

the most essential proclamations and debates. I took this publication upon myself, knowing it my indispensable duty to collect facts and pen them for the public good. I cannot drop this part of the subject before I go farther; I must remind you of the answer made by the Chief Justice and five members of the *Lower Province*, to Gov. Prescott as an excuse for not proceeding to grant the townships. "We, (say the council) declare it to be our intention to prevent the obtrusive race, bordering on this province (meaning the people of the *United States*) from coming on and taking lands by the robust title of occupancy. His Excellency Gov. Prescott in this case, used both feeling and forceable arguments.—He said he did not conceive, that they were an obtrusive race, as they had been called from home with most faithful promises by proclamation. His Excellency could not think that the settlers had any such intentions. It appears plain and easy to be understood, that when such persons came forward with their families and property, that they had a reason to believe in the encouragement held out by the government—that they should have the privilege of forming respectable neighborhoods, which has been the method in the *United States*, that when a settlement once began to form the lands are all kept open for such persons as wish to come forward and purchase. We find that the officers of government are willing and would be glad to sell and settle their lands in the same way—they have defeated the plan of selling the crown lands. When any person applies for his land, it is common for them to keep him back for a long time, thinking that if he becomes discouraged by obtaining under his majesty's proclamations, he will purchase of them. A moments reflection might tell them that their lands will not sell to *Americans*, while under the