

The Petition of Sundry inhabitants on the Rivers Memramcook and Petitcodiac in the Province of New Brunswick by their agent Francis Cormier,

—Humbly Sheweth.

That we your Petitioners and forefathers have been upwards of twenty years labouring in a state of uncertainty—That we first settled here on the title of Mr. Gorham who not fulfilling the condition of his grant as we are informed left his possession

Governor DesBarres then came and persuaded us as we were that he purchased Mr. Gorham's title, which before was declared null and which we have reason to believe was never since ratified in this province. Want of means and ability to vindicate our own cause obliged us to submit to his terms.

He made us a sort of offer consisting chiefly of conditions never complied with. Mistress Cannon his agent, not content with the produce which we yearly rendered her, according to agreement has by her menaces obliged part of the people to pay her a yearly rent and threatened those that resisted with expulsion

That new agents are now appointed, who as we are informed mean to oblige us to quit the land in which we have made large improvements or submit to any burden they may choose to impose on us and the more effectually to execute their plan they have employed the attorneys at law, Westmorland and Saint John, in order as we conceive that we might have no person of that description to speak for us were we in a condition to employ one.

Thus circumstances, ignorant of the language and laws of the country, and destitute of the means to defend our case in a Court of Justice—

Reply of Col. DesBarres

The Memorial of Mary Cannon of Castle Frederick, in the Province of Nova Scotia.

Humbly sheweth:

That your Memorialist for many years past has had the sole management and transacted the whole of the business of Lieut. Governor DesBarres by virtue of a Power by him to her given, by which she was fully empowered to let and convey lands &c, &c, and being at this time so empowered, she takes the liberty of informing Your Honours that Lieut. Gov. DesBarres some years ago, purchased all that tract of land situated lying and being on the River Petitcodiac and Memramcook originally granted to Lieut. Col. Goreham and the officers of his Corps for which he paid £1500 on which lands he has since settled fifty-six Acadian families as Tenants, to whom he has paid for dyking and draining the marsh lands &c, three thousand, three hundred and fifty pounds. After so large an expenditure, your Memorialist was much surprised when calling on those people a few days ago, to account for the rents, she was told that some of them had obtained grants of the land on which they were settled, and that all the rest had got a promise and expected grants likewise in a short time

The names of the persons who say they have grants are Jos. LeBlanc, Fearman LeBlanc, Paul LeBlanc and Peter Budrow & Son. Those persons were settled by Mr. DesBarres many years ago, on lands purchased by Mr. DesBarres formerly granted to Major Sheen, and have received from him for dyking and draining the marsh &c. £350.

Your Memorialist further begs leave to inform you that Lieut. Gov. DesBarres has a Power from the Guardians of the Heirs of Lord Wm. Campbell to take care care of and let to the most advantage, for the use of the heirs, the lands granted to the said late Lord Wm.,