

conduct of a number of persons who are combined to oppose all legal authority and (as I have reason to suspect) to take my life, has for a long time induced me to prefer self preservation to every other consideration.

Our mode of settling a number of families in Conway, in the opinion of the late Col. Franklin and several other gentlemen, as fully secured our interest from forfeiture in the other Townships as if they had been dispersed on the several tracts; and tho' a part of those settlers was plundered and driven from their habitations by the Enemy during the late War, their sufferings cannot in law or equity subject any lands to revert to the Crown on that account. The families settled in Conway and Atherton* in Sunbury peoples 2,000 acres more than our Rights in the Society's† Grants requires: Therefore nothing (consistent with common sense or the most contracted notions of equity) can be urged as reasons why we should be ousted or curtailed of any part of the land we have settled or are entitled to by the tenor of those grants.

You will find enclosed a calculation of the amount in acres of our shares in the several Townships, the description of Conway and the two grants opposite thereto. I cannot suppose that we have included in the lands disposed of at Manuwagonis more than a proportion of Marsh or good upland. A few steps from the road towards the Falls will lead to the worst of land (if Bogs, Morasses and rocks may be called lands) the front on the seashore having no harbour, nor the shore of the river any good landing places, whereas Musquash Cove is a harbour at all times of Tide and is navigable five or six miles. There is as many more on the Grand Bay where there is good landing places.

As you will direct the Survey to be made for the advantage of the concerned, I need only to add that I shall be ready to pay my proportion of the expence with thanks,‡ and that I shall write more fully by Dr. Sherman; in the meantime I am Gent'n

Your Most Humble Servant,

J. SIMONDS.

Messieurs Hazen & White.

* Probably St. Ann's Point the site of the present city of Fredericton is here referred to. See collections of N. B. Hist. Soc. Vol 1, pp. 109-110.

† The Association commonly called the Canada Land Company.

‡ In this letter was inclosed a memorandum by Mr. Simonds specifying the bounds of two grants lying to the eastward of St. John Harbor, the one a grant of 2,000 acres made to James Simonds, Richard Simonds and James White, October 2, 1765, and the other a grant of 2,000 acres to James Simonds dated May 1, 1770. Samuel Peabody was guided in surveying the lines of these grants (which appear never to have been run before) by the description given in Mr. Simonds' memorandum.