

In the official report of Charles Buller, M. P., the private secretary of Lord Durham, printed in this session of parliament, it is stated that three millions of acres of fertile land have very recently been obtained from the Indians by the government. Hence it is obvious that the proceedings consequent upon the treaty of Sir Francis Head had not been arrested. Authentic private information, with which the committee has been made acquainted, confirms this fact, and represents the sale of the lands so acquired as still going forward. The printed report likewise shows that some of the lands which the government has thus offered for sale, had acquired, through Indian improvements, the value of more than £3 per acre. Of the mode in which land has been obtained from the Indians, the same report states, that, "In the return of granted lands accompanying this report (No. 13) are included appropriations made shortly after the termination of the American war, to Indians of the Six Nations, who had abandoned the old seats of their tribe to establish themselves in the province, under the protection of the English crown, as well as some smaller blocks of land, which were reserved for the Indians of other tribes, out of the cessions made by them of the land which they had formerly occupied. The land appropriated for the use of the Six Nations' Indians consisted chiefly of 570,000 acres of fertile and advantageously-selected land, lying on each side of the Grand River, from its mouth to its source. At the present time, according to the statement of Mr. Jarvis, agent for the Indians, they do not possess, in round numbers, more than about 200,000 acres; I believe the precise amount is 187,000 acres. Of the manner in which the large portion they have alienated was acquired by the individuals into whose hands, as it is stated by Mr. Radenhurst, it passed with the sanction of the government of the colony, and nearly the whole of whom were connected with that government, I could not obtain any testimony upon which I could feel myself justified in relying. It is, however, certain that the consideration paid for it was for the most part of merely temporary benefit to them. The government, under whose guardianship the Indians were settled, and whose duty it should have been to provide efficient securities against any improvident grants, by which a provision, intended to be permanent, might be disposed of for inadequate or temporary returns, would seem, in these instances, to have neglected or violated its implied trust. To the extent of this alienation the objects of the original grant, so far as the advantage of the Indians was concerned, would appear to have been frustrated by the same authority, and almost by the same individuals that made the grant. I have noticed this subject here for the purpose of showing that the government of the colony was not more careful in its capacity of trustee of these lands, than it was in its general administration of the lands of the province."

It is by no means easy to obtain satisfactory and full particulars respecting the condition of the Indians who have become dispossessed of their lands; but it is well known that it is felt by them to