

"the canal intended to be completed under His Majesty's direction, for  
 "connecting the waters of Lake Ontario with the River Ottawa, and for  
 "other purposes therein mentioned, except so much thereof as is actually  
 "occupied by the site of the Rideau Canal as originally excavated at the  
 "Sapper's Bridge, and of the basin and By Wash, as they stood at the  
 "passing of the Ordnance Vesting Act, and excepting also a tract of 200  
 "feet in breadth on each side of the said canal, the portion of the said  
 "land so excepted having been freely granted by the said Nicholas  
 "Sparks to the late Colonel By, of the Royal Engineers, for the purposes  
 10 "of the said canal, and excepting also a tract of 60 feet round the said  
 "basin and by-wash, wherever the present Ordnance boundary stones  
 "stand beyond that distance from the said basin or by-wash, but where  
 "they stand within that distance then they shall bound the tract so ex-  
 "cepted, which is freely granted by the said Nicholas Sparks to the said  
 "principal officers for the purposes of the said canal, provided no build-  
 "ings be erected thereon. And that, notwithstanding anything in the  
 "Act last cited- or in the Act of the said Legislature passed in the 2nd  
 "year of Her Majesty's reign, and intituled, 'An Act to limit the period  
 "for owners of land making claims for damages already occasioned by the  
 20 "construction of the Rideau Canal, and for other purposes therein men-  
 "tioned, or any judgment, decree, verdict or decision of or in any Court  
 "of law or equity, all the land to which the said proviso is applicable as  
 "aforesaid shall, if retained by the principal officers of Her Majesty's Ord-  
 "nance under the provisions of this Act, be paid for by them in the man-  
 "ner provided in this Act, and any parts thereof which shall not be so  
 "retained and paid for shall be and the same are hereby declared to be  
 "absolutely re-vested in the said Nicholas Sparks, or the parties respec-  
 "tively to whom the same may have been conveyed by him, before the  
 "10th day of May, 1846, to his and their own proper uses forever, and  
 30 "such conveyances shall not then be invalidated by any want of posses-  
 "sion in the said Nicholas Sparks, or adverse possession by the said prin-  
 "cipal officers at the time they were respectively made.

"16. And be it enacted, That the said principal officers shall, within  
 "one month after the passing of this Act, obtain a certificate from the offi-  
 "cer commanding Her Majesty's forces in this Province, setting forth  
 "what part or parts of the land to which the said proviso is applicable it  
 "is necessary to retain for the service of the Ordnance Department for  
 "military or canal purposes, and such part or parts shall be retained by  
 "and remain vested in the said principal officers in trust for Her Majesty,  
 40 "and the remainder, if any, shall be immediately thereafter absolutely  
 "re-vested in the said Nicholas Sparks, or the party or parties claiming  
 "under him to his and their own proper use for ever, any law to the  
 "contrary notwithstanding."

17. That the said proviso was in fact and effect an absolute indepen-