselves of the absence of Colo. Johnson and myself, were using every Artifice to seduce them from their Attachment to the King; In which I found upon my arrival they had been but too successful. And in my Endeavours to reclaim their alienated Affections, Lieut. Colo. Caldwell gave me every Assistance. I believe Sir G.C. will do me the Justice to say, that his Expectations at that period went no farther than to keep them in a state of *Neutrality*. His instructions to me were directed to that object. I had several Consequences with the Chiefs & Warriors of the Six Nations, & used every means in my power to point out to them the insidious Designs of the Rebels & the pernicious consequences of their joining the King's Enemies. In this, I was successful & the Rebel Emissaries were obliged to quit the Indian Country.

In 1776, when the Rebels had invaded Canada, I sent a party of Indians properly officered to join Major Foster against a Body of Congress Troops, who had taken Post at the Cedars, the Event of which is well known. The remaining part of the year, I employed in inculcating upon the Minds of the Six Nations, the necessity of their being unanimous, urging that it was not only their duty to the King, their Father, but their Interest to attach themselves to his Cause. In this I happily succeeded & at my instance, they sent proper Messages to their Western Brethren to prevail upon them to follow their example. I call this a *Happy Event* because I am confident that without it the Upper Posts could not have been preserved, or at least protected from the Insults of the Enemy.

In the year 1777, when every Effort had failed either by Reconciliation or Force to put an End to the Rebellion, & when it was Evident that the Indians would no longer remain Neutral, & if they were not engaged in the Part of Government that they would join the Rebels, which many of them had already done; the Plan was first formed to employ them *offensively* & I was ordered by Genl. Carleton to collect the Six Nations & such Whites as I could, & to take the Command of them on the Expedition under Brigr. Genl. St. Leger against Fort Stanwix. I did accordingly convene the Indians of the Six Nations, & then for the first time, gave them the War belt,, which they accepted and engaged in the Expedition. I had the honor to Command them under Sir J. Johnson at the defeat of Genl. Herkimer at Oriskine with a Reinforcement for the relief of the Fort. Soon after this, Sir Guy Carleton did me the Honor to appoint me Major Commandant of a Corps of Rangers to act in Conjunction with the Indians & I was ordered to Niagara where I soon completed it to the number of Eight Companies.

In April, 1778, the Chiefs of the Six Nations received a Message from Colo. Denison & Judge Jenkins, on behalf of the Settlement of Westmoreland (Wyoming) inviting them to a Council. The Indians having experienced the Treachery of thee people, who had the autumn before, imprisoned three of their Chiefs, who had been sent for under Pretence of a Friendly Conference, applied to the Commanding Officer at Niagara, who gave Orders accordingly, for me to accompany them; that they might go in such Force as would prevent a like breach of

Faith, & as might at the same time enable them to procure the Release of those who were in confinement. Upon our approach, the first Act of Hostility committed was upon two of my Indians and a Squaw, who were killed by a Scouting Party about five Miles from The Settlement. Upon my Arrival in the Settlement, I sent word to the Commanding Officer Colonel Dennison, that the Indians were come agreeably to his invitation & were ready to speak with him Either as Friends or Foes. His answer was that he was determined to Fight & that he would have all our Scalps before Night. The attempt was made, & ended in the total defeat of the Rebel Troops. I ordered all their Forts to the number of twelve to be destroyed, but Forty Fort, in which the greatest Part of their Women & Children were, was saved & not in the smallest degree molested or plundered. I have been the more particular on this Head, to contradict the infamous and false Reports, which were so industriously propagated to the Prejudice of my Party, as to have found their way into some of the English Prints. Upon my return to the Indian Country, I employed the remaining part of the Summer in sending out Parties for the purpose of collecting Provisions for the Indians & Rangers under my Command. In 1779, I was ordered by His Excellency, Genl. Haldimand into the Indian Country, to oppose a Body of Rebels, who were on the march to annoy and cut off the Indian Settlements, which I twice attempted, but from their Superiority in Force (they having as many thousands as I had hundreds) I could do nothing more, but in some degree to retard their Progress.

In 1780 I was honored by General Haldimand with the appointment of Lieut. Colo. Commandant, & the Indians and Rangers under my Command were employed in harrassing the Frontiers in order to favor the Progress of our Southern Army which was then expected up the Hudson's River.

In 1781 I commanded a party of Indians & Rangers on an Expedition under the Command of Sir John Johnson Bart, against Schoharie, Mohawk River, Stone Arabia, Canajoharie, &c. & in the year 1782, I was employed in sending out Parties against the Frontiers of the Rebel States, in order as much as possible to distress the Enemy. When the Treaty of Peace was made known to the Indians in 1783, it was received by them with great disgust, as they conceived that they had been abandoned by the King their Father. It was no easy Task to remove this Impression, at the same time that the Necessity of reconciling them to the Measure was evident, & in this I laboured with indefatigable Industry. Upon the whole, my Employments and Exertions during the Rebellion have been confined to the Indian Department, a Service which I trust upon Enquiry will be found to be by no means less arduous, less hazardous, or less laborious than any in the Course of the War. Of the importance of the Object, I had no right to judge either as a Subject or a Soldier; in both Capacities I submitted this to the consideration of my Superiors whose ideas of the Policy & even the necessity of conciliating the Affections of the Indians & of steadily attaching them to the British Government will best appear from the unwearied pains which have been taken for that purpose from the first settlement of the Colonies.

For proof of my Conduct & of the Fidelity and Alacrity with which I have from Time to Time, obeyed the Orders I have received, I beg now to appeal to His Excellency Sir Guy Carleton under whom I served until the year 1778 & to His Excellency General Haldimand under whom I served from that Period until the Close of the War; & also to the different Commanding Officers of the Garrison of Niagara. Endorsed: Narrative of Lt. Col. Butler's Services In America.

London, May, 1785

(B. 215, pp. 196-202.)

This Narrative was accompanied by a very hearty certificate from General Haldimand, who has frequently expressed his general approval of Butler's conduct in his official letters.

CERTIFICATE BY GENERAL HALDIMAND

Lt. Col. Butler

Certificate.

Having perused a paper intended by Lieut. Col. John Butler to be annexed to a Schedule of his property which has been confiscated by the States of America, containing a detail of His Services in the Indian Department from the year 1775, during the late War, & thro'out the Rebellion in America. I hereby certify that the particular Services stated in the said Paper to have been performed during my Command of His Majesty's Forces in Canada, are faithfully set forth, having in the year 1778 found him charged with the direction & management of the Indian Nations.

And in Justice to Colo. Butler, I further certify (from the Testimonies of the Officers who commanded the District of the Upper Country) that it is my opinion the decided part which the Six (and consequently the other) Indian Nations took in favor of the King's Government was in a great measure effected by the laborious and unremitting Exertions of His Influence with that People. And that His Services as well in the Field as in managem't of Indian Affairs, having been uniformly Zealous, Brave & Judicious, have deservedly obtained my fullest Testimonies of Approbation.

Given under my own hand this 7th day of May, 1785.

Fred. Haldimand.

(B. 222. pp. 70-1.)

Henry Hamilton, the Lieutenant Governor of the Province, on whome the administration of its civil affairs devolved, after the departure of Haldimand, had been Lieutenant Governor of Detroit and its dependencies, which included the island of Mackinac and other trading posts in the Indian Country. He showed his interest in the preservation of the northwest fur-trade in the hands of the Canadian merchants by endeavouring to discover an alternative route of communication between Lakes Ontario and Huron. With this object he addressed letters to several persons who were believed to have a personal knowledge of the intervening country. Among others he wrote to Benjamin Frobisher, a leading merchant in Montreal, whose reply has been preserved. The sketch to which reference is made has been reproduced in the Simcoe Papers Volume I, at page 8. An endorsement upon it states that the information was received from Mr. Curot who resided several years at Toronto.

EXTRACT OF A LETTER FROM BENJAMIN FROBISHER TO LIEUT. GOVERNOR HENRY HAMILTON

DATED MONTREAL, 2ND MAY, 1785.

"Since I had the Honor to receive your letter of the 10th March, I have made every enquiry in my power, not only in Town but in different parts of the cuntry, respecting the practibility of a Communication from Lake Ontario to Lake Huron, and am sorry to say, all my endeavours to acquire some knowledge of it as far from being satisfactory.

"I have seen several persons who have gone from hence to Lake Huron, by the carrying place of Toronto, but have only met with one who set out from the Bay of Kentie, and that so

far back as the year 1761, and the knowledge he seems to have of the Country he travelled thro', I consider as very imperfect; I have however laid it down in the inclosed Sketch, more to show that there is such a Road, than any opinion I have of its being Correct -- I am told the Lands from the Bay of Kentie to Lake la Clie about with good Wood, and are generally fit for Cultivation; there are several Villages of the Mississagues on different parts of that Road who raise Indian Corn, and other grain, and whose friendship it will be necessary to Cultivate, if upon survey it should be found practicable but if I may rely on information, there is very little probability of establishing in that Quarter a communication for Boats or Large Canoes, on account of the Water being generally very shallow between the different Lakes, except in the Spring, and even then it is described to me, as being insufficient for large Canoes, not to mention the Carrying Places which are Six or Seven in number to reach Lake la Clie, and I am told three of them are near three leagues in length; I am however informed that to the distance of the Rice or folle avoine Lake, from the Bay of Kentie (Quinte), there is plenty of water for Boats of any Burthen- From all these circumstances as related to me, I shall Judge a Communication that way without paying any regard to the Carrying places, to be from the want of water totally impracticable, however as I believe there is no Man in the Country capable of giving any certain information about it, I think a Project that holds out so many advantages to the Province at large ought not to be relinquished, until it is found upon Survey, to be represented really impracticable, and should that be the Case, the next object that offers to Introduce a Communication between the two Lakes is the Carrying Place of Toronto, which from the Ontario side to Lake Huron in a direct line is no more than 100 miles, and by water it does not exceed 160 - That is, Toronto 45 Miles, Lake La Clie 37, thence to Lake Huron over Land 18, or by the River as laid down in the inclosed sketch about 70 - I am told Lake La Clie will admit to the Navigation of small Vessels, and there is no want of water in the River already mentioned, that runs from it into Lake Huron, but it seems there are in it several Falls of Water, which with other obstructions occasions Six or Seven Carrying Places, all of them short ones - large Canoes have gone up and down it at different times, but am told it is not practicable for Boats until some of the carrying places are levelled so as to get them over upon rollers - To avoid this river there is no other way of getting to Lake Huron from Lake La Clie, but a road overland as before described of about 18 miles, some parts of which are low Marshy Grounds of a considerable extent so that embracing every object for the purpose of establishing a sure and short Communication between the two Lakes, I am of opinion from the present knowledge we have of the Country, it can only be Accomplished by the Carrying Place of Toronto to Lake La Clie and thence down the river to Lake Huron, and tho' the length of Land Carriage will be great, yet as it is in a fine Country, and the Lands as I am told exceedingly good, it would require very little encouragement from Government to have it settled; and provided the Lands on the Carrying Place are granted in small Lots and not in Large Tracts to opulent Proprietors, we may expect in a high state of Cultivation, in which case, Carriages will not be wanting under proper regulations, to Insure at a moderate rate a speedy Transport. "These Sir are my Sentiments, until we are better informed of the nature of the Communication from the Bay of Kentie to Lake La Clie, and let what will be the Event of that Survey, I conceive there is a necessity of establishing the Carrying Place of Toronto as speedily as possible, as in the course of a very few years, the Settlers from their vicinity, and facility of Transport to Lake Huron, would be in a situation to supply the Provisions that are wanted by the Traders for the Northern Counties, which under the most precarious circumstances, such as the failure of Crops &c., they have hitherto been obliged to procure from Detroit, and should



I have the honour of transmitting herewith a copy of the proceedings of a Council of the Six Nations together with some Deputies from what they call the Western Confederacy, held near this place some days ago, by which it would appear that these people some days ago, by which it would appear that these people are much dissatisfied with the conduct of their American neighbours. How the matter will terminate it is not in my power to Judge, and can only say that the idea of having a short time so numerous a body of Savages prepared for War in the neighbourhood of this weak Garrison, with the defences not in the best order, cannot be pleasing -- I have endeavored with all my power to keep this Meeting at a distance from Niagara, and for some time thought to have fixed it at Buffaloe Creek, but this place being considered at the great fireplace of the Six Nations, it was with difficulty and the assistance of some stratagem, that they were prevailed upon to remain at the Landing Place about seven miles from hence. I must however say that they shew ever appearance of a steady attachment to their old friends the English, and them must certainly be exceedingly deep if not sincere - Your commands upon this or any subject will always be punctually attended to.

I have the honour to be &c. A. Campbell, Major.

In his reply, St. Leger, who was acting as Commander-In-Chief, and had had some disconcerting experience of the fickleness of the Indians in his expeditions against Fort Stanwix in 1777 was unable to do more than advise them to be patient and await the return of Sir John Johnson with the royal instructions.

EXTRACT FROM A LETTER FROM COLONEL BARRY ST. LEGER TO LIEUT. GOVERNOR HAMILTON, DATED AT MONTREAL, 10TH AUGUST, 1785.

"I propose to write to Major Campbell on the subject of the Six Nations - They have nothing to do but to keep themselves quiet till the arrival of their Superintendant who will probably be better able to speak the King's pleasure, than I am entitled to do - A categorical Answer from me they cannot expect.

"I hope Joseph Brants politics is not the reason of this bustle between them and the Americans."

(Q. 25, pp. 134-5.)

The following letter from a Veteran Officer in the Indian Department seems to have caused considerable disquiet in the mind of the Commandant at Fort Niagara who transmitted a copy to his Superior at Montreal by whom it was sent to the Lieutenant Governor at Quebec and by him to the Colonial Office in London.

FROM JACOB SERVOS TO JOHN DEASE BUFFALOE CREEK, SEPTR. 6, 1785  
Sir,

Yesterday a Runner arrived at this place who left Tioga seven days ago, who gives the following Intelligence and that you may believe it to be certain truth, that the Rebel Army at least was incamped in Tyoga Point and told this Runner as many others that they were on their way to Niagara to take possession of all these back Posts to convince the Indians that the King had (no) business with the Six Nation Country and if the King with the Indians will undertake to fight them once more, they may try their hands, however they expect to take possession enough to conquer Niagara whether the will or no - The Indians had no opportunity to count their tents as they were order'd off the Ground at the arrival of the Army as well as some time

before the Army arrived. -- The Indians saw, however, several of their Boats that arrived before the Main Body were loaded with Pick-Axes and Blacksmiths tools and articles of that kind, and ten Scows or flat bottom'd Boats very large continually for some time before the Army arrived (had) been on the Communication carrying Provisions for the use of the Army -- This report has been told here sundry times by different Indians many days before this and never look'd upon for truth - but am apt to think will be too true.

I am Sir &c. Jacob Servos

P.S. The Runner says that he had taken particular notice of their encampment it reaches from the mouth of the Shimmong River over the long plain to the rising of the Ground.

N.B. The Indians being order'd from that quarter, the Cayuga Chief by the name of Johns has made it his business after he left Tioga Point which is ten days ago is gone through the different Villages in order to bring off the hunters with him to this place ---

John Dease, Esqr.

Indian Agent at Niagara, &c.

Endorsed - Copy of Indian Intelligence transmitted by Major Campbell from Niagara and Rec'd by Genl. St. Leger at Montreal, Sept. 14th, forwarded post next day and Rec'd by me at Quebec Sept. 17th, 1785.

