

grown over bold. Not that some efforts have not been made to procure an investigation into their mal-practices before this present ventilation of their mode of dealing with the helpless and unwary, but their influence with the ruling powers has always been so great that the enquiry has been buried in its infancy. From the very first it was known to some of the more shrewd and intelligent that papers such as the settler or lessee was required to sign left him at the Company's mercy. Fancy the idea of any private individual giving a bond or lease, with the right to purchase, to another, and inserting therein a proviso that the purchaser, or tenant-at-will, for he virtually is no more, should be required to bind himself to submit, not to the conditions which he then is aware of, but any which the grantor MAY SEE FIT TO MAKE IN FUTURE. We have seen but one yet who has had the temerity to attempt to defend the Company, and that only in a left-handed way and over a fictitious signature. We have no wish to strain facts to obtain a desired end. Our opinion is based on documentary information kindly furnished by a gentleman in town, and as for the writer of the letters he is of age and capable of speaking for himself.

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PETITIONS TO THE LEGISLATURE AGAINST THE CANADA COMPANY
DURING THE SUMMER OF 1866.

The following form of memorial was the one generally used:—

TO THE HONORABLE THE LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY OF CANADA.

The Petition of the Undersigned, residents and property holders of the Counties of Huron and Perth, humbly sheweth:—

That very large quantities of wild and unproductive lands are now held in the said Counties by the Canada Company, and that the said lands have so remained waste and unproductive ever since the formation of the said Company, contrary to the terms of the Charter upon which the said lands were granted to the said Company, and greatly to the damage of your petitioners, and to the whole of the Counties in which the said lands are situated.

Your petitioners, therefore, humbly pray,

That your Honorable House will take such steps in the premises as will force the said Company to a strict fulfilment of the said Charter, and that the said lands may be brought into the market at a fixed price to actual settlers, or be put up to competition and sold to the highest bidder.

And your petitioners, as in duty bound, will ever pray.

By the votes and proceedings of the Legislative Assembly of Canada, at Ottawa, on Monday, 25th June, 1866, it appears that a petition was received and read from James Show and others, of the Counties of Huron and Perth, in the words of the above form. See page 60, Journals Legislative Assembly, 1866.

On Wednesday, the 11th July, 1866, at Ottawa, a memorial was received and read from Thomas Ballyntine and others, of the Counties of Huron and Perth, in the same words. See page 125 Journals Legislative Assembly, 1866.