

Y O R K, COUNCIL-OFFICE,

J U L Y 8, 1799.

WHEREAS many persons have settled upon Lands in different parts of this Province, without having obtained any Authority, Licence, or Title so to do, such intrusion is injurious to the Right of the Crown, and abusive of the King's Bounty so liberally held out to all sober and industrious Settlers, on making a proper application to his Excellency in Council, or to the several Land Boards; and therefore it is necessary that immediate measures be taken to remove such Trespassers, and to prevent the extending of such lawless practices; for which purpose it is hereby Ordered, That Deputy Surveyors, and others employed under the Surveyor General, who shall find in the course of their progress, that any Person or Persons have taken possession of any pieces of Ground or Lot, in any unsurveyed or unlocated part, whereby there may be good reason to believe that such occupation has been Usurped, that they do immediately report the same, together with the name of the Party to the Surveyor General, who in case he shall find that such person has not been Located by a competent authority, shall issue a Notice to the Party or Parties, requiring them to move from the premises without delay, and if such warning be not obeyed, he shall report the same to his Excellency in Council, in order that the Attorney-General may be directed to proceed against such Intruders with the utmost rigour of the Law: And further, that all persons who shall wilfully hold out, after receiving such warning from the Surveyor-General, shall be disqualified from becoming partakers of the King's Bounty in any part of this province.

And whereas at the first settlement of the Home District some few persons were authorized by the Commanding Officer for the time being, to take up, and occupy certain parcels of land, in consequence of which, they have been considered as having an equitable Claim to the property of such lands; with a view to prevent the confusion, uncertainty, and contention that will hereafter take place, unless the Boundaries of each person's property be distinctly ascertained and described, as well as to confirm the Right and Title of those who have been deserving Objects of his Majesty's Bounty.

It is hereby ordered, that all persons claiming such Right from an authorized occupation of the land, do forthwith hereby give in a Memorial thereof, containing a statement of the quantity of land which they respectively claim, to the Surveyor-General, who shall report thereon to his Excellency in Council, that proper Grants may be made out to those who shall be entitled to the same.

And whereas many persons having obtained a Certificate, have taken possession of Lands without having received any Assignment from the Surveyor General, or Deputy Surveyors, by means whereof, much confusion has arisen: It is further Ordered, That no person shall, in any case, take possession of any Lot or parcel of Ground, until he shall have received a regular Assignment thereof from the Surveyor General, or Deputy Surveyor, under the penalty of being compelled to relinquish all Improvements, to the person who shall obtain a regular Assignment of such Lot, and therefore be lawfully entitled to take possession of the same, in as much as all Lots must necessarily be considered as Vacant, until they are duly Assigned and Registered in the Surveyor General's Office.

And further, that all persons at present holding Orders or Certificates for Land, which has not been Assigned, do make application for the purpose as soon as possible. And whereas it is desirable to make early Provision for all persons authorized by His Majesty's Proclamation, or Instructions, to receive their respective allotment of Land; such persons are hereby required to make immediate application for the same.

J O H N S M A L L,

Clerk of the Executive Council.