

Your Lordship's attention is now respectfully requested to the second document above-mentioned, containing animadversions and misrepresentations to my prejudice, namely, the report and resolutions of the Committee of Grievances, on the Petition of William Lampson.—In adverting to this document, I must beg leave to submit to your Lordship some explanations, as to matters of fact, in order to render my refutation of what has been alleged against me, in this form, the more complete.

In July, 1822, a lease for a term of twenty years was granted, by the Provincial Government of Lower Canada, to a Mr. John Goudie, of an extensive tract of country in that Province, known by the name of the King's Posts, upon which trade with the Indians for a long period of time has been carried on.—In the succeeding year, a claim was preferred to the Government, on the part of Mr. Goudie, to the Post of Portneuf, then in the possession of the Hudson's Bay Company, as lessees of the proprietors of a seigniory called *Mille-Vaches*, adjoining to the King's Posts; which Post of Portneuf was represented by Mr. Goudie, to be comprised within the limits of the King's Posts.—Upon the investigation of this matter, which then took place, although an opinion favourable to the pretensions of Mr. Goudie had been given by Mr. Uniacke, the Attorney General, and Mr. Vanfelson, the Advocate General, the Provincial Government, after the production of the titles of the adverse party, and, among these, of an ancient procès verbal of survey of *Mille-Vaches* in 1675, including Portneuf as part of that seigniory, was of opinion, that the proprietors of *Mille-Vaches* were lawfully in possession of the Post of Portneuf, as being part of their seigniory, and ought not to be disturbed in it. The decision of the Provincial Government being adverse to the claim of Mr. Goudie, it was deemed unnecessary that any action should be brought, for the establishment of boundaries between the King's Posts and *Mille-Vaches*. In this decision Mr. Goudie acquiesced, and continued to possess the King's Posts within limits not comprising the Post of Portneuf, which remained in the exclusive possession of the Proprietors of *Mille-Vaches*. He afterwards assigned his lease to Mr. James M'Dowall, who entered into possession of the Posts within the same limits, and acquiesced in the adverse possession of the Post of Portneuf, by the lessees of *Mille-Vaches*, without disturbing them in it.—The lease of the Posts was subsequently assigned by Mr. M'Dowall to Mr. William Lampson, an American, who received possession of them within the same limits, within which Goudie and M'Dowall had previously possessed them. Under these circumstances, the right of the Proprietors of *Mille-Vaches* to retain the undisturbed possession of the Post of Portneuf, till evicted by the judgment of a competent Court of Justice, could not be questioned.—It does not appear that their continued possession of Portneuf was in fact interrupted or materially infringed, till the spring of 1830, when, in open violation of that possession, Mr. Lampson commenced a series of acts of aggression, upon the servants and property of the Hudson's Bay Company, the lessees of *Mille-Vaches*, which he has since attempted to justify, by a renewal of the claim to Portneuf, as being comprised within the King's Posts; although he could not be ignorant, that no excuse for them could be derived from such a naked claim, whether just or unjust, opposed to legal possession. The acts of aggression thus committed, gave occasion to the adoption of criminal and civil remedies, at the instance of the agent of the Hudson's Bay Company.—The part which it became my duty to take in the prosecution of these remedies having been most untruly misrepresented, it is proper I should here state in what particulars I was called upon to act, and have acted, in the differences between the servants of the Hudson's Bay Company and Mr. Lampson, now referred to. The first call on me for official duty, in these matters, was an order of reference made to me by His Excellency Sir James Kempt, then administering the Government, dated the 5th August, 1830. The circumstances which gave occasion to this order were these:—A complaint on oath had been made to Mr. Christie, the Police Magistrate at Quebec, by Mr. Cowie, the chief factor of the Hudson's Bay Company at *Mille-Vaches*, that he and other of the servants of the Company, while engaged in their lawful pursuits, had been, within the limits of that seigniory, feloniously assaulted by Peter M'Leod the elder, the chief clerk of Mr. Lampson, and a number of hired men in his employment, and had been robbed of provisions and various effects, of which they were possessed. Upon this complaint, Mr. Christie issued a warrant for the apprehension of M'Leod, directed to Charles Prevost, who proceeded to a trading post called *Islet à Jeremie*, for the purpose of executing it. He there found M'Leod, who was apprised of his approach, at the head of an armed party of men, to the number of one hundred and more, consisting of Indians and white men, collected together for the avowed purpose of resisting and preventing the execution of the Magistrate's warrant, and was compelled by M'Leod and his party, *re infecta*, to return to Quebec, without being able to execute the warrant. The Police Magistrate was then applied to, for a warrant against M'Leod and his principal co-delinquents, in this outrageous resistance to public authority; and on his refusal to grant it, application was made, by