

The words "hunting grounds" are important because the Indians rely a great deal on that expression—"hunting grounds"; and they certainly can quote this proclamation.

We do, therefore, with the advice of our Privy Council, declare it to be our Royal will and pleasure, that no governor or commander-in-chief in any of our Colonies of Quebec, east Florida, or west Florida, do presume upon any pretense whatever, to grant warrants, or survey, or pass any patents for lands beyond the bounds of their respective governments, as described in their commissions; as also, that no governor or commander-in-chief, in any of our other colonies or plantations in America, do presume for the present, and until our further pleasure be known, to grant warrants of survey, or pass patents for any lands beyond the heads or sources of any of the rivers which fall into the Atlantic ocean from the west and northwest, or upon any lands whatever; which not having been ceded to, or purchased by us, as aforesaid, and reserved to the said Indians, and any of them.

And we do further declare it to be our royal will and pleasure, for the present as aforesaid, to reserve under our sovereignty, protection, and dominion, for the use of the said Indians, all the lands and territories not included within the limits of our said three new governments, or within the limits of the territory granted to the Hudson's Bay Company; as also the lands and territories lying to the westward of the sources of the rivers which fall into the sea, from the west and northwest, as aforesaid. And we do hereby strictly forbid, on pain of our displeasure, all our loving subjects from making any purchases or settlements whatever, or taking possession of the lands above reserved, without our special leave and license for that purpose, first obtained.

And we do further strictly enjoin and require all persons whatever, who have either wilfully or inadvertently seated themselves, upon any land within the countries above described, or upon any other lands, which, not having been ceded to, or purchased by us, are still reserved to the said Indians, as aforesaid, forthwith to remove themselves from such settlement.

That point, I think, is important, because it is where the Crown first asserted the policy of expelling trespassers from Indian lands. The Crown has continued to assume that responsibility of keeping trespassers off Indian lands. That is one thing in which the Crown extends a special protective provision in the Indian's case. Anybody else has to look out for himself to get trespassers off his land, by using the ordinary legal methods open to him; but Indians do not have to do that. We do undertake and have done so throughout both Canada and the United States—not always with success—but we have made it, at least, a policy in law that nobody should be allowed to trespass on Indian land.

And whereas, great frauds and abuses have been committed in the purchasing of lands of the Indians, to the great prejudice of our interest, and to the great dissatisfaction of the said Indians:

In order, therefore, to prevent such irregularities for the future, and to the end, that the Indians may be convinced of our justice and determined resolution to remove all reasonable cause of discontent; We do, with the advice of our Privy Council, strictly enjoin and require that no private person do presume to make any purchase from the said Indians, of any lands reserved to the said Indians within those parts of our Colonies where we have thought proper to allow settlements; but, that if, at any time, any of the said Indians should be inclined to dispose of the said lands, the same shall be *purchased* only for us in our name at some public