H.H.

In Brigr. Genl. Hope's of 26th & 28th Sept. 1785.

(C.O. 42, Vol. 17, pp. 115-6)

Dease very prudently advised the Indians to enter into negotiations with Congress on the subject of their complaints and endeavoured to lull their suspicions of the British Government.

FROM JOHN DEASE TO LIEUTENANT GOVERNOR HAMILTON

Niagara, 16th Sept. 1785.

Sir,

I was yesterday honoured by the rec't of your letters of the 17th & 20th of August and am exceedingly happy that my answer to the Indian speeches meet with your approbation; they were received by the different nations then present with the most serious attention & in consequence of my advice, they have sent a Message to Congress to request that Major Schuler & Col. Monro (Philip Schuyler & James Monroe) may be sent to Buffaloe Creek (a place nearly opposite to Fort Erie) to confer with them on the subject of their different complaints.

I am thoroughly sensible how critical my present situation here is and also of the very guarded part I have to Act & can assure you Sir that no caution of mine shall be wanting to promote His Majesty's Service in the Department of which I have the direction. I have the satisfaction to receive constant assurances of the attachment of the Indians to the King's interest.

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I hope Mr. Langan has according to my request communicated to your Ex. the contents of my last letter to him, since then I have received Accounts that the Americans are building three picquetted Forts near Tiago on the west branch of the Susquehanna; in about ten days I shall have more particular Accounts from thence, having sent Lieut. Clement (Joseph Clement) with some Indians to reconnoitre and watch their motions.

The settlement on the Grand River is in a very promising state, my last returns from thence which I'm sure are accurate make the Number settled there a thousand souls I am certain there would have been as many more if I could have encouraged them but that I declined being unwilling to increase the expenditure of Provisions -- The Senecas assure me that should the Americans take possession of those Posts, they intend to remove to Long Point on the opposite or North side of Lake Erie - their principal Chief Kayenguaraghton (Frequently called the "Old King") deserves Notice on account of his steady attachment to the Government.

The present state of the Indian trade requires regulation - a number of people belonging to the disbanded troops have settled themselves among the Indians on purpose to avoid the restraints of the Law; there unmolested they exercise every species of cheating and their continual Jealousies and Quarrels give the Indians the most unfavourable impressions of us - formerly no person was permitted to trade without a written permission from the Superintendent of Indian Affairs: now every idle fellow commences Indian Trader.

I am, &c.,                      John Dease.  
(Q. 25. pp. 183-4.)

The Lieutenant Governor was much embarrassed by the want of definite instructions to guide him in his relations with the Indians and although he did not think an attack upon Fort Niagara was probable at this time of the year, he believed defensive precautions would be necessary in the future and plainly asked for orders in such an emergency.

EXTRACT FROM A PRIVATE LETTER FROM LIEUT. GOVERNOR HOPE TO EVAN NEPEAN,                      DATED AT QUEBEC, SEPTEMBER 26TH, 1785.

"But i am sorry to find that Sir John Johnson is not on board the Ranger -- however will hope that he is either coming in the Packet or in some other Bessell at present well advanc'd on their passage; or at least that pointed Instructions relative to the Indians have been given, and that Colonel Claus is charged with them, for the urgent and obvious reasons that you may well conceive at this Juncture, and that my former letters have glanc'd strongly at. Inclos'd I send you a copy of intelligence transmitted from Niagara about ten days ago to General St. Leger by Major Campbell of the 29th Regt. Who commands in the Upper Country at that Post, since which there have been no later accounts from thence -- by it you will see at least how agitated the minds of the Indians are at this period; For as to any such attempt being seriously intended against Niagara as the intelligence contains at this Season by that Route, (which is the same by which Sullivan in the year 1779 advanc'd against the Villages of the Six Nations) I can by no means bring myself to think that it is probable; on the contrary the general opinion is that the Americans have only made this move in the force that is mention'd to establish a settlement in those quarters with security to themselves -- and not with any present offensive views; even supposing the Fact to be as the Indians report -- however if they are advanc'd that length I will not answer for its having no such view in future; but of which we shall be better able to judge hereafter from further intelligence, in the mean time every proper precaution is taken to reinforce Niagara if necessary as far as our own very weak state in point of numbers of this Country will admit of, (the Regiments being considerably below their establishments in general) -- or rather by putting on a countenance to shew the Indians in such event that by *force* the Posts are not to be *tamely* wrested from us. You know best probably what the Future intentions are at home concerning these Posts -- but let me tell you that we must have more force in Canada next Season very early too if they are to be maintained vi et armis; and further

that it is of essential consequence that we should be acquainted with these intentions as early as possible, to give time for preparation in a variety of detail."

"September 28th.

"P.S. No further news from Niagara by this Post."

(C.O. 42, Vol. 17. p.p. 119-20.)

Another noted officer of the Indian Department, Lieut. Joseph Clement, had been sent to Tioga to reconnoitre and reported that the recent alarm was not justified by anything he could discover but that the Indians were annoyed by the approach of Settlers.

FROM MAJOR A. CAMPBELL TO BRIG. GENERAL ST. LEGER

Niagara 5th October, 1785.

Sir,

I have the Honour of Informing you that the person sent some time ago to Tioga Point is just returned and says that things are perfectly quiet at that place, nor could he discover the least grounds for the Report made by the Indians to Mr. Servos respecting an American Army being assembled at the above place, as mentioned in his letter to Mr. Dease which was transmitted in my letter of the 9th Ultimo.

The person says there are a number of Inhabitants settling upon the upper branches of the Susquehanna River near Tioga &ca. of which the Indians are exceeding jealous, and deem it an encroachment --- upon this the above Report must have been founded.

I have the Honour to be &c.

A. Campbell.

(Q. 25, p. 217.)

Lieutenant Governor Hope was convinced that the Indians expected active support in the controversy with the United States and frankly warned the Colonial Secretary that the Troops in Canada ought to be reinforced, particularly if hostilities should take place with France or Spain, which then seemed not improbable.

FROM HENRY HOPE TO LORD SYDNEY

NO.7.

QUEBEC, 3D. NOVEMBER 1785.

My Lord

Along with Duplicates of my letter of the 24th ult. and of the several papers it contain'd relative to Indian matters, I have the honour to transmit to Your Lordship another Message from the Shawanese and Delawares dated from their Towns on the 20th of September and sent to the Indian Agent Mr. McKee at Detroit which has been forwarded down by Major Campbell commanding the Upper Posts, and which I have received within these few days.

From the tenor of all these several assurances the disposition and expectations of those Indian Nations and their Neighbours will not fail to appear clearly to Your Lordship; but how far it may consist with the intentions of Government to fulfil the latter, must I presume depend upon the final resolutions relative to the Posts. I think it however my duty to have the honour of observing to Your Lordship that the Indians in case of their being press'd upon in their country by the Americans, who appear to be preparing for such a measure early next year, will I conceive expect from us something more than general assurances; and that if it shall be the determination of His Majesty's Councils to hold the present Posts in the Indian Country; our actual Military Force in Canada is very inadequate to the purpose; the Six Regiments on this

Service even now wanting near 350 men to complete to their establishments. If the idea should be renewed this Winter which I have understood was once in contemplation, and which I confess to Your Lordship corresponds with my notions as being likely to contribute most essentially to the security and advantage of His Majesty's Government of this Province, to raise two Canadian Battalions of 500 men each under certain regulations which I will have the honour to state to Your Lordship more particularly hereafter:- I should then think the six Regiments kept tolerably complete equal to the ordinary service and protection of the Province but otherwise I should hope that His Majesty may be inclined to station two more Regiments at least next Summer in Canada; and to this sentiment I more readily suffer myself to be brought over from the consideration that in case of a Rupture with France or Spain and that an early attempt may be thought advisable against any part of the West Indies or the Spanish continent - I have always thought that the principal part of the Force to compose such an armament might be more conveniently and more secretly drawn from the Forces in Canada and Nova Scotia would consist of Troops better prepared for those services than could be sent from almost any part of His Majesty's Dominions which if a just idea would probably be a reason for increasing the number of Troops stationed during peace in both Provinces.

But in this I am sensible of straying beyond the bounds of my Department, with which I should not certainly have presumed even thus to have intruded upon your Lordship, had it not in some degree been connected with a subject that I look upon as an indispensable duty in me to represent.

I shall however take up no more of your Lordship's time at present but have the honour to subscribe myself with the utmost Respect. My Lord

Your Lordship's

Most obedient and faithful Humble Servant.

HENRY HOPE

The Rt. Honble Lord Sydney, &c., &c. &c.

Endorsed: Quebec 3d Novemr. 1785

Lieut. Governor Hope

No. 7

R. 3d Decr.

(One inclosure)

(Q. 25, pp. 232-5)

A few days later he was able to make a satisfactory report on the condition of the New Settlement but recommend the continuance of the allowance of provisions until next year's harvest was gathered.

FROM LIEUT. GOVERNOR HENRY HOPE TO LORD SYDNEY

No. 9

Quebec 5th November 1786

My Lord

By the arrival of Capt. Barnes of the Quarter Master Generals Department who together with Mr. De Lancey, the Inspector of Loyalists had been sent thro' all the settlements with a view of collecting a just state of the situations and Circumstances of the Loyalists settled in this Province to be laid before His Majesty's Ministers I am enabled to inform your Lordship that these people are in general highly satisfied with the prospects before them and all grateful for the bounty and indulgences Government has so liberally bestowed.

The improvements have been rapid and such as to promise a permanent prosperity to these His Majesty's subjects, but I must beg leave to submit to your Lordship my well grounded apprehensions that these flattering appearances will in great measure be obscured, if some extension is not given to the period during which the Loyalists settled in this Province are to receive His Majesty's bounty of Provisions.

For your Lordships more perfectly understanding this subject, it may be necessary I should state to you that in compliance with the Instructions and intentions of the Right Honorable the Board of Treasury signified in a letter from George Rose Esqr. dated Treasury Chambers 7th June last to Lieut. Govr. Hamilton, The Distribution of Provisions to Loyalists thro'out this Province is only to be made to the 1st June 1786.

As I perceived however on perusing a letter from your Lordship to Lt. Govr. Hamilton dated 27<sup>th</sup> April last, that the determination for continuing an allowance of Provisions to Loyalists was consequent upon Govr. Haldimand's representation to your Lordship, that such continuance was absolutely necessary to the *middle of June 1786*, I have thought it incumbent on me therefore to state to the Right Honble The Board of Treasury my doubts whether His Majesty's intentions were not that an allowance of Provisions should continue to be delivered to the period assigned by Govr. Haldimand and to request Their Lordships further instructions thereupon.

From the circumstances as represented by Capt. Barnes that the settlers before it could be notified to them that all allowance was to cease on the 1st June 1786 had sown the whole produce of this year's crop -- which leaves them without resource from that period until the crop of next year can be reaped, and that if all allowance is withdrawn before the 1st of September next, many of them must inevitably quit the Lands on which they are settled to their utter ruin and disappointment, I now think myself called on to solicit in behalf of these faithful and hitherto unfortunate subjects of His Majesty your Lordship's interference and protection, trusting you will use your influence to procure for them an allowance sufficient for their existence from 1st June to the 1st September next.

The quantities of Wild Pigeons and fish which are taken in abundance during the above period will contribute to their support; and I conceive an allowance of one pound of flour p. day for grown persons and half that quantity for those under ten years of age would enable them to live on their Lands to the 1st September, after which the crop of that year will abundantly support them.

I shall do myself the honour of transmitting to your Lordship by a future Opportunity Capt. Barnes' Report on the objects of his tour which the time of his Arrival will not admit of my doing by this occasion.  
(Q. 25, pp. 238-40.)

The necessary surveys of the lands allotted for their occupation were still incomplete and delayed a satisfactory settlement.

EXTRACT FROM A LETTER FROM SAMUEL HOLLAND TO LIEUT. GOVERNOR HOPE,  
DATED AT QUEBEC, 28TH DECEMBER, 1785

"At Niagara, Lieut. Tinling has been so good as to act as Deputy Surveyor, who is now come down, and at Detroit Mr. Philip Fry, late Ensign in the 8th Regiment, now on half pay was appointed Deputy Surveyor, by the recommendation of the late Lieut. Governor Hay, and with the approbation of Lieut. Governor Hamilton, who I find to be very deserving and capable

for the business, for whom I would propose 4/- per day when not employed, and 7/6 per day when employed on survey, and as but little business is carried on at Detroit, and Niagara, he might serve for both places."

(Quebec Instruction Book No. 5, pp. 116-7.)

Joseph Brant, who had been in London for several months was actively pushing his own claims for a reward for his services as well as those of the Mohawks for compensation for their losses and assistance in forming their new settlement.

FROM JOSEPH BRANT TO LORD SYDNEY

My Lord.

The claim of the Mohawks for their Losses having been delivered by Sir John Johnson, His Majesty's Superintendant for Indian Affairs to General Haldimand, and by him laid before your Lordship, who Cannot but be well informed that their Sufferings, Losses and being Drove from that Country, which their fore Fathers Long enjoyed, and Left them the Peaceable Possession of, is in consequence of their faithful attachment to the King, and the Zeal they Manifested in Supporting the Cause of this Country against the Rebellious Subjects in America.

From the Promises made by the Governor & Commander In Chief in Canada, that their Losses should be made good and that soon, When I left them I was desired to Put his Majesty's Ministers in Mind of their Long and Sincere Friendship for the English Nations, in Whose Cause their Ancestors and they have so often fought, and so freely Bled, of their Late Happy Settlement before the Rebellion, and their Present Situation; and to Request their Claims might be attended to, and that Orders may be given for what they are to Receive to be paid as soon as possible, in order to enable them to go on with the Settlement they are now making, in Some Measure Stock their Farms, and get such Articles and Materials as all Settlements in New Countries Require and Which it is out of their Power to do, before they are paid for their Losses. On my mentioning these Matters since my Arrival in England, I am informed Orders are given that this shall be done, which will give great Relief and Satisfaction to those faithful Indians, who will have Spirit to go on and their Hearts be filled with Gratitude for the King their Fathers Kindness, which I pray Leave to Acknowledge, and to thank you Lordship for your friendship.

JOS. BRANT

THAYENDANEGA

London, 4th January 1786

The Right Honble Lord Sidney

Endorsed: - Delivered the same day in the presence of Colonels Johnstone, Butler & Claus, Capt. Houghton and Mr. Chew.

The Commissioners for the Settlement of the claims of the Loyalists for compensation for their losses, under a recent Act of the British Parliament, had arrived at Halifax where they had determined to hold their sessions and Hope forcibly represented the inconvenience and hardship this would entail on those settled in Canada. This statement induced them to come to Montreal for the purpose of hearing their petitions of claimants living in Canada.

EXTRACT FROM A LETTER FROM LIEUT. GOVERNOR HOPE TO THE  
COMMISSIONERS FOR AMERICAN CLAIMS

Dated Quebec, 29th January, 1786.

"The Loyalists in this Province, with a few exceptions do not consist of Persons of great Property or consequence. They are chiefly Landholders, Farmers and others from the Inland parts of the Continent many of whom very early quitted their homes and Possessions to join the Royal Standard, the rest have forced to abandon them and take refuge under His Majesty's Government. -- Their Claims to Compensation cannot be singly be considerable. The indulgences which have been bestowed, by Allotting Lands for their improvement, and allowing Provisions for their Support, assisted by the active and persevering Exertions of their own Industry, have already procured for them promising Settlements - A small compensation for their Losses would restore to the greater part of them all the Comforts and Conveniences they have lost, but if those are only to be obtained by quitting the Establishments their Industry has secured for such a length of time as a Voyage to and from Halifax would require, the sacrifice is too great.

