

It has been already stated that at the time of the death of John Coffin, and subsequent to that event, for some years, the family of John Coffin had been dispersed through the world, engaged in the naval or military services of the Crown, and that it was not until after the close of the American war in the year 1816, that certain members of the family were enabled to make a united effort in support of their just claims. The result of that application has been shown by the letter from the Secretary to Earl Bathurst, given at length, (p. 6.) The obstacle here raised, though most unjustifiable (reference being had to the period when the grant had been ordered in the most authentic shape known to the British constitution, and that acquiescence in the original grant ought never to have been clogged by *ex post facto* conditions); naturally enough deterred further immediate urgency on the part of men again separated, again occupied with public duties, in remote stations, and despairing, not of the justice of their cause but of the cause itself, from oft repeated and long continued disappointment. There is reason to believe that another application had been contemplated by the family at a still later period, but that the absence of the original papers which had been sent to England with the memorial to Earl Bathurst, in 1816, the difficulty if not impracticability of recovering them, the too great importance attached to these documents, and the doubts and delays to which their absence gave rise, ended finally in no renewed effort having been made.

Your memorialist has also already stated by what an unexpected accident these papers came into his hands. He has felt it to be his duty to the memory of his grandfather, as well as to the interests of his own family, to lay them before your Excellency, praying, at the same time, from your Excellency, such measure of consideration and justice as your Excellency is competent to award.

He hopes that he has been able to establish satisfactorily,

1. The loyal devotion shown and the sacrifices and sufferings endured by his grandfather, John Coffin, in the cause of his king.
2. His losses and services during the siege of Quebec, 1775-6, losses which have never been repaid, and services which have not been compensated.
3. That although these services and losses were fully and honorably recognised by the government of the day, and compensation awarded, the intentions of the government were frustrated by influences beyond its control.
4. That John Coffin and his family omitted no practicable effort to obtain the lands awarded to them as a compensation for their losses and services.
5. That, unlike others who have neglected lands allotted to them, they encounter no conflicting claims, based on long and adverse possession. All they ask is that the order in Council of the 18th March, 1802, may be carried out by an actual grant of wild and unoccupied lands of the Crown.