

SESSIONAL PAPER No. 18

and we trust we shall derive most effectual assistance through your Means towards the Completion of our wishes.—We are with the greatest Esteem & Respect

Gentlemen

your most obedient & very humble Servants

James McGill	Bouthillier
Simon McTavish	Jn De Lisle
Benj ^a Frobisher	P ^{re} Guy
Rich ^d Dobie	Dumas
James Finlay	S. Martin
Nicholas Bayard	M ^{ce} Blondeau
	Perinault
	P ^{re} Foretier
	Jf. Perrault
	Jh. papineau

To Mess^{rs}

Phyn & Ellice

Robert Rashleigh & Co

J Strachan J McKenzie & Co

Dyer Allan & Co

Rob^t Hunter

John Strettell

John Paterson

London

ENDORSED : In letter from Committee of Quebec Merch^{ts} of 8. February 1786

LETTER FROM MERCHANTS OF QUEBEC.¹

Quebec 9 Nov^r 1785

Gentlemen

We received your favor of the 26th May last Concerning the Petitions from this Province transmitted you last Spring—And are sorry to see that Ministry seem to be inimical thereto—

We intended applying to the Country parishes to procure more Signatures to these Petitions—but as you mentioned in your Letter that Government meant to send out orders that the Sense of the whole people should be taken on the Substance of them² We thought it better to wait for that General decision, well Convinced it would turn out in our favour—The Arrival of the Antelope packet awaked us from that delusive Dream. The removal of Mr. Hamilton from the Government and placing the Civil and Military

¹ Canadian Archives, Q 26—1, p. 48. This also is given in English and French; the English copy being signed by the English merchants and the French by the French merchants.

² See despatch of Sydney to Hope which follows this document, as also the references to this matter in the debate on the bill introduced by Mr. Powys, M.P., given in note 2, p. 767.