"By the Muster Rolls of Loyalists settled in this Province taken in the Months of August, September and October last, the Total Numbers are about Six Thousand, Three Hundred exclusive of about Five Hundred settled in Chaleur and Gaspé Bays in the Lt. Government of Gaspé.

"The *Heads* of Families are about Two Thousand, Five Hundred, who are distributed nearly as follows:

Near Niagara and Detroit	300
From Johnstown to Cataraqui & its Vicinity	1800
About Sorel and in all the Lower Canada	200
Chaleur Bay and Gaspé	200
	-----
	2,500

"It is utterly impracticable at this Season to convey to Niagara Notice of your Arrival or Intended Methods of Proceeding, so as to have any reply in time to be transmitted to you by the period specified.

"The principal Settlements are from Johnstown to Cataraqui, Johnstown is about 100 Miles from Montreal Cataraqui is about 500.

"Those in Lower Canada are about 100 Heads of Families settled in the Seigneurie of Sorel, the remainder Chiefly in the Towns of Quebec and Montreal."  
(Q. 26, pp. 115-7.)

An important concession was made in the amendment of the regulations restricting the construction of Mills in the new settlements which had caused well founded discontent, by the publication of the following notice.

FROM THE QUEBEC GAZETTE, THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 16, 1786. SECRETARY'S  
OFFICE, QUEBEC. 14TH, FEBRUARY, 1786

Several Applications having been made to His Honor The Lieutenant Governor for leave to erect Mills in the Settlements.

NOTICE is hereby given by The Lieutenant Governor and Commander In Chief of this Province, by and with the advice of His Majesty's Council thereof, that Right will be granted to a person or persons to erect a Mill in each Seignior or Township, in the situation best adapted for that purpose for the use of the Settlers; which person or persons shall for a limited time enjoy the Rights of Seignior in everything regarding the Mill, according to the laws and customs of this Province, as a reward for his or their trouble, and as a full compensation for the expense thereby incurred on the following terms and conditions.

Certain places in each Seignior or Township having been pitched upon, which in the opinion of Judges are best adapted by their situations and advantages to have Mills erected thereon. the holder of the lot in which such spot or place is situated, shall be in preference authorized by himself or in company with such other persons as he may find necessary for that purpose to associate with him in the undertaking, to erect a Grist-mill for the use of the Seignior or Township under the conditions hereinafter recited.

1. That a Grist-mill sufficient in all respects for the use of the Settlers in the Seignior or Township shall be erected and held in readiness for that use on or before the first day of November next.

2. That the said Mill shall be kept in constant repair and attended on by persons necessary to grind the grain of the settlers.

3. That in consideration of the due performance of the above conditions, the persons engaging and binding themselves thereto, shall enter into the enjoyment of all the rights and privileges which His Majesty holds as Seigneur with Respect to Mills, according to the laws and customs of the Province, under the following Provisos.

That at the expiration of fifteen years His Majesty shall resume the seigneurial rights of Bannalite and that the Mills, together with all the necessary buildings, &c., thereto appertaining, erected in consequence of the agreement, shall then be delivered up to His Majesty without any right or claim to compensation to from the builders in consideration thereof.

In Lower Canada, Mills are often erected in this way; the undertaker enjoying the privilege from the Seignior for ten years; but in consideration of the situations and circumstances of the settlers, for their greater encouragement the term will be extended to the period of fifteen years.

That if any period before the term of fifteen years is elapsed, it shall be found expedient for His Majesty to resume the rights of bannalite; it shall be lawful so to do; And in that case, a just and equitable compensation shall be allowed to the undertakers under the agreement, to be given according to the opinion of five persons, two of whom shall be named on the part of, his Majesty, two by the possessors of the Mills, and the fifth by the first four, as well for the first cost of erecting the mills as in consideration of a reasonable profit to be derived from the undertaking.

For the greater encouragement of the undertaker one batteau, properly manned, will be allowed at His Majesty's expence to make one trip to carry up from La Chine the Mill Stones, &c. for the use of each Mill.

All persons willing to undertake the erecting of a grist-mill in each seignior or township, the holder of the lot upon which the mill is to be erected having always the preference, are immediately to signify the same through the usual channel of their inspectors; those for the seigniories or townships of Johnstown and Oswegatchie to Stephen Delancey, Esquire; those for the seigniories or townships depending on Cataraqui to Neil M'Lean Esquire,

Deputy Inspector; and if approved of by the Lieutenant Governor and Commander in Chief, they are to be ready to enter into an agreement, on the above terms with the inspectors at the above mentioned places and to give good and sufficient security to them, on the part of his Majesty, for the due performance thereof on or before the tenth day of May next.

Right will be granted on the same conditons to erect Mills at the Settlements near Niagara and Fort Erie. The Commanding Officer will be authorized to receive the proposals and ratify the agreements on the part of his Majesty.

By His Honor the Lieutenant-Governor's Command.  
 GEORGE POWNALL, Secretary.

PLACES POINTED OUT FOR ERECTING MILLS

Settlement	Township	Kind of Mill	Lot No.	Remarks
New Johnstown	Lake Twp.	Wind Mill		Point Johnstown
" "	No. 1	Wind Mill	21	
" "	No. 2	Water Mill	6	
" "	No. 3	Water Mill	34	
" "	No. 4	Water Mill	26	
" "	No. 5	Water Mill	25	
New Oswegatchie	No. 6	Water Mill		At the Galleaux. To be more fully described by Stephen Delancey, Esq.
" "	No. 7	Water Mill		
" "	No. 8	Water Mill		
Cataraqui	2.	Water Mill	18	Mill Creek. Mill now building by
"	3.	Water Mill	18	Mr. Coffins under a sanction
"	4.	Wind Mill		formerly given by Lieut. Gov. Hamilt'n.
				To be particularly described by the Inspector, or pointed out by the heads of the township.
"	5.	Wind Mill		Point Pleasant
Niagara		Water Mill		At the Falls above the 12 Mile Pond, 10
"		Water Mill		Miles from the Lake and 16 from the Garrison (DeCew) Between the Great Falls and Chipeway Creek

Joseph Brant's letters on behalf of the Mohawks were referred to Colonels Butler & Claus, who were Naturally sympathetic as Officers of long standing and much experience in the Department of Indian Affairs.

FROM JOHN BUTLER TO EVAN NEPEAN

Sir,

Agreeably to your request, I send you inclosed and Estimate of what Colo. Claus & I have thought would be sufficient to satisfy the Six Nations for the Losses they sustained during the late War. You will perceive also that we have taken the Liberty to recommend Several Matters as well in regard to the Articles to be sent out, as to the mode of the distribution of them - As I am shortly to leave this Country for Canada, -- I think it a duty incumbent on Me, before my departure, to communicate certain Matters of Consequence that relate to Indian Affairs to Lord Sydney as Secretary of State -- which I flatter myself from my knowledge of the Indians, from the long acquaintance & intercourse I have had with them will give him

satisfaction. -- I beg therefore you will be so obliging as to communicate this Letter to his Lordship, and if he will do me the honor to give me an Interview & appoint the time I will with Great Pleasure, attend him.

I have the honor to be &c.

JOHN BUTLER

St. Martins Street, Leicester Fields No. 1

17th March, 1786. Mr. Nepean.

Endorsed: - *St. Martins Street, 17th March, 1786, Colonel Butler.*

Sir Guy Carleton is of the opinion that the Compensation proposed in the inclosed Letter ought to be Doubled. E.N.

#### MEMORANDUM BY JOHN BUTLER AND DANIEL CLAUS

An Estimate of the Sums that We conceive will be sufficient to satisfy the Six Nations of Indians for the losses of Personal Property which they sustained in Consequence of their taking up Arms in favour of Great Britain against the revolted Colonies.---

We recommend that these Sums should be distributed chiefly to those Indians, who shewed an early Attachment and a forward Zeal for the Interest of this Country, but not under the Idea of a recompence for their Zeal & Services, or in other words as a *present* from His Majesty -- We prefer this mode of giving them satisfaction to that of making them recompence for their Losses for these reasons --

1st: That it will be impossible to ascertain the Losses they may have individually sustained by any kind of Enquiry that can possibly be instituted, therefore if a Distribution should be attempted under the Idea of a Recompence, great dissatisfaction would naturally be the Consequence.--

2nd: That from the Promises which have been made to the Indians by Colo. Butler, at the time he engaged them in the Service & from the Conversation he has had with them since the peace, they have it not in Contemplation that they are to be fully recompensed for their Losses --- The Promises he made them on the part of Government they expect he will most punctually perform, These Promises in general extended no farther than that they should be handsomely rewarded for their Services -- That Provision should be made for the Widows and Children of such Men as fell in the course of the War, and that they should hereafter be protected as Allies of the King.--- We would recommend that as many of the Indians have during the War lost their Cattle which they are very desirous of replacing, That certain Portions of the Bounty which is to be distributed, should be sent out in Cash, as Goods will not enable them to make those purchases of Cattle, and as the same Amount in Goods, will not give them half the satisfaction that Cash will.

We conceive that six thousand pounds York Currency, dollars at 8/ in Cash, and the amount of six thousand pounds like Money in goods, *properly distributed*, among the Indians will be sufficient to give them the desired satisfaction. And we further recommend that among other articles to be sent out, there should be included a Number of Rifle Barrel'd Guns & handsome Fusees, & also some good Battle Powder for the Rifles, which will be more acceptable than any other Articles whatever. -- We do not mean to include the Mohawks in the number of the above Indians, who we understand are already provided for, neither have We included the Shawanese or Delawares Who live in the Shawanese Country, We are unacquainted with their losses and therefore must refer to Captn. Joseph Brandt, for the Necessary Information, but we do recommend that whatever Sum shall be Allotted for them,

should be put into the hands of Alexander Magee (McKee) for the Deputy Superintendent of Indian Affairs at Detroit, who is well acquainted with those Indians, and will be best able to make a proper distribution of it among them.

JOHN BUTLER,

DANIEL CLAUS.

London, 7th March, 1786.

(Q. 26. pp 67-9.)

Hope's Letters on the subject of future relations with the United States if they made an attack upon the Indians and menaced the Upper Posts, placed Lord Sydney in a very embarrassing situation and he candidly confessed that the British Ministry were unable to give any definite instructions for his conduct in such a crisis.

FROM LORD SYDNEY TO BRIG. GENERAL HENRY HOPE

WHITEHALL, 6th April, 1786

Lieutenant Governor Hope, Quebec.

Sir:

"Notwithstanding the Reports which have been circulated by the American Deputies sent into the Upper Country, His Majesty's Ministers are of the Opinion, that they will hardly attempt by force to remove the Indians whilst they continue united, from the possession of the Lands which they at present inhabit within the Territory to which His Majesty, by the late Treaty of Peace, has relinquished the Sovereignty, much less to commence Hostilities for the Possession of Detroit, whilst there can remain even a probability that the Indians will not lend their Assistance in endeavouring to effect it.

"His Majesty's Ministers observe, that the Meeting between the Deputies from the several Tribes, and the Deputies from Congress will take place sometime this Spring, though probably not till after the arrival of Joseph Brant, and much will depend upon the turn which Matters will then take. His Majesty's Ministers rather imagine that no Disputes will arise at this Meeting but that the Americans will leave them in the possession of their Hunting Grounds until a more favorable opportunity shall hereafter offer for effecting the purposes which it is supposed that Congress have ultimately in view, and if that should be the Case, no difficulties will immediately occur; but if contrary to their expectations, the Indians should not accede to any Proposals that may be made to them by the American deputies, or cannot be prevailed upon peaceably to accept of the Asylum already directed to be offered to them, within the Province of Quebec, Our situation will in some degree become embarrassing. To afford them open and avowed Assistance, should Hostilities commence, must at all Events in the present state of this Country be avoided but His Majesty's Ministers at the same time do not think it either consistent with justice or good policy entirely to abandon them, and leave them to the mercy of the Americans, as from motives of resentment, it is not unlikely that they might hereafter be led to interrupt the Peace and Prosperity of the Province of Quebec. It is utterly impracticable for his Majesty's Ministers to prescribe a direct line for your conduct should matters be driven to the extremity much will depend upon your Judgment and discretion in the Management of a Business so delicate and interesting in which you must be governed by a variety of Circumstances, which cannot at this moment be foreseen.

"However desirable it might be to encrease the Military Force in the Province of Quebec, I cannot at this moment encourage you to expect that the Measure will be adopted

from the weak State of the Army remaining in this Kingdom, and the various Services which call for their execution; Your Suggestions relative to the raising Colonial Regiments it must be allowed are worthy of consideration, and will be attended to at a proper time, when the State of the Province again becomes the Subject of discussion."

Before this letter reached Hope, he received further information which tended to abate his apprehensions although he considered extreme vigilance still necessary at the Frontier Posts.

EXTRACT FROM A LETTER FROM LIEUT. GOVERNOR HOPE TO LORD SYDNEY,  
DATED QUEBEC, APRIL 15TH, 1786.

"As from the difficulty of the Communication just at this Season, I have not receiv'd very lately the usual accounts from the Upper Country, it is likewise to be presum'd fairly that all continues quiet and well there. By the last intelligence indeed from New York at the time of Lt. Dechambeault's departure from thence, since which no person has come across the Lakes, the Americans were it seems actually raising at Philadelphia and in those quarters a Body of Eight Hundred Men avowedly for the Western Country -- but from the small number as well as from a concurrence of other circumstances, with which of course your Lordship will have been acquainted at that time from New York, I could *never* for a moment consider such a Levy to be for any other Service than for the Defence of part of their own Frontier against the incursions they seem to apprehend from the Western Nations; and in which idea I am still more confirm'd at *this hour* from having receiv'd no further information from any quarter concerning their progress and object - At all events however I can venture to assure your Lordship, that the Officers Commanding our several Posts in the Upper Country will be upon their Guard, and are as well prepar'd as circumstances would admit."  
(Q. 26, pp. 241-2.)

Brant's language on his return to Quebec was so singular as to excite grave distrust in the mind of the Governor, who did not hesitate to report his doubts of his good faith to Sydney.

EXTRACT FROM A LETTER FROM LIEUT. GOVERNOR HOPE TO LORD SYDNEY,  
DATED 26TH JUNE, 1786

"With great pleasure I observe from Your Lordship's Letter that the affairs of the Indians had been the subject of much consideration, for certainly they are very critically situated at this period, as on the result does in my opinion the future tranquility of this Province in a great measure depend, the enclosed papers whose contents specify'd in the Schedule annex'd, will serve to shew to your Lordship the precise situation in which those matters stood previous to the arrival of Joseph Brant from England with your Lordship's Message to the Indians, with which he has proceeded up the Country to Niagara, and on the turn that he shall give to its contents will the measures of the Six Nations Indians in all probability be regulated.

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From several conversations with Joseph Brant during his stay here, wherein I endeavoured to penetrate his Intentions and Sentiments, I was sorry to observe that his attachment to Great Britain does not appear to me to have increas'd by his voyage to England, notwithstanding the liberality of Government to the Mohawks, and particularly to himself and Sister -- But as I believe that he thinks it to be the Interest of the Indians to keep clear of any

Engagements with the Americans, so it is not probable that he will favor any measures of that sort, at all events he has promised me a free and early Communication of everything material that may occur, from which if he keeps his word, I shall soon be able to judge of the turn matters may take.

