

minerals, fossils, and conveniences for mills and other singular advantages for a common and public nature, to the prejudice of the general interest of the settlers, the Surveyor General and his Agents or Deputy Surveyors in the different Districts; shall confine themselves in the locations to be made by them upon Certificates of the respective Boards to such lands only as are fit for the common purposes of husbandry, and they shall reserve all other spots aforementioned, together with all such as may be fit for ports and harbors, or works of defence, or such as contain valuable timber for shipbuilding or other purposes, conveniently situated for water carriage, in the hands of the Crown. And they shall without delay give full and particular information to the Governor or Commander-in-Chief for the time being, of all such spots as are herein before directed to be reserved to the Crown, that order may be taken respecting the same.

"And the more effectually to prevent abuses, and to put individuals on their guard in this respect, any certificate of location given contrary to the true intent and meaning of this regulation is hereby declared to be null and void, and a special order of the Governor and Council made necessary to pledge the faith of Government for granting of any such spots as are directed to be reserved under any pretence whatever, except by an act under the signature of the Board for the District in which the lands are situated which is to be indorsed on this certificate.

"Given at Nassau this Twenty-Eighth day of June, one thousand seven hundred and Ninety.

"(Sgd) AUGUSTUS JONES,

"Acting Surveyor for the District of Nassau."

LAND BOARDS AND WOMEN CLAIMANTS.

Among the applicants were women who were justly entitled to have their claims recognized. The replies to these applications were generally in the following words. "That their claim was just, but other persons were at present in possession." Governor Simcoe bravely puts on record: "It is with real regret I am obliged to desire that the Order-in-Council for shares be strictly attended to. If, therefore, the Land Board of Essex and Kent can find out means to do justice to Mrs. Ainsie by the methods suggested in your letter and satisfy the present possessors, who until of late the unauthorized intruders on the land in question, I am persuaded it would meet their approbation. Signed, J. G. Simcoe."

This was not a solitary, but frequent case. Lord Dorchester, as well as Governor Simcoe, stood up for "women's rights" in their land claims.