

were not executed, as the lands were surveyed, the claim to them might be disputed. But this would be proving too much, for it would destroy the claim of the younger children of the U. E. Loyalists to their U. E. rights, for which deeds were not executed till many years had elapsed, in a great majority of cases, after the Governor in Council was authorised to grant them their 200 acres a-piece.

The case of the Canada Company may aid us in obtaining a correct view of this question.—About the year 1827 the Crown,—that is, the Imperial Government in England,—for reasons which, no doubt, appeared to them good, sold that company “the Crown Reserves” and the Huron Tract. The right of the Crown to do this, and the title of the Company to these reserves, and this rich and valuable tract has never, as yet, been called in question.

In like manner at an early day large grants of land were made to various persons about the Government of the Province: to Legislative Councillors, to members of the House of Assembly, and other leading men. The right of the Government to make these grants, and the title of these gentlemen and their children to these properties, has never, as yet, been called in question.

But, about thirty years ago, a small but restless and unprincipled faction, anxious to raise themselves at the expense of others, imagined that the “Clergy Reserves” would afford them a good subject on which to agitate the country. They accordingly raised a hue and cry against them, because all did not share in the proceeds of them; defamed the clergy of the church in the most unscrupulous manner; and, finding many jealous of the standing of the clergy, succeeded in exciting a feeling against the Reserves, and the Church as holding them. The Government, in 1830, anxious to pacify these agitators, or, at least, hoping to divide their forces, proposed to the twelve judges of England the question, whether the term “a Protestant Clergy” might not be so construed as to include the Church of Scotland? which at that time took a prominent