"Seeing these things however in this point of View, I did recommend to Sir John Johnson in a conference upon the subject after Brant's arrival, that he should proceed to Niagara along with him, and hold a General Council immediately there repeating from himself the subject of Your Lordship's Message delivered to Joseph; and when he left me to return to Montreal, Sir John seem'd perfectly to concur with me in that Opinion, but since his arrival there, he writes me that Brant had proceeded by his consent with the Message to the Six Nations, but that he does not propose going up, till the General Council is assembled which will not be before the end of July or beginning of August, by which time, he says, that he hopes to be fully instructed on the Subject.

"I can't but suppose that Sir John is herein acting for the best for His Majesty's Service and I hope that by Sir Guy Carleton's arrival, he will be enabled to meet the Indians in the manner he wishes, but on my part, I could not more fully instruct him than by giving him full Communication as I did of the sentiments of His Majesty's ministers clearly conveyed in Your Lordships letter, in conformity to which however Your Lordship may be assured that my conduct will be directed, in case of future events calling upon me before the arrival of the Governor General, as also that no time or possible means shall be lost of giving Your Lordship any material information on the Subject, having the honor to be &c."  
(Q. 26-2, pp. 312-15.)

The urgency of extending the survey of the lands in the adjacent townships is shown in the following letter to the Surveyor, who was then employed at Detroit.

FROM MAJOR A. CAMPBELL TO PHILIP R. FREY, DEPUTY SURVEYOR.

Niagara, 4th July, 1786.

Sir,

I am to acknowledge the favour of your letter of 29th May, enclosing a copy of your instructions from Surveyor General, and finding from the irregularity allowed of among the first settlers upon Government lands near the place as well as from the number of people daily coming in from the American States, the necessity of making a regular survey of the whole I am to expect that you will come down for that purpose as soon as possible.

(Letter Book No. 2. District of Nassau.)

Brant's conduct after arriving at Niagara did not make a very favourable impression on the mind of Major Campbell, who seems to have judged his character very accurately on brief acquaintance.

EXTRACT OF A LETTER FROM MAJOR CAMPBELL OF THE 29TH REGT.  
COMMANDING THE UPPER POSTS

DATED NIAGARA, YE 19TH JULY, 1786 AND RECEIVED YE 19TH AUGUST

"Captain McKee will long 'ere now have made you acquainted with the arrival of the Deputies from the Western Indians, that came from Detroit along with him, to confer with their Brethren of the Six Nations, upon their common Quarrel with the Americans about their

Boundaries; since this there have arrived 28 more upon the same errand; the whole are now assembled at Buffaloe Creek, and Capt. Joseph Brant, with Capt. David Hill pass'd here a few days ago on their way to the Council, where I find that Capt. O'Beal (otherwise known as the Cornplanter) has likewise made his appearance; I mentioned to Brant the inconsistency I thought of permitting his Person to Harangue the Nations publicly upon subjects so diametrically opposite to the general professions of the whole confederacy, in favour of the King and British Nations, he appeared sensible of the impropriety and said it must be put a stop to at all events, how far his sincerity may be depended upon, the superficial acquaintance I as yet have with him, cannot allow me to judge with any degree of certainty, tho' I cannot help thinking him deep and designing with a stronger attachment to his own Interest than to any Country or People, and I should likewise be induced to add, a very great share of Ambition to become a man of the first consequence among the Nations; tho' his chance of succeeding in this, I should suppose doubtful; the meanness of his extraction, will certainly be a strong bar in his way among a People possessing strong ideas of permanence in Families and much attached to Hereditary Honours; from these circumstances therefore I should apprehend he may run no small chance of falling a sacrifice to this last passion if not managed with considerable address.

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"I have here perhaps proceeded too far with a Character, with which as before mentioned, I have but little intimacy; shall endeavour however to become better acquainted with it, in order to be able with more certainty to comply with the last Paragraph of your letter."

Endorsed:- Extract of a Letter from Major Campbell to Brigr. General Hope at Quebec. Rd. 12th Sept. by Captain Mure.

The Report of the Proceedings of the Indians in their Council, strengthened General Hope's suspicions of Brant's duplicity.

FROM LIEUT. GOVERNOR HOPE TO LORD SYDNEY

Quebec, 17th August, 1786

No. 30

My Lord,

Since I had the honour of addressing Your Lordship last, on the 8th inst. by Capt. Wilson of the Royal Artillery who took charge of the duplicates of my former Dispatch on the 28th of June, the enclosed minutes of the Six Nation Council at Niagara have been transmitted to me by Sir John Johnson; from which Your Lordship will see an account of the Proceedings of the Indians at their previous General Meeting at Buffaloe Creek, and from thence will be able to collect the present temper views and intentions of these People; but for my own part, I confess to Your Lordship that my Sentiments which I have already had the honor of communicating are so far from being to the least changed, that

I am the more confirmed in them from the total Silence observed at this Council on the subject of the Message transmitted by Joseph Brant and from the additional circumstances of the other Meeting that is fixed to be held on the *Miami*, to which I am informed by Major Campbell that Brant had declared his intention of going and where, I fear that the poison will be further circulated, and the effects of it will very soon be evident.

.....  
.....  
(Q.26-2, pp. 525-6.)

After much deliberation, Sir Guy Carleton had been appointed Governor in Chief on 23 April, 1786 in succession to General Haldimand and was raised to the peerage by the title of Lord Dorchester. A paragraph in his instructions placed the officers and soldiers of the disbanded 84th Regiment, which had been originally recruited in the American provinces as the Royal Highland Emigrants on a much better footing with respect to grants of land than those of the Loyalists and other regular troops, who had already settled in the Province of Quebec.

EXTRACT FROM ROYAL INSTRUCTIONS TO LORD DORCHESTER GIVEN  
23RD DAY OF AUGUST, 1786.

"41..... And whereas upon the raising and establishing the Corps late the 84th Regiment of Foot, we did promise and declare that the Officers and Privates of the said Corps, should when reduced, be intitled to and receive Grants for certain allotments of Lands in proportion to their respective Ranks therein, It is Our Will and Pleasure that you do in manner herein before directed Grant Warrants of Allotment and Survey to such of the Officers and Privates of the said late Eighty Fourth Regiment of Foot, now reduced, who shall be willing to settle and become Inhabitants of Our said Province of Quebec and shall apply for the same for such Quantities of Land as they shall be respectively intitled to, In consequence of our said promise and declaration contained in Our Instructions to Our Governors of New York and North Carolina, dated the 3rd April 1775, that is to say,

To Field Officers	5,000 acres
Captains	3,000 acres
Subalterns	2,000 acres
Non-Commissioned Officers	200 acres
Privates	50 acres

And that the Surveys be made and Grants for the same delivered free of Expence as herein before directed, Provided nevertheless that every Commissioned and Non-Commissioned Officer or Private belonging to the said late 84th Regiment of Foot, who shall claim and apply for Land in Our Province of Quebec as aforesaid, shall declare upon Oath, that no land has been obtained by him in any of our other Provinces in America under Our Royal declaration as aforesaid.

(Q. 26, B. pp. 231 et seq.)

Colonel John Butler returned to Niagara and resumed his duties as Deputy Superintendent General for the affairs of the Six Nations, who he found in a state of serious discontent, which he endeavoured to allay by every means in his power.

FROM LIEUT.-COLONEL JOHN BUTLER TO LIEUT. GOVERNOR HOPE.

Niagara, 5th Octr., 1786

Sir,

On my Arrival here I found the Indians much dissatisfied and that Captain Brant found difficulty in getting proper Indians to accompany him on his Embassy to the Upper Nations. The next day I went to Buffaloe Creek, where I settled matters to his satisfaction, and the day after he sailed for Detroit. I inclose you a Copy of his letter to me, by which you will see the Temper the Indians are in, in that quarter, and I assure that the Six Nations &ca. are much more

displeased that they are. I have had enough to do to keep them within bounds especially as I had nothing to do it with but words.

I have as the Superintendent desired me to do, acquainted them, that he intended as soon as Sir Guy Carleton arrived, to pay them a visit, and bring with him a large present for the Whole, also plenty of Ammunition. This promise and with what little I have been able to borrow, has in some measure kept them quiet until now. But how long I shall be able to keep them so, is uncertain, as there is at this time upward of two hundred here for Ammunition.

I have applied to Major Campbell (the Commanding Officer) to lend me some powder until some is sent up, but he has not any to spare.

As the season is so far advanced I fear Sir John Johnson will not be able to pay us a visit this Autumn, but hope he will fulfil his promise in clothing his children. If not, it will not be in my power to render Government any further service in these parts. But as Mr. Dease is on his way up, I am in hopes Sir John will do the needful as I have stated matters to him in such a manner as will I hope, induce him to enable me in some measure to satisfy those poor distressed creatures, for I am certain they never was so much in want of every necessary as at present.

(Q. 26-2, pp. 594-5.)

In pursuance of General Hope's recommendation, the Loyalists had been supplied with a much reduced allowance of provisions until their crops were harvested.

#### MEMORANDUM BY THE COMMISSARY GENERAL ON THE ISSUE OF PROVISIONS TO LOYALISTS.

The Loyalists in the Upper Parts of this Province have received the following allowances of Provs.

From the 1st June, 1784 to the 1st Novr. 1785, full allowance.	518
1st Novr. 85 to the 30th of June, 86 $\frac{2}{3}$ allowance	162
1st July 86 to the 31st Aug. 1 lb. pr day nearly	25
	Total 725 days.
The Loyalists in Nova Scotia have received	730
Rec'd less by the Loyalists in Canada	25 days.

Quebec 27th October, 1786.  
John Craigie, Com'y General.

#### ABSTRACT OF THE NUMBER OF LOYALISTS SETTLED IN THE UPPER PARTS OF THE PROVINCE OF QUEBEC VIZT.

New Johnstown	2047
New Oswegatchie	759
Cataraqui	1853
Oswego	2
Niagara	946
Fort Erie	147
Detroit	6
TOTAL	5960

J. Craigie, Com'y Genl.

Lord Dorchester arrived at Quebec and assumed the administration of the Government on 23 October, 1786. Hugh Finlay, the Deputy Postmaster General and Sir John Johnson were appointed members of the Privy Council as representatives of the new Settlers. The Governor recommended the Council to take into consideration the Court of Justice, the Militia, Highroads and Communications; Population and Agriculture, and the Settlement of the Crown Lands; External and Internal Commerce and the Regulation of the Police, which he commended to their particular attention, "having an Eye to the ancient laws and usages of the Province. He then appointed four special Committees to deal with these subjects. No member was omitted and none was required to serve on more than one Committee. Mr. Finlay was nominated on the Committee on Courts of Justice and Sir John Johnson on that dealing with Population, Agriculture and Settlement of Lands.

The pronounced discontent of the Indians and the consequent danger of hostilities with the United States were immediately brought to Dorchester's attention and he resorted to the singular expedient of consulting them on the question of retaining the Frontier Garrisons which he seems to have been disposed to withdraw if this could be done without exciting their displeasure. Any attempt to take those posts by force he would consider as a Declaration of War. His instructions to Sir John Johnson were very clear on these points.

FROM LORD DORCHESTER TO SIR JOHN JOHNSON      *SECRET*

Quebec, 14th December, 1786.

Sir,

I understand Colonel Butler talks of coming down to the lower parts of Canada next Spring, the King's Service I apprehend will not permit his being absent from the Six Nations; 'tis said they are discontented with us; I should be glad to learn for what, if it proceeds from their not having received the presents they expected on my arrival, their own impatience is to blame; the season was so far advanced, that nothing more than has been, could have been forwarded; let Butler by all means, find it out, and whether it is not worked up by those who mediate mischief.

He must likewise discover how the Six Nations consider the Upper Posts, particularly NIAGARA, and the Fort near Oswego; are they sanguine that we should keep them in our hands, or is it matter of indifference to them? If the Indians are indifferent, I see no reason why we should be anxious; I see no wise motives for keeping them, but on their Account.

"This necessary that we should thoroughly know their sentiments; what would they purpose doing, should we deliver them up, or evacuate them? How would they act should the United States by treachery, or by open force attempt to wrest them from us? an attempt to wrest them from us, I should consider as the beginning of hostilities, and however indifferent we may be about them, yet War must be repelled by War. --

All things considered, I am inclined to think some of our neighbours nourish Ideas of the sort, and shall not be surprised if they detain those of the Six Nations that go to Albany, and keep them, threatening to punish for the conduct of the rest, thereby to intimidate, should they fail in their attempts to blind or corrupt.

Colonel Butler you see has much to do above, Fort Ontario in particular requires his greatest vigilance; tell him I greatly rely on his address and management, he must not act niggardly in business of this importance, but reward generously those who may deserve.

He should consult and communicate freely with the Commandant of those Posts, but to all others, yourself only excepted, he cannot be too reserved.

Sir John Johnson.

(Q. 27-1, pp. 86-8)

The Merchants of Quebec were consulted by the Committee of the Privy Council and reported in favour of making the grants of land in the new settlements "in free and common soccage," as the settlers desired.

EXTRACT FROM THE REPORT OF THE MERCHANTS OF QUEBEC BY THEIR COMMITTEE, TO THE HONBLE COMMITTEE OF COUNCIL ON COMMERCIAL AFFAIRS

"Article 15th. The Tenure on which the Crown Lands are hereafter to be granted, it being an object connected with Commerce.

Observation

In order to encourage effectually the settlement of the ungranted Crown Lands behind the Canadian Seigniories and other parts of this extensive Province by American Loyalists and other Emigrants - It would be highly necessary we conceive, to make out those Grants in Township and in free and common soccage (in modern language freehold), similar to the concessions in the Province of Nova Scotia and New Brunswick and those heretofore granted in the Royal Governments now Neighbouring States. This is the only tenure to which English Subjects will be reconciled and we are firmly of Opinion that it will induce a very large number of Persons to resort hither to the improvement of Agriculture, the increase of Population, and extension of Trade. The ancient feudal system of holding Lands in Fief et Seigneurie as well as en roture in quality of Vassals is inimical to a free Commerce, and together with the Constitution of the Government has greatly tended to prevent the settlement of Lands and improvement of the Province hitherto, and will still have the same evil tendency until the Lands to be granted are actually conceded or declared to be intended to be so, on a more liberal Tenure, for not only the desires but even the prejudices of the People ought to be considered. Nor can this proposed mode of Granting new Lands operate any evil with respect to the ancient Inhabitants of the Country now holding under the Feudal system, for we see different tenures of Lands in many of His Majesty's Dominions without producing any bad effects. Measures like these, we are confident will soon give this Province the form and figure of a British Colony, bring forth its resources, and raise it into consequence.

Quebec, 5th January, 1787.

Signed: George Allsopp, James Johnston, Robert Lester, S. Fraser, Mathew Lymburner, Will Goodall, John Young

(Vol. E., Part II, Pp. 185-6.)

In the committee itself a considerable difference of opinion soon became apparent.

EXTRACT FROM THE "REPORT OF THE COMMITTEE OF COUNCIL RELATING TO THE COURTS OF JUSTICE."

"IVLY. The case of the Loyalists from the old Colonies, who to the number of several thousands have seated themselves since the last War in different parts of this Province calls in the opinion of the Committee for a very particular attention.

