

was by the charter declared to be one of His Majesty's Colonies or Plantations in America, to be called "Rupert's Land." This charter is drawn with greater care and accuracy than those by which many of the other Colonies in America were established; probably from the high interest felt in the exalted characters in whose favour it was obtained. By this Grant which establishes a separate government, all the inferior regalities and subordinate powers of legislation were expressly vested in the grantees, together also with a right of levying war and making peace.

The extent of the rights conveyed, and of the territory granted is not to be decided by the narrow rules of local ordinances, or those confined regulations of the municipal code, which apply to the termination of differences between individual and individual; but must be determined by more liberal and comprehensive principles, by doctrines of more general and extensive application. Between individual and individual, length of possession might constitute Right, but between an individual and a Sovereign, or between an individual and a Colony or Government, a claim founded only on prescription could not exist.

The points which seem on the present occasion most deserving of consideration, are the exclusive trade and the limits of the Hudson's Bay Territory. On the subject of the Trade, some have laid it down as a principle, that the Crown cannot