

SESSIONAL PAPER No. 18

and to request their Concurrence to such Laws as may be necessary for obtaining the Objects desired—

Rob ^t Hunter	Jn ^o Brickwood
Rob ^t Rashleigh	J. Strachan. J. Mackenzie
M & I Gregory & Co	& Co
Phyn & Ellice	Hen ^y Callender
Jn ^o Shoolbred	Jn ^o Paterson
Dyer Allan & Co	Isaac Todd
John Strettell	Elias Lock

LETTER FROM MERCHANTS OF MONTREAL.¹

Montreal 2^d Novem^r 1785

Gentlemen

We had the satisfaction of receiving on the 30th July your esteemed favor of the 26th May, to which we should before now have made Answer, but the hurry of private Business which in the shortness of our Summer season requires the most Assiduous application, & the desire of procuring the co-operation of the Loyalists, in order to transmit you a Petition from them by the fall ships, occasioned the long delay.

In conformity to your recommendation, and in Justice to that respectable and Numerous body of new Settlers in the upper parts of the Province, the substance of our petitions was thrown into a more concise and general form, and transmitted to them for perusal and approbation ; but owing to a Petition which last year had been presented by their Agents in London,² they are of Opinion (but without finding any fault with the Language or Spirit of ours) that it will be more proper for them, to wait the result of that Application, than to join in Another, le'ast their Interference should in some degree Militate against the Measures w^h their Agents may be pursuing.—We shall transmit you Copy of the Advice which one of the most respectable and Intelligent amongst the Loyalists received from London on this Subject.

The Letter is dated 15th June 1785 saying—

“The Gentlemen from Canada now in London, who intend settling in the upper parts of the Province (the writer of that Number) have presented a Petition to his Majesty, praying for an Alteration of the present mode of Government, and the Tenure by which they hold their Lands.—or that the upper parts of the Province including all the new Settlements,

¹ Canadian Archives, Q 26—1, p. 42. English and French versions of this letter are given in parallel columns, the English copy being signed by the English merchants and the French copy by the French merchants.

² See p. 773.