If this Class of the Inhabitants is to be severed from any other District, and erected into separate Counties, an Act of Legislation will be necessary for that purpose, the partition of the Province into two Districts, standing at present upon a Law, that must *for that purpose be repealed*.

(4) On putting the question as to making this Clause a part of the Report.

For it Mr. Finlay

Agst it Mr. Mabane (A substitute to be offer'd next meeting.)

Mr. St. Ours.

"The Substitute Offered."

"Tho' we are sensible that every attention compatible with Law and the good Government of the Province should be given to the Loyalists, we beg leave to observe to your Lordship that by far the greatest part of the Loyalists who took up arms in defence of His Majesty's government during the course of the Rebellion, are already settled in this Colony, or those of Nova Scotia, New Brunswick and their dependencies.

"To this Class of Men, Government is bound by Justice and Gratitude to give every protection and assistance There may be of these meritorious people in this province (their wives and Children comprehended) about six thousand; of them a great number are Emigrants from North Britain who served in the 84th Regiment, the Provincial Corps of Sir John Johnson, and others; who assuredly cannot be supposed to have any predilection for Laws of which they are totally ignorant. Every precaution was taken to make the Loyalists and others before they were disbanded, acquainted with the conditions upon which the King's Lands were to be granted, and none of them could be ignorant that by fixing their residence in this Province, they became subject to the laws of it.

"In framing Laws for the Province consideration should certainly be had to the Opinions & Customs of 113,000 Natives rather than those of 6,000 strangers.

"The number of Loyalists settled above Montreal does not appear at present to require a separate District to be erected, tho' that measure may become necessary in a few years; but by that time the State of the Upper Countries after the evacuation of the Posts without the limits of the Province being known, the Legislative Council will be better able to deliberate upon the measure with precision and certainty.

"With regard to the great number of Emigrants from the United States of America, who we are told, may be expected to resort to this Province provided the Laws were made agreeable to them, We think it our Duty to observe to Your Lordship, that as these men did not stand forth in defence of His Majesty's Government, they can in general have no claim to its Justice or Gratitude; they are discontented with the taxes and other grievances which abound in the American States, and are therefore willing to seek an asylum in the British Colonies. It may be policy to admit them, but for many reasons they should be encouraged to settle in the Colonies where the Laws and Form of Government are most agreeable to their ideas, such as New Brunswick, Nova Scotia, the Islands of Cape Breton and St. John (Prince Edward Island) the climate in the latter is temperate, and the Lands fertile. The insular situation make it easy for Great Britain to protect & keep it as a Colony. The Province of Quebec may be considered in many respects as a Frontier to the remaining British Colonies. Its Inhabitants are numerous & by Religion, Language, Laws & Customs are the class of men least likely to coalesce or unite with the Neighbouring States of America.

"It is most humbly submitted to Your Lordship whether or not sound policy does not require that they should continue as they are."

Quebec.

11th Jany. 1787

Signed: Hugh Finlay, A. Mabane, P.R. St. Ours.

(Journal of the Legislative Council, Vol. E., p. 125 et seq.)

The Military preparations reported to be in progress in the United States, although ostensibly directed against the Indians, caused Dorchester some anxiety as he surmised that an attack on the Frontiers might be contemplated, as it would be a popular step. He solicited precise instructions with respect to their retention and what he should do in case they were attacked and taken.

FROM LORD DORCHESTER TO LORD SYDNEY

*SECRET*

No. 10

QUEBEC, 16th January 1787

My Lord.

The Military preparations in the United States with the Measures taken to form Magazines along the Frontier of Virginia, and as far as Saratoga, their leading men say, are intended to reduce the Indians. Probably the disorders in the Massachusetts and neighbouring States, is another object of these Arrangements. I at the same time, cannot but apprehend the Upper Posts are also comprised in their plan for the Campaign; the measure would be popular among them.

The weak situation of these Posts, more particularly, Fort Ontario near Oswego, seems to invite an insult; the strongest of them depends on the Savages for protection, and these having neither national bands nor subordination of any sort, cannot have that firmness necessary for great confidence.

Should this apparent Storm blow over without injury, and the wisdom of His Majesty's Council determine to maintain these Posts, a considerable expence must be incurred to put the works in a proper state of defence; and a considerable reinforcement should be sent up, which will not only increase the transport, but add to the expence also ---- Fort Ontario in this juncture, in place of the present Garrison of fifty men should have a Battalion to enable them to hold out, till succours might arrive to them from the Province; and these succours must in a great measure, if not wholly be drawn from the Militia, when it is so arranged as to enable us to employ it.

Should it be determined to surrender these Posts, the States will immediately become Masters of Forts, strong enough against Indians, with a communication tolerably secure, which will greatly facilitate the reduction of that people and draw on us many reproaches, at the same time we shall lose great part of the Furr Trade, and open a door for much Smuggling. Should it be judged advisable to retire and destroy, or suffer the Forts to be destroyed, the disadvantages would hereby be greatly retarded.

The most injudicious of all is a *no resolution*, remaining in an impotent state, and yet holding those places in defiance of powerful neighbours, who have set their hearts upon them; and who sooner or later will certainly assault them, if left in their present situation.

I must therefore request Your Lordship will, as soon as possible, honor me with the King's commands on these points, and what His Majesty's pleasure may be, should the Upper Posts be attacked and carried.

Endorsed: Dup. before received.

R. 28th May.

(Q. 21-1, pp. 34-6)

The Special Committee of the Privy Council of Quebec decided to recommend that the terms and conditions of the royal instructions for Grants of Lands to the Loyalists were suitable for adoption in spite of the determined opposition of Sir John Johnson who protested resolutely in writing.

EXTRACT FROM THE 'REPORT OF THE COMMITTEE OF THE COUNCIL UPON POPULATION, AGRICULTURE AND THE SETTLEMENT OF CROWN LANDS.

"Tertio.

"Les Loialistes qui ce sont Etabliss audeessus de Montreal nous ont envoie les papiers marque No. 13 et 14 dans les queles il donnent a entendre quils souhaitent que les Terres sur les queles ils sont, leurs soient concedes sur une different tenure que celles signifie par les Instructions de Sa Majeste, mais nous sommes d'opinion que les Termes et conditions i specifies sont cnvenable a etre adopte." A la Chambre du Conseil  
le 20 Janvier 1787. (Signe) J.G. C. De Lery, Longueuil

Samuel Holland, Boucherville

John Johnson.

"Sir John Johnson does not concur in Article the 3d of the foregoing Report, but offers the following paper as expressing his sentiments upon the subject of the reference.

"That His Majesty's Instructions to His Excellency Lord Dorchester for granting the Crown Lands, which has been under the contemplation of the committee, and upon which the Report is principally grounded appears to be the same, as that made to the Governor of this Province in the year 1774.

"Since that period, the Rebellion, War & Peace have produced an important change in the situation of this Province, and which will claim and merit His Majesty's consideration, a change that in policy and justice may prevail with His Majesty, to alter the said Royal Instructions, and grant the Crown Lands in a manner different, from that recommended by the Report of the Committee.

"Soon after the commencement of the Rebellion in 1776, the Loyalty and Attachment of several thousands of His Majesty's faithful Subjects called them forth to take up arms, and to a steady exertion in support of the Laws, and Government of Great Britain, and by that Loyal Exertion, to protect and secure the Property and Estates which they held under the Crown in the different Provinces.

"By the Treaty of Peace in 1783, His Majesty was pleased to declare the Colonies in Rebellion free and independent States whereby the King's Loyal Subjects so under arms, and others in constant exertions to protect, defend and support the laws and Government of Great Britain, lost their Lands and Estates, which by the Peace fell to the Power and Possession of the United States - Those Lands and Estates afforded them a competent comfort, and support to their families, they were held in free and common soccage, and possessed under those Laws

and that Government the best calculated to protect the person, and property of the Subject, and render him the most Loyal and happy.

"Many thousands of his Majesty's Loyal Subjects whose Estates were seized and confiscated have remained in this Province in the confident hopes that His Majesty in his Royal wisdom and grace would be pleased to grant them Lands, upon the same Tenure and under the same benefits, as to the Grants and Estates His Majesty has been graciously pleased to grant and secure to other Suffering Subjects, who have resorted to his Majesty's Neighbouring Provinces of Nova Scotia and New Brunswick. That these His Majesty's distressed subjects by protection of the Crown, and the Laws, to which they had been accustomed, and were attached, might be restored in a great degree, and their Children wholly, to that happiness, and those blessings, they fully experienced under the British Government prior to the Rebellion. -

"They have had every reason to be thankful for His Majesty's paternal care, and the Bounty and Liberality of the Nation, but that the hopes and confidence of those Suffering Loyalists are, that they may hold Lands of the Crown, in free and common soccage, and not en roture as the Vassals or Censitaires of a Seigneur.

"Such Tenures are contrary to the Growth of a Commercial English Colony, are adverse to Agriculture, must impede the Population of the Province, and are Tenures not the most advantageous to the Policy and interest of the Nation.

"If the Land upon which such Loyalists have already been settled, could not have been obtained but en roture as feudal Vassals, It is more than probable, that many of the settlements already made would be abandoned and those His Majesty's faithful subjects driven to seek a refuge and support in some other situation, whereas by granting those Lands in the manner which all other Crown Lands are granted, and in which all other Loyalists since the Rebellion and Peace have obtained Lands in the King's Neighbouring Provinces, his Majesty would in Wisdom and Mercy extend a source of Comfort and Prosperity to Those Subjects and greatly strengthen and increase the Population, Power and Utility of the Province to Great Britain.

"If it should please His Majesty to use the ungranted Lands in this Province to the best National Benefit, as an Asylum to the Loyalists now in Great Britain, who have infinitely suffered and are in distress, and who are desirous to become Residents in His Majesty's Colony, and also as an Asylum to those his Majesty's loyal subjects, who have been persecuted during the Rebellion, and yet remain oppressed in the American States, Soliciting His Majesty's Royal protection, and an establishment, as and with his faithful Subjects in this Province; His Majesty may increase the number of His Subjects in this Province many thousands, by conceding the Crown Lands on the same terms and affording the same protection to his Subjects in this Colony, which in his Royal wisdom and justice, His Majesty doth in the Provinces of Nova Scotia and New Brunswick.

"Such an addition of Numerous Subjects would not only increase the Population of the Province but infinitely add to its powers, and to the National Advantages which Great Britain reasonably ought to expect and receive from an Extent of Country, which might be populated, Governed, Protected and secured as a Colony, drawing small expenses, and affording great benefit to the Nation.

"So far from concurring in the opinion, that the general tenure of Lands, now held under the Crown in this Province were under the feudal system, by grants from the Fench King, to his Subjects en Fief & en Roture, and that to grant the Crown Lands in the same manner, would preserve an Uniformity in the Tenure of Estates, and the Laws that governed civil rights thereon, & therefore ought to be conformed to by any new Grants.

"He humbly conceives it may well deserve the deliberation of Government, whether it will not be more for the Interest of His Majesty and the Nation, and also to the Holders of Land in Seignorie and en Roture, if His Majesty would be graciously pleased to concede, and make a free gift of his rights to mutation Fines, & permit as well the Seignior as the Censitaires or Vassals to convert their Estates into free and common soccage, the latter upon a commutation with the Seignior for his rights on the Vassalage Tenure, such a Grant and permission would be gratefully received, and would have the effect at no very distant period of assimilating this to the other of His Majesty's Colonies in America.

And he further humbly conceives, that if the Crown Lands contiguous to those at present settled, were to be granted to and cultivated by his Majesty's English Subjects, they would diffuse a spirit of industry and knowledge in Agriculture, that would prove of infinite benefit to Colony and nation.

(Signed) John Johnson  
(Vol. E. Part II, pp. 273-6.)

The Merchants of Montreal, who were in general deeply interested in the Fur Trade in the Upper Country, requested that the rate charged for transporting merchandise over the Niagara Portage should be considerably lowered and that the contract should not be renewed for a longer period than three years in the expectation that a Road would be opened around the Falls in the New Settlement on the West Side of the River.

EXTRACT FROM THE "REPORT OF THE MERCHANTS OF MONTREAL BY THEIR COMMITTEE TO THE HONORABLE COMMITTEE OF COUNCIL ON COMMERCIAL AFFAIRS & POLICE."

Carrying Place. Monopolies having always been considered as injurious to Trade, and a free competition amongst Subjects of the same Government, esteemed the most effectual means to prevent imposition We cannot pass unnoticed the carrying place of Niagara, which for so many years past has been in possession of an Individual (John Stedman) and until last Spring, bore oppressively hard upon the Trade, by the very high rate Government allowed him to exact for Carriage of Merchants Goods. We have reason to think that Brigadier General Hope, then Commander In Chief of the Province saw it in that light, as he reduced the price, and renewed the Lease for one year only. This Lease will be at an end next Spring, and as it is highly probable that application will be made by the present Lessee for a renewal of the same; We take the Liberty of representing that it ought not to be Granted for more than three years and that the price of Carriage should be Lowered to 3/ York or 1/10-1/2 Curry, per Cwt. The distance from Montreal to La Chine is greater than the Carrying Place of Niagara, the Roads are much worse, yet there is not more than sixpence pr. Cwt. paid by the Merchants. In requesting that the Lease may not be granted for a longer Term than three years we have an eye, to the new Settlements on the North side of the River of Niagara which may reap much benefit by opening a Road on that side, and allowing the Settlers to carry without restraint for such persons as may choose to employ them, and it will also be the most effectual means of Lowering the price besides being of greater safety in case of any disturbances happening on the Frontiers; at present, the Settlers are not perhaps in a condition to undertake such Business, and it must appear evident, that so long as they are restrained from attempting it, no Rival can ever arise to enter the Lists with the present Lessee."

"Montreal, 23rd. January, 1787."

(Signed) JACOB JORDAN JAMES MCGILL PRE. GUY  
BENJN. FROBISHER ME. BLONDEAU A. AULDJO  
P. BOUTHILLIER RICHARD DOBIE JH. PERINAULT  
JOHN MCKINDLAY JAMES WALKER THOMAS MCCORD  
(Vol. E. Part II, pg. 206.)

The Committee of the Privy Council of Quebec on commerce, of which the Surveyor General was a Member, reported that the lands on the northern and eastern shores of Lakes, Ontario, Erie, and Huron were particularly well suited to the cultivation of flax and hemp and that commercial policy required that this great country should be peopled. The encouragement of its settlement was strongly recommended.

EXTRACT FROM THE REPORT OF THE COMMITTEE OF THE LEGISLATIVE  
COUNCIL OF THE PROVINCE OF QUEBEC ON COMMERCE AND POLICE.  
"NEW SETTLEMENTS OF THE AMERICAN LOYALISTS AND CULTIVATION OF  
HEMP AND FLAX."

"The acquisition the province has made, in some Thousands of His Majesty's Loyal Americans is already beginning to be felt. Their superior skill in Husbandry, Their industry in Settlement, and their perseverance under misfortune excite in the Canadians, the desire of imitation. Commercial policy requires, that this great Country should be peopled. Every encouragement therefore, should be held out to *all* who seek refuge, or fly from persecution, to its wild but friendly bosom

"Most especially to *those*, who have suffered in support of His Majesty's benign Administration and Government. The Lands on the Northeastern and Eastern sides of Ontario, Erie, and Huron and equal in quality to any in America: The soil particularly adapted to the Cultivation of Hemp and Flax - Articles of the first importance to the Commerce and Marine of Britain - Millions of hardy, useful and industrious Subjects, may be raised on the Banks of those extensive Lakes. No pursuit, therefore, can be more worthy of Your Lordship's foresight and wisdom than the introduction of all *such*, as will defend the Province in time of War, and render it useful in time of peace."

