

SESSIONAL PAPER No. 18

Given at Our Court at St James's the 2<sup>d</sup> Day of July 1771.  
In the Eleventh Year of Our Reign.

Whereas it hath been represented unto Us, that the Terms and Conditions, under which you are by our Royal Instructions to you, authorized and directed to make Grants of Lands within our Province of Quebec under your Government, have been found to be inconvenient and inadequate ; and that it would be more for our advantage, & for the benefit of Our Subjects inhabiting in, and restoring to our said Province, if the ancient Mode of granting Lands which prevailed under the French Government before the Conquest and Cession of the said Province, was to be adopted ; We therefore taking the same into Our Royal Consideration, and being desirous to promote as far as in Us lies, the Welfare and Prosperity of Our said Province, have thought fit to revoke & do hereby revoke and annul all such parts of our said Instructions to you ; & every Clause, Matter and Thing therein, which contain any Powers or Directions in respect to the granting of Lands within Our said Province ; And it is Our Will and Pleasure & you are hereby authorized and empowered to grant, with the Advice of the Council of Our said Province, the Lands which remain subject to Our disposal, in Fief or Seigneurie, as hath been practised heretofore antecedent to the Conquest thereof ; omitting however in such Grants, so to be made by you, the reservation of the exercise of such judicial Powers, as hath been long disused within Our said Province. And it is Our further Will and Pleasure that all Grants in Fief and Seigneurie, so to be passed by you, as aforesaid, be made subject to Our Royal Ratification, and also be registered within Our said Province, in like manner as was Practised in regard to Grants held in Fief and Seigneurie under the French Government.<sup>1</sup>

G.R.

HILLSBOROUGH TO CRAMAHÉ.<sup>2</sup>WHITEHALL 3<sup>d</sup> July 1771Lieut. Gov<sup>r</sup> CRAMAHÉ

SIR, The King having been graciously pleased to appoint you Lieutenant Governor of the Province of Quebec, your Commission has been

<sup>1</sup> The extent to which these instructions reversed the existing system of land grants and land tenures, may be gathered from a reference to that portion of the previous Instructions to Governor Carleton dealing with land grants. See sections 40-58, pp. 313-319.

<sup>2</sup> In a letter of Carleton to Hillsborough, March 15th, 1769, he requests that he be permitted to return to Britain for a few months, in order to place his views directly before the Government. "By being upon the spot with the King's Servants, I might clear up to them many Points, and remove many Difficulties, which, at this Distance, can neither be so thoroughly discussed, or perfectly understood, as is necessary for the King's Service, whose Interests, in Regard to the Province, I really believe, I could more effectually promote and advance by a Residence of a few Months in London, than of so many years in this Country, and which I am the sooner induced, to propose, that the Government thereof, in my absence, would remain in the Hands of Mr. Cramahé, the eldest Councillor, from whose Sense, Moderation, and Disinterestedness, as well as knowledge of all public Business, concerning it, I am persuaded, the Interests of the Crown could not suffer." Q 6, p. 38. On Dec. 1st, Hillsborough reported that leave of absence had been granted. Carleton left Canada early in August 1770, and on the 9th a Proclamation was issued by Cramahé declaring that the command had temporarily devolved upon him. Carleton's stay in London being prolonged by the development of events in America and the relation of Canada to the situation there, Cramahé was raised to the rank of Lieutenant Governor, in July 1771.