

To have destroyed the colony would not answer the object of its enemies, unless the hope of its revival should be also destroyed, and the same anti-colonial spirit, which, while the Settlement was in being, prompted its opponents to seek its annihilation through scenes of devastation and slaughter, is now, since its fall, exerting an equally zealous, although no longer a sanguinary hostility, in endeavours to overturn the authority under which it derived its existence. For this purpose the Hudson's Bay Company, under whose sanction the colony was founded, have been called into the contest; the validity of their ancient Charter has been attacked; and their rights have been denied.

Although many of the evils which have occurred are past remedy, it still imports the friends of established authority, that the success which has attended the attempts against the lives of the colonists, should not extend to the attempts against the rights under which the colony was founded.

The object of these pages is therefore, in the first place, to suggest some considerations respecting the validity of the Hudson's Bay Charter, and the extent of the rights, particularly as to territory, which it must be understood to convey; in the second, to shew the absence of any claim or title on the part of the North-West Company, to hold possessions in the Hudson's Bay Territories, or even what are termed the *Indian Territories*, beyond the limits of the Hudson's Bay Charter.

The Kings of Great Britain have for centuries, in common with the other Sovereigns of Europe, exercised the right of granting Territories for the establishment of Colonies and Plantations. The prerogative of the Crown of England, already so restricted and