

1823.

and in Canada respectively. Transmits documents bearing on the consideration of the question of Crown reserves. Page 241

*Enclosed.* Papers Nos. 1, 2, 3. 255, 262, 275

Nos. 4 and 5 follow. 281

October 15,  
Queenstown.

Maitland to Bathurst (No. 106). Transmits petition from Lieut. James McGregor of militia. At the close of the late war, seven wounded officers of militia were awarded pensions, to be paid out of provincial funds. These were paid for two or three years. In 1821 a change was made in the Act and no provision was made that year for special pensions, but the officers were informed their pensions would be continued out of the Crown reserves to such as presented certificates from the board. This had been denied to Mr. McGregor on the ground of the slight nature of the wound which could easily be cured. He has been denied a special examination and went to Quebec when Dalhousie appointed a medical board. The importance of this as setting aside the authority of a provincial board by which the pension list had been materially reduced. McGregor had also granted letters of attorney to three persons for the same payment and also applied for it personally. There was no need to report this as the board had withheld a certificate, but if it had been reported McGregor would no doubt have been dealt with severely. 282

*Enclosed.* Memorial of James McGregor for payment of his pension. 288

Proceedings of a medical board on the case of Lieut. James McGregor. 290

October 23,  
Stamford.

Hillier to Claus. Enclosed in Maitland to Bathurst, 1st November.

November 1,  
York.

Maitland to Bathurst (No. 107). Recapitulates the correspondence previously held respecting the claim of the Indians to the lands on the Grand River, of which they claimed as their right an additional amount to that actually held. Doubts of Kerr being entitled to represent the opinions of the Indians. Is afraid of the consequence of giving the Indians their land in fee simple; as they may certainly lose their lands by their ignorance and unbounded profusion of which speculators would have been at hand to take advantage. Reasons given by most of the Indians for declining to accept a title to their lands the same as that of the white man. Their exemption from municipal taxes under present titles which they cannot escape when their titles are changed, nor can they prevent their lands being sold in execution to satisfy debts. These questions are discussed by the Indians, but those in favour of the fee simple charged the department with conjuring them up. The divided state of the Indians on the subject. 316

*Enclosed.* Hillier to Claus. Kerr and Brant, chiefs of the Mohawk nation, have as their deputies, relinquished on the part of the Five Nations all pretensions to lands recently purchased from the Chippewas, to which the Five Nations had no claim. His Majesty is favourable to the request from the Five Nations for a grant in fee simple for the lands purchased in their favour in 1784. A meeting of the Five Nations is called to decide formally on the subject. He (Claus) is to point out that after the completion of the grant, the annual presents should cease. The indulgence of lands being granted in fee simple should be restricted within as narrow limits as possible. 328

Brant to Claus. The Six Nations at a full council have agreed to accept a deed for the lands they now hold. The majority are anxious to possess the fee simple right to the lands agreeable to the orders of His Majesty's government. 331

Claus to Hillier. Transmits deed and letter from John Brant. The unwillingness of the Indians to accept the grant in fee simple, a large