

the command of his Excellency General Gage; when the declining health of his wife required him to embark for England: that your petitioner had at that time no personal fortune, no landed estate, no possession, but had expectations from his family and connexions of an ample inheritance in lands, which he forfeited by his loyalty, being declared by a Provincial law to be an Alien incapable of such inheritance: that your said petitioner, without requesting any aid from the public under the oppression of real poverty, acquired a profession by which he obtains with great labor and application, a moderate subsistence for a large and growing family;—he hopes that your Lordship will not consider it too presumptuous in him at this time to solicit a grant of land in this Province which may in some measure repair to his children the loss they will sustain from their father's loyalty—and in humble assurance that your lordship will incline a favourable ear to his petition, presumes to point out a vacant spot of land on the South side of the Ottawa River, lying between the Upper Boundary of the Seignory of Mr. de Lothbiniere, and the lower boundary of that of M. De Longueuil, and to pray, that your lordship would grant permission to your petitioner to locate in that tract such quantity of land, as your lordship in your goodness may judge meet.

And your Petitioner as in duty bound will ever pray."

"SIR—Mr. Chief Justice has this evening communicated to me the tenor of your declaration to Lord Dorchester in Council this morning, purporting, that after enjoying the protection of his Majesty's Government during the late war, in the character of a loyalist; I had at the peace quitted the Province with the view to establish myself in the United States, and had actually abjured my allegiance, and taken the oaths as a subject of one of the revolted Colonies.

"The facts which gave color to the promulgation of so injurious a falsehood, I never pretended to conceal from Lord Dorchester, nor did I think an apology necessary for any part of my deliberate conduct; but as my quitting the Province for a time, and actual residence in the States, form a colourable pretext to give credit to the other false and invidious charge, I find it owing to myself to call upon you to declare from what source you have your information, that I ever took the oaths of allegiance to any of the United States; that if it proceeds from any one of any credibility, I may take the necessary steps to confute and punish the slander."

I am, &c.

W. D. P.

To the Hon. Dr. Mabane.