

Letter from Caleb G. Martindale to Mr. Chief Secretary Murdoch with three enclosures.

(Copy.)

Stanbridge, 14th February, 1841.

SIR,

I herewith have the honor of transmitting to you for the information of His Excellency the Governor General, a Petition from a few of the Inhabitants of the County of Missisquoi (which has been drawn up and circulated only amongst a few respectable Inhabitants praying for the removal of the place of Election from Frelighsburg to Bedford) which would have been numerous signed had there been time, but supposing that the Writs for the Election would soon issue, I send the one numerous signed in 1835, praying for the removal to Stanbridge Village East, and also one other one numerous signed praying to have it moved to Bedford Village, the place now prayed for, which place you will find will accommodate all the North and West Electors better than they are at present; and as regards the East they will be better or as well accommodated by going to Dunham as to Frelighsburg, and in fact better, for many of the Electors coming from the Eastern extremity of Sutton at some seasons of the year will have to travel through a corner of the United States, in order to come to the Poll—all of which will be fully explained by reference to Bouchette's Map; you will by examination find that the Eastern parts of Sutton are not settled, and a great part of it never can be, and by that means the greatest part of the population lies far West of Dunham Flat and Frelighsburg.

I have the honor to be, Sir,

Your obedient and humble servant,

(Signed,) CALEB G. MARTINDALE.

To T. W. C. Murdoch, Esquire,
Chief Secretary, Montreal.

(First Enclosure.)

(Copy.)

To the Honorable, the House of Assembly of the Province of Lower Canada, in Provincial Parliament assembled.

The Petition of the undersigned Inhabitants, in the County of Missisquoi and Province of Lower Canada, His Majesty's Loyal subjects,

MOST HUMBLY SHEWETH:

That your Petitioners conceive it a just cause of complaint that they should, in order to record their votes for Members to represent them in Provincial Parliament, be obliged to travel to the Village of Frelighsburg, inasmuch as the same is situated within about two miles of the United States' Line, and, consequently, at the Southern extremity of the County, which does, therefore, subject your Petitioners, and a majority of the Electors of said County, to much unnecessary inconvenience and useless expense.

That the subject of complaint may be removed by changing the place of holding the Poll, from Frelighsburg to some place in said County better adapted to the convenience of the Freeholders thereof.

That the local position of the East Village in Stanbridge makes it a place well calculated to accommodate the Electors in the North Western, Western, and South Western sections of the County, and, in fact, a majority of the Electors of the whole County, being situated about an equal distance from the North and South extremities thereof, and about seven miles from its Western Boundary, with good roads leading therefrom to every quarter of the County.

Your Petitioners, therefore, pray that your Honorable Body will be pleased to take the matters herein complained of into serious consideration, and grant the prayer of this Petition, by passing an Act authorizing the Poll hereafter to be opened and held one-half of the time in the aforesaid East Village of Stanbridge, instead of being one-half of the time held in the Village of Frelighsburg—being held the rest part of the time, as usual, at the Village in Dunham, usually denominated Dunham Flat.

And as in duty bound your Petitioners will ever pray.

(Signed.) JOHN CHANDLER, Capt.,
and 155 others.

County of Missisquoi, Feb. 26, 1835.

(Second Enclosure.)

(Copy.)

To the Honorable the House of Assembly of the Province of Lower Canada, in Provincial Parliament assembled.

The Petition of the undersigned Inhabitants in the County of Missisquoi and Province of Lower Canada, His Majesty's Loyal Subjects,

MOST HUMBLY SHEWETH,

That Your Petitioners conceive it a just cause of complaint, that they should, in order to record their votes for Members to represent them in Provincial Parliament, be obliged to travel to the village of Frelighsburg, inasmuch as the same is situated within about two miles of the United States Line, and consequently at the southern extremity of the County, which does therefore subject your Petitioners and a majority of the Electors of said County to much unnecessary inconvenience and useless expense. That the subject of complaint may be removed by changing the place of holding the Poll, from Frelighsburg to some place in said County better adapted to the convenience of the Freeholders thereof.

That the local position of Bedford Village, in Stanbridge, makes it a place well calculated to accommodate the Electors of the North Western, Western, South Western, and Southern sections of the County, and in fact a majority of the Electors of the whole County, being situated about an equal distance from the Northern and Southern extremities thereof, with good roads leading therefrom to every quarter of the County.

Your Petitioners therefore pray, that Your Honorable body will please to take the matters herein complained of into serious consideration, and grant the prayer of this Petition, by passing an Act authorizing the Poll hereafter to be opened and held one half of the time in the aforesaid Village of Bedford.