

The Kings of Great Britain have for centuries, in common with the other Sovereigns of Europe, exercised the right of Granting Territories for the establishment of Colonies and Plantations. The prerogative of the Crown of England, already so restricted and limited, that its further reduction, would be viewed by those who feel an interest in the support of established governments with greater alarm than its extension, has in this point never been contested, and is founded upon, as well as sanctioned by the law and practice of nations. Under this branch of the prerogative, more has been done towards extending British institutions, laws, and language, than conquests could have effected; boundless forests have been transformed into cultivated countries, solitary wastes have been filled with population, and the settled and social habits of civilized life have been substituted for the wild and wandering condition of the savage.

In 1670, the King of Great Britain by Grant or Charter, established a new colony or plantation as had frequently been done by his predecessors in the case of several of the colonies, now the United States of America. This Grant was made in favor of Prince Rupert, the Duke of Albermarle, the Earl of Craven, the Lords Arlington, Ashley, and many others, who with their successors, were, by the Charter, constituted a Company by the name of the "*Company of Adventurers of England trading into Hudson's Bay.*" The Territory comprehended in this grant to the company and their successors