

Land, indeed, was the main object everywhere sought. Among the applicants was Arnold, who urged his application for a grant with unshrinking pertinacity. His claim was advocated by Cornwallis and Simcoe. There was some difficulty in his case, as personal settlement was exacted. Simcoe pointed out that he was extremely obnoxious to the U.E. loyalists, and suggested that his attendance should be dispensed with on account of his wounds. Arnold was finally allowed for himself and his family 14,600 acres. It was on this occasion that Simcoe declared that with proper and honourable support Upper Canada would prove the most valuable possession out of the British isles, in population, commerce and the principles of the British empire.*

Some lands, in 1798, were also granted to Count de Puisaye and some French royalists. They numbered originally forty, but finally only twenty-one remained in the township of Windham. De Puisaye had taken a prominent part against the French revolution, and had been present at Quiberon bay in 1795. He had there incurred the suspicion of his countrymen, Windham says unjustly. Some of the party of higher rank had joined with the belief that they were entering upon a military career in British America; the settler's rough life had little charm for them, so they severed their connection with the enterprise. De Puisaye himself finally returned to England to die in poverty in 1827.†

Russell, on assuming the government in 1796, made preparations to call the next parliament at York, in accordance with Simcoe's instructions. The chief justice, Elmsley, protested against making York in its condition the seat of government. There were no houses for residence, no place for meeting of the legislature, no court-house for holding the sessions, no gaol. There was no accommodation for senators or jurors. Those who attended must live in tents or be

* Can. Arch., Q. 285, p. 417, 26th of March, 1798. Ib. p. 423, 28th of March.

† This subject is fully entered into in the Archive Report of 1888, pp. 26-31. Appendix, pp. 73-87.