(Signed) EDWD. HARRISON JOHN COLLINS Quebec, 29th Janry. 1787.  
WILLIAM GRANT GEO. POWNALL  
(Vol. E. Part I, pp. 162-3.)

Lord Dorchester's instructions to Sir John Johnson to hold a Meeting with the Chiefs of the Six Nations to ascertain their views as to the retention of Niagara and Oswego placed Colonel Butler in a rather embarrassing situation, as they took care to remind him of the pledges he had made them in soliciting their assistance at the beginning of the Revolt of the Colonies and concluded their reply with the sarcastic remark that "the War we were engaged in was yours, you are therefore the best Judges how to act in this matter."

INDIAN COUNCIL AT NIAGARA

A Meeting held by Lt. Col. John Butler with the Principal Chiefs of the Six Nations of Indians at Niagara the 10th of February, 1787. Colonel Butler addressed them as follows:

Brothers - I have called you together in order to put a few Questions to you, in consequence of a letter I have received from Sir John Johnson, Superintendent General and Inspector General of Indian Affairs, which I hope you will immediately consider of, and give me your answer as he is anxious to know your minds.

Brothers - You without doubt have heard that the Americans have frequently threatened to attack the different posts on this communication, expressly Oswego & Niagara, and its now said they are making preparations to put their threats into execution.

Brothers - I must beg that you will honestly tell your minds, how would you like it, or what would you say, if we were to evacuate those Posts, if we were determined to defend them, if the Americans should attempt to take them by force or treachery, or what part would you act, as some of the principal Chiefs of the Six Nations are now present, there can be no necessity for delaying your answer to the above.

Brothers - You all well know those Posts are kept up at a great expense to Government on your accounts & solely for your protection and interest - The Superintendent General says further that in case the Enemy attempt taking those Posts by force, that it will be considered as the beginning of hostilities and we shall retaliate War for War -

Brothers - He also desires me to tell you that he thinks it in your interest to keep yourselves still and not quarrel with the Americans if possible to avoid it, but in case any of the States should disturb your Peace, he advises you to resent it only on those who are the offenders, it's very probable some of the States wish to live in Peace and friendship with you - Should that be the case he thinks it will be your interest to cultivate it, as it will lessen the number of your enemies, and of course give you an opportunity of Chastising the Disturbers of Your Peace, and probably oblige them to make peace with you upon your own terms.

The Chiefs Gave the Following Answer.

Brother - We have according to ancient custom repeated to you our Resolutions and Determination at our late Confederate Council held at the Shawanese Towns & Huron Villages.

Brother - Having acquainted you with our proceedings at our different meetings - we now intreat you to call to memory what you said to us, at the commencement of the late War, as you see us still entangled & troubled with the effects of it, and we fear that we will be more embarrassed and that our situations will be more difficult than ever.

Brother - We have desired you to recollect what passed at the commencement of hostilities, we have on our parts, fulfilled our engagements with you, having sacrificed our lives and properties in the late War, and continued since the conclusion of peace to adhere to our former agreements, and have shunned coming to any binding Agreement with the American States.

Brother - We intreat you to answer us to what we now advance consistent with our critical situation and such as is due to us as allies, As you are not ignorant of the intentions and designs of the Americans respecting us, we therefore hope to have your answer as soon as possible.

Brother - We have heard what you had to say to us, being Sir John Johnson's particular desire to know our Sentiments on the questions you have just laid before us, which you expressly desire we will answer immediately, which we shall now do -

Brother - You desire to know what we would think and say if the English Evacuate the Upper Posts, or how we would like it, if they should determine to defend them, if the Americans should attempt to take them by Force or Treachery.

Brother - We are not a little surprised at you (the English) asking us such questions as you know our minds and as we have repeatedly requested your information in case of Invasions, which we expected from the conclusion of Peace. Every transaction of ours is known to you since that time, and you must in our opinions be convinced that we were dejected from the moment we heard of the Treat of Peace between you and the Americans -- Our actions since then have also shewn you that we have not concealed our resolutions especially at the late Confederate Council, the result of which you are also made acquainted with --

Why are those questions put to us when our sentiments are so well known respecting the evacuation of the Forts -- the War we were engaged in was yours, you are therefore the best Judges how to act in this matter.

Endorsed. In Lord Dorchester's No. 15 of 10th April, 1787.  
(Q. 27-1 pp. 103-7.)

In the debate on the new ordinance proposed for the regulation of the proceedings of Courts of Justice an amendment moved by Sir John Johnson for the formation of one or more new Districts to facilitate the administration of Justice in the new Settlements was voted down but next day, another motion to the same effect was carried by a large majority of the Members of the Privy Council present.

#### EXTRACT FROM THE JOURNALS OF THE PRIVY COUNCIL

Tuesday, April 24th, 1787

An ordinance to regulate the proceedings in the Courts of Civil Judicature was read by paragraphs. Sir John Johnson then moved that the following Clause be inserted as an addition to the Bill, viz.

"And whereas many Thousands of His Majesty's faithful Natural born subjects, who have taken refuge in this Province are become objects of the National Consideration, and are chiefly settled together upon divers parcels of the Crown Lands, distinct and distant from the ancient settlements; and their relief, comfort, and convenience, require very special provision, suited to their circumstances, Be it therefore Enacted by His Excellency the Governor and the Legislative Council, and it is accordingly hereby enacted and ordained by the authority of the same, that for the better encouragement of His Majesty's Subjects, and their ease & convenience under a due administration of Justice, it shall be lawful for his Excellency and the Commander In Chief for the time being, with the advice of the Council, by Patent, under the Great Seal of the Province, to form one or more new Districts therein, to be afterwards Organized by Commission & Commissions for the creation and Appointment of all such Offices and Officers within the same as may appear to be most necessary or conducive to the purposes aforesaid; anything in any Law or Ordinance of the Province contained to the contrary thereof notwithstanding.

And the question being put whether the same be a part of the bill or not, it was Carried in the negative by ten nays against eight ays.

(Vol. E, Part I, p. 112.)

Wednesday, 25 April, 1787

The Committee met and Mr. Mabane moved that the following Clause be adopted as part of the Bill.

"Whereas there are many thousands of Loyalists and others settled in the Upper Countries above Montreal and in the Bays of Gaspey and Chaleurs below Quebec, whose ease and convenience may require that additional Districts, should be erected as soon as circumstances will permit it is Enacted and ordained by the authority aforesaid, that it may be Lawful for the Governor or Commander in Chief for the time being with the advice and consent of the Council, to form by patent under the seal of the Province one or more new Districts as his discretion shall direct and to give Commission to such Officer or Officers therein, as may be necessary or conducive to the ease and convenience of his Majesty's Subjects residing in the remote parts of the Province."

The Question was put thereon debates arose, and it was carried in the affirmative to adopt the said Clause by 15 Ays against 3 nays.

(Vol. E. Part I, p. 114.)

Addresses were presented to Lord Dorchester from the settlers at New Johnstown, New Oswetgatchie, and Catarqui and the seven neighbouring townships on the Bay of Quinte, expressing their gratitude for the assistance they had received but stating that they hoped to have the same advantages as the other settlers in North America. Their spokesman, Stephen DeLancey, explained that they referred to the unsatisfactory tenure of their lands and Dorchester remarked that he believed that the conditions on which they held their land were "hard." Major Robert Matthews, the late Military Secretary, was sent to Niagara and Detroit to investigate the State of these Settlements, and reported at considerable length.

#### EXTRACT FROM THE JOURNAL OF MAJOR ROBERT MATTHEWS

"Niagara, 31 May, 1787

This day came in eight or ten men from the States to see friends and wishing permission to settle with them. With regard to the Settlement at this Post it appears to be in the same thriving and prosperous state with those below, but notwithstanding the testimony of loyalty and good orders given by the Settlers, attested in their offer of assistance to Major Campbell in defence of his Post, a few of them hold the principles and doctrines of Mr. McNiff. Major Campbell is well informed of them and has a watchful eye upon their conduct. Col. Butler told us there were discontents among the settlers, proceeding from what they consider an improper choice of the Commission of the Peace, wishing themselves to have the nomination of their civil officers and to hold committees for the choice of them and other interior management of the settlement, agreeable to the letter to the letter to that effect, which it seems was circulated from Mr. DeLancey through all the upper settlements, and which is considered by all the gentlemen in opposition to that doctrine with whom I have conversed to have been the origin of the McNiff party. Col. Butler also says they complain of not having received an equal proportion of clothing and of farming utensils with the loyalist settlers in other parts of the Province, which has been already represented, but no answer returned to them. They are also jealous of the tenure in which they hold their lands and cannot reconcile the idea of the Canadian one."

A considerable consignment of presents was distributed among the Indians soon after and seems to have materially allayed their discontent, but reports of the intentions of the United States to advance their outposts to the Frontier gave Dorchester much anxiety.

FROM LORD DORCHESTER TO LORD SYDNEY

No. 23

Quebec, 13th June, 1787.

My Lord,

I enclose a return of presents sent to the Six Nations, Delaware and Shawanese Indians, in consideration of their Services and Losses during the American War; also a return of the Presents for the Messasaga Indians, as a reward for their fidelity during the same period, and in consideration for their friendly reception of the Loyalists and Indians upon their lands.

Sir John Johnson has been desired to use his endeavours to prevail with the former to Accept goods instead of cash, but I know not how far he will be able to succeed.

New measures for the Indian Country, it has been said, are adopted by Congress, by these accounts they now purpose establishing Posts on the Lakes Ontario and Erie, and on the communications, which will be pushed near to Niagara and Detroit.

It would seem by this System that they mean to avoid all acts of violence, to leave us in possession of our Posts for the present, but at the same time to render them of little importance by occupying Stations above and below on their own side of those waters, thereby to intercept the Fur Trade, while they rely on their numbers to obtain the entire possession of the Country when they shall judge the occasion favorable.

I presume they are confident, that the Indians will not oppose these encroachments, or that their own powers are sufficient to drive them beyond the Lakes. The unsettled state of Affairs in the Upper Country induced me to order the King's Vessels on the Lakes to be armed at the opening of the navigation, but I find great difficulty in procuring seaman, so that I apprehend I shall not be able to man them sufficiently, unless some hands are sent for that purpose from the Squadron on the American Station.

This situation of Affairs will prevent my visiting Nova Scotia and New Brunswick as early as I formerly intended.

P.S. After closing this letter, an express brings the Minutes of a Meeting of the Six Nations held at Buffaloe Creek between the 7th and 14th of May, previous to the intended meeting of the Confederacy at the Miami, which contain nothing of any consequence, except their general resolution to adhere to their former engagements formed at the Grand Council near Detroit River.

Endorsed -- Quebec, 13th June, 1787.

Lord Dorchester, No. 23

R, 11th July ( 2 inclosures)

(Q. 28, pp. 16-18.)

Accounts of advanced Troops of the United States into the Indian Country and their undisguised displeasure at the retention of the Upper Posts caused some comment in the English news papers.

THE QUEBEC GAZETTE.

Thursday, Sept. 7, 1786

LONDON, June 23

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The Report of the Americans having sent an Army to take possession of some English Forts on their back Settlements, does not appear to be true, though they are much dissatisfied with those places not being given back to them, and about which they talk very big; This

circumstance being well known, and their Militia being assembled, is supposed to have given rise to the Report.

The Americans pretend that the Forts on their back Settlements were by the late Treaty to be given up; and though they are insignificant places of themselves, yet from their situation, they consider them of great importance, as they prevent their having free communication with the Indians, who are now persuaded to carry their Furs, &c. to the Canadian market to the great prejudice of the United States.

Although the formation of new districts was deferred, a new commission of the Peace was authorized by which the appointment of a considerable number of leading Loyalists as Justices of the Peace was announced, of whom, however, only three or four resided at Niagara.

#### THE QUEBEC GAZETTE

Thursday, June 29, 1786

The following contains a correct List of the Commissioners in His Majesty's Commission for the Peace for the Districts of Quebec and Montreal, in the Province of Quebec. Liste des Commissaires dans la Commission de la paix pour les districts de Quebec et de Montreal, en la province de Quebec.

DISTRICT OF QUEBEC, GENERAL COMMISSION

DISTRICT DE QUEBEC, COMMISSION GENERALE

The Honorable Members of the Legislative Council

Les Honorables Membres du Comseil Legislatif.

Nicholas Cox, Gabriel Elzear Taschereau, Jenkin Williams, Francis Dambourges, Le Comte Dupre, Pierre Panet, Thomas Scott, Charles Lanaudiere, Peter Stuart, Edward Jessup, John Nairne, Malcolm Fraser, Nicholas Boisseau, George Lawe, Felix O'Harra, John Coffin, John Renaud, Nathaniel Taylor, Thomas Aylwin, William Lindsay, Juchereaux Duschesnay, John Baptiste Couillard and Alexander Fraser, Esquire.

Commissions of Association for the above District.

George Longmore, Esq., Gaspé; Pierre Marcoux, Esq., Cape Chat; Donald McKinnon, Matane.

DISTRICT OF MONTREAL, GENERAL COMMISSION

The Honorable Members of the Legislative Council.

Neveu Silvester; St. George Dupre; James McGill; Pierre Guy; James Finlay; James Stanley Goddard; Pierre Fortier; Hertel de Rouville; Chevalier Niverville; John Campbell; Edward Southouse; Alexander Fraser; Jacques Le Moine; Benjamin Frobisher; J.M. Tonnacour; Peter Vanalstine, Thomas Williams; Stephen DeLancey; John Barns; Neil McLean; Justus Sherwood; M.E.G.A.L. de Lothbiniere; Edward William Gray; Philip de Rocheblave; S. Anderson; Ebenr. Jessup; Pieree Guerout, James Clark; Michael Grass; Jephthah Hawley; Jephthah Perrot; James Rogers; Thomas Gummersal; W.R. Crawford; James Wright; Lefevre Bellefeuille, and Henry Rutter, Esquires. Commissions of Association for the district above said, Niagara and Detroit, &c.

Commission d'association pour le district susdit., Niagara et Detroit, &c.

Rene Amable de Boucherville; Etienne de Chambault; La Bruere Montarville; Ephraim Jones; Joseph White; Peter Drummond; William Fraser; Allen McDonald; William Falkner; William Ancram; Duperon Baby; Alexander Grant; William Macomb; Alexr. McGee; Peter Tenbrook; Duncan Murray; John Birch and the Reverend John Doty, Esquires.

Published by Authority,,,, George Pownall, Secry.

John Adams had been sent to London by the Congress of the United States to demand the immediate cession of the Frontier Posts and was informed very clearly that they would be evacuated when "America shall manifest a real determination to fulfil her part of the Treaty." and a formidable statement of the grievances of British Merchants and others having estates, property and debts due them, which were unjustly withheld, was furnished him.

#### THE QUEBEC GAZETTE

Thursday, October 5, 1786.

From the MARYLAND JOURNAL of July 4.

Substance of Lord Caermarthen's answer to the requisition of His Excellency J. Adams, Esq. &c. &c. On the 20th of last February, respecting the British Posts, held on the territories which were ceded by the late Treaty of Peace to the United States. This very interesting abstract is inserted in this paper at the particular request of several patriotic citizens, who anxiously wish the respective states would ('ere it be too late) vest Congress with power adequate to the great national business that claims their attention, and for the want of which this country hath already been materially injured in her interest and reputation.

