

Correspondence
respecting
Mr. Felton.

to make me a free grant of the said land. I am an Englishman, and I have been 16 years in the country. I bought the land in question from Mr. Felton in 1824.

Did you present a petition to the Governor-in-chief for a grant of land before you went into the township, or after your arrival there?—No.

Did you obtain an order of the executive council for a grant of land; and if so, what quantity was assigned to you, and in what township?—No.

Were you furnished with a location ticket from the surveyor-general's office?—No.

Did you pay the surveyor-general's fee of 7 s. 8 d. on the location tickets, and to whom was it paid?—No.

Did you receive a location ticket from Mr. Felton?—No.

When you went upon your land, was there any improvement upon it; if so, how much land was cleared?—None of it was cleared.

Was there a house, or any other building on the lot?—None.

Whom did you pay for the improvements, and how much did you pay for them?—There were no improvements to be paid for.

Did you understand that Mr. Felton put you on the land as agent, or on his account?—Mr. Felton acted on his own account, and not as agent.

Wednesday, 16th December 1835.—BARTHOLOMEW CONRAD AUGUSTUS GUGY, Esq.,
in the Chair.

Mr. *Nathan Parker*, of the township of Stukely, farmer, called in; and being interrogated, answered:—I formerly resided in Ascot. I have known the Honourable William Bowman Felton 13 or 14 years. I have had considerable dealings with him; I have bought land from him. I bought from Mr. Felton the following lots of land, viz.: lot No. 1, in the 9th range of Ascot, and lots Nos. 21, 22 and 23, in the 7th range, east half of lot No. 14 in the 9th range, No. 7, in the 16th range of the township of Hatley. There never was a word said of the performance of settling duties, nor of a location ticket; on the contrary, he represented the land to be his own, and sold it to me as such, and never gave me a location ticket. I paid him 350 dollars for lot No. 1, in the 9th range of Ascot. I paid him 60 dollars for each of the other lots. The way in which I paid the first-mentioned lot is by order on one William Walker, blacksmith, of Sherbrooke, who settled with Mr. Felton for the amount. I never took a receipt, but I believe I could also establish the other payments. I made these purchases about six or seven years ago. Immediately after buying from Mr. Felton I sold the lands again to the following persons, viz.: I sold lot No. 1, in 7th range of Hatley, to Ezra Cole, for 70 dollars; lots No. 22 and 23, in the 7th range of Hatley, to Elliot P. Sawyer, for 200 dollars, to the best of my recollection; east half of lot No. 14, in the 9th range, to Samuel Ryder, for 80 dollars; and I sold lot No. 1, in the 9th range of Ascot, to James Parker, for 320 dollars; all these people paid me for their several purchases. They went upon the several lots as upon their own property. They were never desired to perform settling duties, and never expected to be called on for any, because they paid their money for the land; yet I find that they have got free grants of those lands, and I presume that Mr. Felton has certified that they had performed settlement duties, because I see that they are included in his return to that effect. I can, however, and so can they, certify to the contrary.

Enclosure No. 2, in Despatch from the Earl of Gosford, dated May 12, 1836.

REMARKS on a Report of a Committee of the House of Assembly, submitted for the consideration of the Members of the Legislature and the Public at large.

It appears by the newspapers, that a committee of the House of Assembly has submitted to that honourable body a report, which if public rumour may be relied on, contains charges of a calumnious and defamatory nature, reflecting on my character and conduct as a public officer.

I have long been aware that certain imputations injurious to my reputation were entertained by the Assembly, and I have anxiously awaited their exhibition, that I might be enabled to meet and refute them.

The charges being directed against me as a public officer, I had a right to expect that communication of them would be made to the executive, but so far as I can learn no petition or complaint on the subject has been brought under the notice of Government.

I had equally a right to expect that the hon. gentleman who brought the complaint before the Assembly would, from his station in the country, have felt it to be courteous at least, if not just, to afford me an opportunity of explaining or vindicating any doubtful point in my conduct, but I have not been favoured with any intimation of a desire on his part to obtain information on the subject; although in noticing an anonymous attack in the newspapers, I professed my readiness to afford any disinterested inquirer all the explanation that could be required; further than this I could not go consistently with my ideas of public duty, conceiving that an officer under Government ought not to answer anonymous accusations in the public journals brought against him in his official capacity; his time and talents belonging to his employer, to whom alone he is responsible for their application, as well as for his official conduct.