

is simply, that I embarked at Leghorn, with my family, on the 28th of May last, and Mr. Witcher left London two days after the despatch from the Earl Bathurst was dated, and finally sailed on the 8th of June; Mr. Witcher had embarked his family and effects previous to the receipt of the despatch, and had, besides, the most perfect assurance of my departure from Italy, which would have taken place on the 1st of May, had not political impediments prevented it, so that I was of necessity ignorant of the error into which Earl Bathurst had fallen. Being persuaded that his Lordship must have forgotten the engagement he had induced me to enter into by his own suggestion communicated to me by Mr. Hamilton, the Under Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs, and that his Lordship has classed me among those applicants for lands who have no official claim for preference, I beg to entreat you will be pleased to suggest to his Excellency, as the most efficacious means of ascertaining the correctness of my statement, and the justice of my claims, that the Earl Bathurst be requested to refer to Mr. Hamilton, who by his Lordship's orders directed my attention to Canada, under the promise of encouragement, and to Messrs. Gordon and Amyot, who conveyed to me his Lordship's assurance of the grant to me and my associates, as detailed in my former letter.

I have, &c.
(signed) *H. B. Felton.*

No. 5.
Despatch from
Sir G. Drummond
to Lord Bathurst,
22 September 1815.

Enclosure.

— No. 6. —

COPY of a DESPATCH from Earl *Bathurst* to Sir *G. Drummond*.

Sir,

Downing-street, 9 December 1815.

I HAVE received your letter of the 22d September last, inclosing one from Mr. Felton, on the subject of the quantity of land you have been authorized to grant to him and his associates, and I am to acquaint you, that as the instructions conveyed to you were drawn up after communication with Mr. Hamilton on the subject, I cannot sanction any further grant of land until that already made shall be so far advanced in cultivation as to authorize such an addition.

I have, &c.
(signed) *Bathurst.*

No. 6.
Despatch from
Earl Bathurst to
Sir G. Drummond,
9 December 1815.

— No. 7. —

COPY of a DESPATCH from Earl *Bathurst* to Lieutenant-General Sir *J. Sherbrooke*.

Sir,

Downing-street, 7th December 1816.

I HAVE the honour to transmit to you the copy of a letter addressed to me by Mr. Witcher, stating, that the conditions under which Mr. Felton and himself received a grant of land last year have been fulfilled, and requesting that I will in consequence convey to you my sanction to an increased grant, in compliance with the expectation held out to them at that period; I have therefore to desire, that if the land settled by Messrs. Feltons and Witchers should be in the advanced state of cultivation represented in the enclosed letter, that you will make to them a further allotment of land, as nearly adjoining their present location as circumstances will admit, to the amount of 3,000 acres to Mr. Felton, and 700 acres to each of his associates; and that you will also assign to such of their labourers as may be desirous of becoming settlers on their own account 100 acres each in the same neighbourhood, under the usual conditions of residence and cultivation.

I take this opportunity of calling your attention to that part of Mr. Witcher's letter which represents the inconvenience sustained by settlers, from the present arrangement of the Crown and Clergy Reserves: I am fully aware of the reasons which have led to the mode of making these reservations, which is now the subject of complaint, and I am not in any degree disposed to question its utility; but I would suggest to your consideration, whether it would not be more for the advantage both of the settlers and of the Clergy or the Crown, if a practice were introduced of letting these reserves to the persons who had the adjoining lots, upon lease for their lives, and a certain number of years after their death, instead of adhering to that now in force, of letting them for specified periods. By giving the lessee of these reserves a life-interest, it appears to me that he would be more anxious to engage in the cultivation, and his exertions would still further be animated by the assurance that his family would, for a limited period after his death, reap the benefit of his labour. It requires, on the other hand, no argument

No. 7.
Despatch from
Earl Bathurst to
Lieut.-Gen.
Sir J. Sherbrooke,
7 December 1816.