"That when America shall manifest a real determination to fulfil her part of the treaty, Great-Britain will not hesitate to prove her sincerity to co-operate in whatever points depend on her to carry every article of it into real and complete effect.

"The grievances complained of by the Merchants and other British Subjects having Estates, property and debts due to them in the several states are as follows: "Massachusetts Bay. The Act passed on the 3d November, 1784, suspending the payment of interest. "New York. The Act on the 12th of July, 1782, but which British Creditors are precluded from the claim of interest on all debts before the first of January, 1783, and executions on the principal are forbidden to be levied until the expiration of three years after the evacuation of New York.

"The Act of the 17th of March, 1783, and confirmed by others in 1784, and 1785, &c. "Pennsylvania. The Law passed soon after the Peace, to restrain the recovery of old British Debts for a given period.

"Maryland. The Act of October, 1780, allowing British debts to be paid into the Treasury, and that no provision is since made for it; the sums paid in: 144,574 pounds .9s.4-1/2d. equal to 3615 pounds, 18s. 2d. currency in specie.

"Virginia. By an edict of the Governor, the 2nd of July, 1783, all British agents and factors who had arrived in that state are ordered to depart the same; which restriction was removed by the Legislature in November following and the British Agents and Factors permitted to return.

That by an act of October, 1784, all British Debts are to be paid by seven (equal payments the first to be made the first of April, 1786, and so on) annually. That no interest shall be allowed to British subjects for any time between the 19th of April, 1775 and the third of March, 1782, the said time to be considered as one day.

That no settlement made by bond or other specialty shall carry interest. This Act passed the House of Delegates and Senate, but did not at the same time, receive all the formalities, therefore it is doubtful whether it exists as a Law. The sum paid into the Treasury, on account of British Creditors, 273,554. pounds, 13s. 7d. equal to 12,035 pounds sterling.

"North Carolina. Some Acts in this State complained of, but not particularly mentioned.

"South Carolina. By an Ordinance passed the 26th of March, 1784, no suit shall be instituted for a debt previous to the 26th of February, 1782, until the first of January, 1785, when the interest only, which had accrued since January, 1780, might be recovered and on the first of January, 1786, one fourth part of the principal and all such interest as might be then due and so on. By another Act, 12th of October, 1785, a debtor during any period of a suit, is allowed to tender land, which after being valued the creditor is obliged to take at three fourths of the valuation. These acts and others, and the conduct of this state, are greatly complained of.

"Georgia. This state is charged with having passed laws and regulations similar to those of South Carolina with the aggravated circumstances that the judges from the bench have declared that no suit shall be proceeded on if brought by a British subject, while on the contrary, they allow British Subjects to be sued by their creditors.

"That no provision is made for the real property confiscated and sold for public services, nor for money paid into the Treasury. His Lordship observes, that most of these recited acts which interrupt and prevent the collection of British debts, in the preamble run thus. "Whereas this state is determined to fulfil and carry into, effect the treaty in all its parts, &c. Upon the whole that a British merchant is in some states positively, in others, virtually, prohibited by their legislatures from recovering his property, which is a violation of the fourth article of the Treaty of Peace. In several states, judgment for interest for more than seven years is actually suspended by law, whilst in others, although the courts appear to be open, the Lawyers are afraid to prosecute for British Debts.

"Those creditors are deemed fortunate upon giving up all claim to interest (which is equal to 30, and in some cases, to 40 percent) who can obtain security for payment on the principal."

M. Philip de Rochblave who had commanded the British Post at Kaskaskia, where he had been taken prisoner and harshly treated by the Rebel Party, had after his escape asked for a grant of land on the Rideau River for the purpose of forming a settlement and building a storehouse there. This scheme had come to nothing, but he had lately petitioned for a similar grant at Toronto and the carrying place to Lake aux Claires, which he hoped to make a practicable route for commerce. This project was referred to a special committee of the Privy Council for a report.

#### EXTRACT FROM QUEBEC LAND BOOK

Monday, the 25th of June, 1787.

The several Petitions of Mr. Rocheblaves read - Ordered by His Excellency Mr. Rocheblave for Lands by the advice of the Council that the Surveyor or Deputy Surveyor General at Toronto and for the report the Survey of location of One Thousand Acres not interfering with Carrying Place there. The Establishment of a Township of thirty thousand acres in that vicinity.

And that the several Petitions to be in the interim referred to Messrs. Fraser, Belestre, De Longueuil, Sir John Johnson and Mr. Boucherville who are to report thereon for the further consideration of Government respecting the other Objects of the Petitions.

(p. 3)

With a view to the formation of a new judicial district at Niagara, recommendations were solicited by the Governor of persons, who would be most suitable for appointment to the civil offices, from Colonel Butler and Captain Watson, who was in temporary command of the Garrison at Fort Niagara.

NAMES OF PERSONS RECOMMENDED FOR CIVIL OFFICES IN THE NEW DISTRICTS (18TH AUGUST, 1787?)

District of Nassau

Judges of Common Pleas

Gilbert Tyce                      John Powell                      Henry Nelles

Justices of the Sessions of the Peace

Jacob Ball                      Samuel Street                      Jesse Pawling                      Robert Hamilton

Peter Tenbroeck

Sheriff

Coroner

Clerk of Com. Pleas & Sessions

NAMES OF PERSONS RECOMMENDED AS FIT TO BE COMMISSIONERS FOR THE COURT OF REQUESTS.

District of Nassau

Commissioners for the Court of Requests are wanting in this District, for the Ordinance of 1785 does not extend beyond the Bay of Quinty.

List of Persons recommended for Civil Trusts.

Gilbert Tice

Niagara                      John Powell

for more recommendations                      Henry Nelles                      By. Lieut. Col. Butler

for Niagara by Captain                      Jacob Ball

Watson, see page 5.                      Samuel Street

Jesse Pawling

Robert Hamilton

Peter Tenbroeck

List of Persons recommended for (Magistrates) (erasure) For Civil Trusts

Lt. Col. Butler

Mr. Burch

Mr. Warren

Mr. Pawling

Mr. Hamilton

Mr. Fry as Clerk of the Sessions

Recommended by Capt. Watson (Commandant of Fort Niagara) are in general the persons recommended by Colonel Butler, whose names had been communicated to him by Genl. Hope.

Endorsed: - List of Persons recommended for Magistrates with remarks N.B. Copy of this List without the remarks, deliv'd to the Clerk of the Council, 27th Dec.

(State Records).

At length, Lord Sydney made a very resolute and lucid reply to Dorchester's repeated requests for definite instructions.

FROM LORD SYDNEY TO LORD DORCHESTER

Whitehall, 14th Sept. 1787

Right Honourable Lord Dorchester.

My Lord,

I have been favored with Your Lordship's Dispatches numbered from 10 to 26 inclusive, and I lost no time in laying them with their several Inclosures before The King - They have all undergone some consideration, and I shall make my replies, as I have been instructed to do, to them in the order in which they stand.

With regard to the *Posts* which No. 10. marked secret, particularly relates, it was I believe, intimated to your Lordship, previous to your Departure, that it was the firm opinion of the King's Servants that the retaining the Possession of the Posts was a measure perfectly justifiable, and from the conduct observed since that time on the part of the American States, they have no reason to alter their sentiments upon that point.

It therefore becomes necessary that Steps should be taken by putting them into a temporary State of Defence, to resist any attack which the Citizens of the States may mediate, and the sooner it can be done, the better. The execution of a project of this sort must consequently be attended with Expence, but the King's Servants feel no difficulty in submitting the Extent of the Works to be performed as they are, that your Zeal for the Public Welfare will induce you not to suffer a charge of any sort to be incurred which is not found to be indispensably necessary.

This resolution naturally brings forward some Communications from your Lordship wherein that subject is very materially concerned, I mean with respect to the Conduct to be observed towards the *Indians*, and the Establishment of a Militia.

As to the first, it has all along been the Disposition of His Majesty's Ministers to pay that sort of attention to those people, and that regard to their Situation and necessities, which can with any degree of reason be expected by them. Under this Idea, such supplies have been sent out as appeared from your Lordship's Dispatches to be Equal to their immediate wants, and though as your Lordship must suppose it is desirable upon many accounts that these Expenses should be kept upon as moderate a scale as possible, yet His Majesty's Servants considering that the protection of the Fur Trade, and perhaps the general Security of the Province of Quebec may, in some degree, depend upon the part these People may take, would rather submit to an augmentation of such supplies, than suffer them to be discontented or dissatisfied, particularly at this moment when their active assistance may possibly be called for and which must happen should the Posts be attacked. -- It is to be hoped that the Americans will not proceed to hostile measures, but if they should avail themselves of any opportunity which may offer of seizing upon the Posts, it will become your Lordship's Duty to use every endeavour to regain the possession of them, if you should find yourself sufficiently strong to be able to effect it.

With regard to the Establishment of a Militia, I am to acquaint your Lordship, that His Majesty's Servants entirely approve of the measure -- It will not only immediately add to the Internal strength of the Province, but will be the means of attaching the Principal Canadian Families, and will incline them warmly to engage in the support of its Interests, whenever they may be invaded.

It is recommended that the Cloathing which Your Lordship recommends for three Battalions should be provided, to be forwarded to Your Lordship early in the Spring, and it will

be left to your discretion to embody the number of men, whenever you may see occasion to do so. It is rarely to be conceived that in the introduction of a new system, arrangements of this magnitude are not at least conveniently to be made exactly suitable to those which might be wished, but upon the whole, they seem to be got into such a train, as to promise fair upon a future day to be placed upon a more complete and permanent footing.

Endorsed. 14th September, 1787. To the Right Honble Lord Dorchester.  
(Q.28, pp.28-31.)

Toward the end of the year, Robert Hamilton, who had been acting as official Superintendent of the Western Part of the Settlement of Niagara, made a detailed Report of its condition.

Heads of Family	Men	Women	Boys over 10	Boys under 10	Girls	Lands Clear	Wheat Sowed	Total Persons
Daniel Servos	1	1		1	1	50	25	5
Jacob Servos Unmar.	1					10	4 1/2	1
Wm. Picket	1	1			2	16	9	4
Picket Jr.	1							1
Cobur Picket	1							1
Fredk. Miracle	1	1			2	15	7	4
Richd. Springer	1	1			1	18	10	3
Henry J. Harris, Unmar.	1					8	4 1/2	1
John Boice	1	1	1		3	20	12	6
John Cohal, Unmar.	1					4		1
Jacob Sparbeck	1	1			2	15	8	4
James Clement, Unmar.	1					6	4	1
Joseph Clement	1	1			1	20	10	3
John Clement	1	1				18	10	2
Adam Crysler	1	1	1		1	30	24	4
William Vanderlip	1					12	7	1
Derick Slingerland	1	1				4	2	2
Daniel Cassady	1	1	1			15	9	3
Silas Secord	1	1		2		16	10	4
Totals	20	12	3	4	13	281	156	52
Samuel Louts	1	1	2	2	1	50	22	7
Joseph Page	1					6		1
Peter Seacord	1	1	2	1	1	30	16	6
Peter Seacord Jr.	1	1				4		2

Stephen Emmitt	1					4		1
John Louts	1	1	2	1	4	14	8	9
A. Louts	1							1
B. Louts	1					3		1
John Louts Jr.	1					2		1
Francis Goring	1	1	1		2	10	7	5
Christian Warner	1	1	1	2	1	14	9	6
Math. Carl	1					6	4	1
David VanEvery	1	1		2	1	10	7	5
Lambert Acre	1	1			1	8	6	3
Peter Lampman	1	1		1	2	10	7	5
Chris. Stephens & 3 sons above 16	4	1			1	40	26	6
Philip Stephens	1	1			1	3		3
John Castleman	1	1			1	5	3	3
John Coon	1	1		3	4	20	12	9
William Stephen	1							1
Edmund Hocton	1					10	6	1
Jones Lauroway	1	1	1		2	4	3	5
Abram Lawroway	1					5	3	1
Jacob Bessy	1					8	5	1
Robert Bessy	1	1				10	6 1/2	2
George Reid	1	1			1	10	6	3
John Newkerk	1					4	2 1/2	1
Wm. Reid	1	1		1	1	14	9 1/2	4
John Reid	1	1		1		6		3
William Hodgkeson	1	1			1	5	3	3
Gilbert Mitchell	1	1				4	3	2
James Jones & 2 sons	3	1		1	3	5	3	8
John Stoner	1	1		2	1	4	3	5
Thomas Butler	1			1				2
Andrew Butler	1			1		16	12	1
Wm. Garner	1	1				4	20	2

John McNabb	1					60	20	1
Colin McNabb	1				1	60	30	3
Thomas March	1	1				5	3	2
Herm. Hogdet	1	1		2		6	3	4
Alex. McNabb	1							1
Simon Anderson	1					3		1
John Darbey	1					5	3	1
George Darbey	1					3		1
John Scram	1	1	1	1	1	6	3	5
Abram Scram	1	1		1		5	3	3
Fredk. Scram	1	1		1	3	10	5 1/2	6
4 of his sons	4							4
William Price	1							1
Valentine Scram	1	1		1		10	5 1/2	3
Jeremiah Scram	1							1
Benj. Pawling	1					16	10	1
Adam Bowman	1	1	1	1	4	10	6	8
Henry Bowman	1					6	4	1
Wm. May	1	1	1		3	18	12	6
J. May	1							1
James Clendinnen	1	1			2	6	4 1/2	4
Walter Clendinnen	1					6	4 1/2	1
Jacob Tenbrock	1					12	8	1
Isaac Volluck	1	1				6	4	2
2 of his sons	2							2
Sten Volluck	1							1
Derick Hainer	1	1		1	2	10	6	5
Nick Smith	1					10	5	1
Henry Smith	1	1			1	9	4 1/2	3
Henry Hainer	1	1				4	3	2
Albert Hainer	1					6	3	1
Jacob Walker	1	1			1	8	4 1/2	3
R. Hamilton	1					10		5
Jon. Mathews	1					2		1
Benj. Cramb	1	1				8	4	2
Abram Clendinnen	1					9	3	1
John Hainer	1	1		2	3	9	6	7
Jacob Federick	1	1	1	1	1	10	6	5
Robert Campbell	1	1		1	1	12	6	4

John Gould	1					3	1 1/2	1
B. Marceiles	1					3	1 1/2	1
John Harris	1					6	4	1
John Turney & 2 sons	3	1			2	14	8	6
John Brown	1	1	1	1	4	6	3	8
Solomon Secord	1	1			1	10	6	3
Benj. Freligh	1	1	1	2	1	16	6	6
Jessy Pawling	1	1		1		16	10	3
Fredk. Schram	1	1	1	2	1	6	4	6
Philip M. Gregory & Son	2	1			3	6	3	5
Aaron Bradt	1							1
Christian Bradt	1	1			1	4	2	3
Edin Bebie	1	1				8	5	2
Christian Price	1					4	3	1
William Matice	1					4	2	1
Abrhm. Matice	1					4	2	1
Wm. Hare	1					10	5	1
Mich. Crantz	1							1
John Baker	1							1
John Clouse	1	1				8	5	2
George Rousier	1					7	4	1
Herm. House & Son	2	1	1		1	20	12	5
Philip House	1							1
Daniel House	1	1			1	10	6	3
James Henry	1	1		1		14	8	3
Adam Haines	1	1	2	3	2	6	4	9
Tunis Slingerland	1					8	5	1
Garret Slingerland	1					4	1	1
Peter Wycoff	1							1
Henry Chrysler & Sons	4	1		1	3	30	18	9
Adam Vrooman	1	1		2	1	20	14	5
John Young	1					20	14	1
John Shaver	1							1
Corns. Lambert	1	1		1	3			6
John Collard	1	1		1	3			6
Abram Dufries	1					4	2	1
Conrad Dufford	1	1			1	3	1	3

St. Overholt & 2 Sons	3	1		1	3	6	3	8
Petman Culp	1	1	1	2	1	4	2	6
Jacob Culp & 2 Sons	3	1		1	1	10	5	5
Fredk. Howe	1	1	1	1	2			6
Total	156	77	24	56	97	128	721	410

Recapitulation Of Old Settlers

Men 156 from 16 to 60  
 Women 77 Married  
 Boys 24 Above Ten Years of Age.  
 Und. 56 Under that Age  
 Girls 97 Unmarried Total Persons 410

Clear land 1288 Acres

Wheat Sown 721 Bushell

Niagara Sept. 17, 1787.  
 R. Hamilton, S.W.D.

