

upon some families to follow him, and he in consequence obtained General Vaudreuil's consent and a promise of a grant of any spot or tract of land he might pitch upon, that were unconceded lands on St. Lawrence River above Sault St. Louis. Upon which he left Caghnawagez with the families that determined to follow him, and fixed upon the spot where St. Regis village is now established.

"That the troubles of the war never afforded him an opportunity to get a deed executed, deferring it to the more leisable time of peace, besides not expecting the war would end so unfavourably for France. Père Gordan frequently mentioned to me the extent of the tract with his reasons for the quantity which he intended should commence at the Rivière des Raisins and on to the foot of the Long Sault, six leagues deep on each side of the river, urging me after the conquest of Canada to procure him a grant for said tract either from the Governor of the Province or Sir Wm. Johnson, as sole Superintendent of Indian Affairs, but I always endeavoured to put him off as well as I could, and to my knowledge he never received any writing or title for said tract.

"The account the St. Regis Indians give me for claiming the above tract of land, was, that when they had a falling out with Père Gordan about taking too much upon himself about their political affairs in the village, when they demanded of him to deliver them up the deed of their land in his possession, which he denied, and they insisted upon that he concealed it from them, telling me in Council that he was possessed of such an instrument, and they believed his intention was to act as his associates did intend at Sault St. Louis, to keep the land for himself. This is what the Indians allege about their claim to these lands. It may be probable that the French Government promised a grant for the settlement at St. Regis, for as I learnt from a faithful Canadian Indian, it was more a political scheme of the French Government to establish a settlement of Indians