

No. 13.

Despatch from
Earl Bathurst to
the Earl of
Dalhousie,
3 July 1826.

Enclosure 1.

(Enclosure 1, in No. 13.)

LETTER from Mr. Felton to Lord Bathurst.

(A.)

My Lord,

London, 15 April 1826.

IN an application to your lordship in the year 1814 for a grant of 10,000 acres of waste land in Lower Canada, I engage to employ a capital to the amount of 20,000 *l.* in its cultivation and improvement. On obtaining the grant, I devoted myself to the fulfilment of my engagement, and by unwearied exertions for the last 11 years, I have formed a flourishing settlement, and converted a considerable extent of wilderness into productive and valuable farms. In subjecting myself to the privations and expenses inseparable from the establishment of my family in these remote wastes, my object was to form an estate for my children, but I have been compelled to part with a considerable portion of the grant in order to effect the prescribed duties of settlement, and in the course of the enterprise I sustained very severe losses by fire. As my capital has been employed very much to the advantage of the public (although I have reason to believe that it would have been invested with greater benefit to my family in the acquisition of land more accessible than that at the disposal of the Crown), and as I have acquired experience and facilities which will enable me to extend the improvement and settlement of waste lands with greater advantage than heretofore, I take the liberty of requesting your lordship will be pleased to continue the favour and encouragement afforded me by authorizing the Governor-in-chief to make such further extension of my grant as my means and services may appear to justify. At the same time I request that the usual reservations may be made for my children; and my labourers be provided with land as heretofore.

I have, &c.

(signed) W. B. Felton.

(Enclosure 2, in No. 13.)

LETTER from Mr. Felton to Lord Bathurst.

— (B.) —

My Lord,

London, 6 May 1826.

Enclosure 2.

I BEG leave to make my very grateful acknowledgments to your lordship for acceding to my request for an additional grant of land in Lower Canada. Understanding that it is your lordship's intention to give up the Reserves of the Crown, in the view of encouraging the improvement of the townships, I take the liberty of again trespassing on your lordship's indulgence to represent, that having possession of six or seven lots of waste land, held under the lease of the Crown, and which I am desirous of bringing under cultivation, I request your lordship will be pleased to authorize the Governor-in-chief to receive the surrender of the leases, and re-grant the land in free and common socage.

I have, &c.

(signed) W. B. Felton.

— No. 14. —

COPY of a DESPATCH from Lieutenant-General Sir J. Kempt to the Right honourable Sir G. Murray.

No. 14.

Despatch from
Lieut.-Gen.
Sir J. Kempt to
Right Hon.
Sir G. Murray.
5 February 1829.

Sir,

Castle of St. Lewis, Quebec, 5 February 1829.

EARL BATHURST having, in a despatch dated the 3d of July 1826, conveyed authority to the Earl of Dalhousie to grant 5,000 acres of land to the Hon. W. B. Felton, the Commissioner of Crown Lands in the province, I have the honour to inform you that he has lately applied to me for the same; and, the despatch having stated that this grant should be made to him with the usual reservations for children and labourers, he has also applied to me for 1,200 acres for each of his children, nine in number.

I conceive that the despatch above alluded to sufficiently authorizes the grant of 5,000 acres to Mr. Felton; but, as it can scarcely be inferred from the terms "with the usual reservations for children and labourers," that it was the intention to confer a grant to such an extent upon his children, I have informed him that I could not give it without a special authority from you.

The usual allowance to an ordinary settler, when lands were granted, has been 100, or at most 200 acres; and 1,200 is the utmost extent which the Governor is authorized by his instructions to grant to any one individual. Mr. Felton states, that his object in settling in this country was to obtain lands and form an estate for his family; and that, to accomplish this, he has already expended a very large sum of money; but as, besides this grant of 5,000 acres, he has already, on two former occasions, received altogether land to the extent of 5,541 acres, and as the

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