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 RETURN OF FAMILIES WHO HAVE THIS SEASON COME INTO THE SETTLEMENT  
 OF NIAGARA & WHO HAVE TAKEN THE OATHS

Names	From	Age	Women	Sons	Dghtrs	Serts	Horses	Cows	Characters
H. Beamer	Jersey	55	1	5	3	“	4	2	well respected for loyalty & morality – personally known to several old settlers
Philip Beamer	Jersey	30	1	1	2	“	2	2	
Wm Man	Jersey	32	1	4	2	1	3	10	a Quaker well known & much respected as such never took arms
Wm Wright	Jersey	26	1	1	1	“	“	1	“
Peter Miller	Pensil.	60	family not come in						proves him being fin'd for not joining against Govt
Wm. Frabicius	Germ.	27	single						come from Germany since the

									war. well spoken of
Fdk. Waterhouse	Jersey	23	widower					1	was too young to take an active role during the war his friends were Loyalists
Jo Waterhouse	Jersey	21	single						brother to above & in the same situation
Wm Haven	Jersey	49	1	3	3		4	14	being lame could not join the King's forces but brings the strongest proofs of loyalty & good character
Wm Havens Jr.	Jersey	23							son to the above. good character
Peter Weaver	Jersey	37	1	1	2		2	2	aproven
John Hewet	Jersey	28	1		1		1	1	aproven
John Raisin	Jersey	28	single						owns himself a deserter from a German Corps – therefore not aproven of
Elias Holt	Jersey	21	1		1		2	2	aproven
Jos. Parker	Jersey	23	1		1		2	1	aproven
Silas Cook	Pensil.	30	1	2	2		3	2	was in Sir John Johnson's Corps lost his discharge but Mr. Langdon when here certifyd his having got it & his good character
Corn. Warden	Jersey	25	single						served arriving in the war in New York
Sam. Smith	Jersey	21	1	2			1	2	aproven
And. Hanser	Jersey	40	1	3			5	4	aproven
Geo. Hubar	Jersey	40	1	2	3		4	3	aproven
Philip Smith	Jersey	56	single						aproven
Joseph Smith	Jersey	22	single						aproven
Geo. Hansell	Jersey	30	1		1		2	2	aproven
Stephen Seaburn	Jersey	30	1	1			1	1	aproven
Geo. Bowman	Jersey	30	1		1			1	aproven
Philip Medlar	Jersey	40	1	1				1	aproven

Will. Day	Jersey	20	single						aproven
Adam Dennis	Jersey	39	1	4	1		2	2	aproven
F. Allbright	Pensil.	25	1	1			1	2	aproven
And. Whitsit	Jersey	31	1	1			2	2	aproven
Rhud. Harvey	Jersey	20	single						aproven
Abram Overholt	Jersey	32	single						not aproven as having been guilty of horse stealing & other crimes in the states. His plea that this was done to those who had been enemys of Britan we think cannot aquit him
Jacob Swap	Jersey		1	1	1		2	4	aproven
Levy Lewin	Jersey		1	3	1		2	3	aproven
John Smith	Jersey		1	3	3		2	2	aproven
Absol Willcox	Jersey		single						aproven
John Beamer	Jersey		1	2	2		3	5	aproven
Levy Lewin	Pensil.		single						aproven
John Petit	Jersey		single						aproven
Wm. Vanhorn	Jersey		1	1	1				aproven
Andrew Petit	Jersey		1	3	3		3	3	aproven
John Smith	Jersey		1				1	1	aproven
Elijah Chambers	Jersey		1				2	2	aproven
Esea Chambers	Jersey		1	2	3		1	1	aproven
Edmd. Parker	Jersey		1	1	1		3	3	aproven
Alexr. Nixon	Jersey		1	2	1		2	2	aproven
Jacob Glover	Jersey		1	1	2		4	4	aproven
Total									
48			33	53	45		68	97	

RECAPITULATION

46 Men Approven of

2 Men Not Aproven

33 Women

53 Boys

45 Daughters

68 Horses

97 Cows

Total of L. & Troops, Old Settlers M; W. & Children.

Wish to settle in the Western District of Niagara

NIAGARA, Sept. 17, 1787.

R. HAMILTON  
Supt. Western District

In compliance with the requests of the Loyalists and English inhabitants an order in council was passed authorising the Governor In Chief to grant lands in "free and common soccage" without payment of any quit rent.

ORDER IN COUNCIL

At the Court at St. James's the 26th of October, 1787.

Present

The King's Most Excellent In Council

Upon reading this Day at the Board a Letter from the Right Honourable Lord Sydney, one of His Majesty's Principal Secretaries of State to the Lord President of the Council together with the Draught of an Additional Instruction to the Right Honourable Lord Dorchester, Knight of the most Honourable Order of the Bath, Captain General and Governor in Chief in and over the Province of Quebec, &ca. in America, for allowing and enabling the said Governor with the Advice and Consent of the Council to grant Lands within the said Province of Quebec in free and Common Soccage, unincumbered, and without any Condition of Payment of any Crown or quit Rent whatever, upon Condition that the Grant so to be made shall not exceed one thousand Acres to one and the same person without His Majesty's approbation previously obtained; And also for enabling the said Lord Dorchester as Governor of the Provinces of Nova Scotia and New Brunswick to remit the Quit Rent of Thirty Pence, upon every Hundred Acres to such persons as do not hold by one and the same Grant more than one Thousand Acres; And directing that in every Township of Thirty Thousand Acres there be reserved Five Thousand Acres to be granted by His Majesty's special Directions; And instructing the said Governor to propose to the Council of the Province of Quebec the passing of a Law enabling persons holding Lands in Roture, with the consent of the Seigneurs to change that Tenure into Free and Common Soccage ---

It is ordered by His Majesty in Council, that the said Draught of Instruction and Letter Accompanying the same (Copies of which are hereunto annexed) together also with a Letter from the said Governor, with two Inclosures upon the subject Matter of the proposed Instruction Be, and they are hereby referred to the Right Honourable the Lords of the Committee of Council appointed for the consideration of all matters relating to the Trade and Foreign Plantation to consider thereof and Report their opinion thereupon to His Majesty at this Board.

W. Fawkiner

(Q. 28, pp. 374-6)

Before he received Lord Sydney's recent despatch and this order in council Lord Dorchester had written very strongly on the subject of organizing the militia and incidentally referring to the dissatisfaction of the Loyalist Settlers at the tenure of their lands in a most forcible manner. Considerable progress had been made in a resurvey of lands already occupied and the settlers were furnished with location tickets, many of which, often written on the backs of well-thumbed playing cards are attached to petitions for confirmation presented to the Executive Council years afterwards.

FROM PHILIP R. FREY TO HON. JOHN COLLINS, DEPUTY SURVEYOR GENERAL  
NIAGARA, 18th September, 1787.

Sir,

I have the honour to transmit this accompanied by plans and reports of surveys of Township number one and the others of number two, together with the first concessions of the latter lately surveyed which I hope will meet with your approbation.

"The person who had been employed in the surveying business previous to me had made few and very erroneous surveys, having only laid out a few lots for particular people, many plans may have been transmitted, which may not have been effectually executed. I am sorry to understand that his Honour Brigadier General Hope expects that I shall finish the survey of the Crown Lands by next or the latter end of the ensuing Winter, from His Honour's expectations in this respect I am indeed to entertain an opinion that he conceived much had already been done, before my appointment to this place. In order to expedite the survey at a very small additional expence to Government, I will wish his Honour's and your approbation to employ two very able assistants, provided you shall think proper to augment my pay during the active Survey to ten shillings Sterling per Day, in this case it might be accomplished during that period. I shall continue the survey with the utmost diligence and beg to have the honour to be, &c.

(Letter Book, No. 2, District of Nassau, pp 7-8.)

FROM LORD DORCHESTER TO LORD SYDNEY

QUEBEC, 8 NOVEMBER, 1787

NO. 43

My Lord –

The inclosed state and Distribution of the Troops in Canda will give Your Lordship at a view our Military strength and situation, and shew how far this Province is secured to the crown by the forces of Great Britain.

Two thousand Troops Extended Eleven Hundred Miles on a frontier (where several months of the year, the communication is impracticble) in large Forts falling to ruins, can neither cover the Country, nor preserve themselves, against a respectable force, tolerably well conducted, from being captured, without some powerful assistance.

The Vicinage and relative strength of the United States considered, the succour should not only be powerful, but at hand to give hopes of its being effectual. This condition of things deserves well to be considered. The urgent necessity of situation requires, and will justify political measures, the expediency whereof might otherwise be less apparent to many. The power to whom we should naturally look for succour, and from whom only we can receive it with sufficient promptitude, is the Provincial Militia, the people of the Country. To bring forth these resources was the object of the Militia Bill passed in April last - Your Lordship will perceive by the inclosed Return they amount to about twenty eight thousand men, it is the best return I can procure at present, but it is supposed considerably short of the Effective. Hitherto this Bill seems here to have general approbation, but until it is completely carried into execution, and some Battalions Embodied as proposed therein, no decided opinion can be given, nor Great reliance placed on the resources of the Country.

On an appearance that the Upper Posts were to be attacked, the Loyalists in their respective Districts said they would join the Troops and defend the Forts, so said the Canadians about Detroit as well as the Loyalists, they are best situated for this purpose. I have also had

many zealous declarations from the Loyalists above and below Cataraqui, but unfortunately hitherto a source of dissatisfaction remains among all these planters, and will remain till their lands are granted to them, as recommended in my letter No. 18. Endeavours to excite disturbances have already appeared among the latter with some success and though all is quiet at present, the source of evil remains, and will soon acquire additional strength by comparison, as lands on the opposite side of the River Saint Lawrence are sold for a small consideration, and will be stocked by people free from all quit-rents-I think the same is likely to happen on the Lakes Ontario and Erie, as measures are taken to settle these parts also. Whatever the present generation of Loyalists may do surely their posterity will never draw their swords to perpetuate a burthen, with which the subjects of the states, support of their swords Great Britain cannot maintain her dominion for a long time - Not to deceive ourselves, we must take for granted they will bear no burthen whatever longer than waiting for an opportunity to throw it off - They have some hopes, that Government will continue to deal liberally with them, in granting their lands on a free tenure, and for this reason they remain with Certificates of Location, and the grants in form are not made out, Sure I am it never can be the interest of the Crown nor of Great Britain to disappoint their hopes.

The Political System, which lost thirteen populous Provinces, cannot preserve us these remaining fragments for a long space of time -- I cannot too often repeat it the Provincials must have nothing to gain by a separation or we must not depend upon their Attachment, and without their attachment the Dominion of Great Britain will be of short duration -- But should these Provinces be so governed, as to leave them neither private not public advantage to hope for by revolution should they have nothing to hope, but much to fear, from a separation, the cause of defence may be made their own, national strength will be derived from their zeal, and in succession of time many national and mutual advantages may result from the connection. But I must further observe, that whatever is proper to grant, should be granted without delay -- Delay affords opportunities to turbulent and fractious men to poison whatever flows from the pure benevolence of the Crown, and to arrogate to their own seditious insolence the merit of all the free but tardy bounties of Government; and by such means they too frequently are suffered to usurp the gratitude and confidence of the people, which once Estranged from their natural objects seldom return unimpaired, and are easily employed for the worst of purposes. I am with much respect and esteem,  
Endorsed -- Quebec 6th November, 1787 -- Lord Dorchester  
No. 34. R. 10th December -- (2 Inclosures)  
(Q. 29. O. 178.)

He followed this letter with another announcing his intention of proposing the adoption of an ordinance giving private persons the right to navigate the lakes and enclosed a statement of the licensed trade with the Indians by that route.

FROM LORD DORCHESTER TO LORD SYDNEY

NO. 44

Quebec, 9th November, 1787.

My Lord --

I inclose an abstract of the Craft, Men and Goods, with their value, for which Licenses have been granted to trade with the Indians in the Upper Countries, in the course of the present year -- All the Trade upward by Niagara and Detroit, as well as the returning Peltries is carried

over the Lakes Erie and Ontario in vessels owned and navigated by Government , for which the Merchants are liable to pay a certain freight to the Crown.

This arrangement was made during the late War, when it was thought necessary for the security of the Province to confine the navigation to the King's Vessels. But many Inconveniences are found to arise from this mode of conveyance -- The Merchant has no control over these vessels, and the King's troops or effects always taking the preference subjects him to delays and loss which he often thinks might have been prevented, at any rate, even in case of unavoidable misfortunes, would have been much less severely felt, under his own management.

However occurrences of this sort are made a plea for non-payment of the freight, owing to which a considerable debt to Government, stated at nearly Twenty thousand five hundred Pounds has accumulated up to the year 1785, three fifths of which are supposed to be recoverable -- But independent of all these considerations it seems as if the States had adopted a System by pacific means to press forward the settlement of their own side of the river and lakes -- this renders it highly expedient that the King's Subjects be admitted to that Navigation as soon as maybe -- I shall therefore recommend it to the Legislative Council at their ensuing session to frame a law with such regulations and restrictions, as will procure the Advantages of that Navigation to the King's Subjects endeavouring at the same time to strengthen our defence and guard against Contraband trade -- This however (should the smuggler find an interest in this trade) it will be impossible fully to prevent, from the vast extent of open Country bordering upon those Lakes on the River which no Custom House Officers however numerous will be able to watch.

Endorsed --

Quebec, 9th Novr. 1787

Lord Dorchester (No. 44) R. 10th December (1 inclosure).

(Q. 28, pp. 184-6.)

#### MEMORANDUM OF TRADE

Abstract of Crafts, Men, Goods licensed to trade with the Indians in the Upper Countries in the year 1787.

Canoes, 116; Battoes, 167; Men, 1766; Gallons of Rum, 59,105; Gallons of Wine, 8,438;

Fusils, 1,570; Pounds of Gunpowder, 47,893; Cwt. of Shot and Ball, 742

Value of Goods, 97,972 Pounds

N.B. Besides the Above, sundry other Articles of Merchandize, not Enumerated, are included in the value of the Goods here mentioned.

Quebec, 9th November 1787.

Endorsed -- In Lord Dorchester's No. 44 of 9th Novr. 1787