

Mr. Kerr says:—" It is generally understood the surveys in many of the various townships are very inaccurate ; and many of the surveys have been found to be so. I had in my hands the other day a patent for four lots in the township of Inverness, three of which did not exist, granted to a Captain Skinner. Three of the lots were decided not to be in existence, and I received compensation for them in another township. A great error was discovered in the original survey of the township of Leeds. The inaccuracy of the surveys is quite a matter of certainty. I would cite a number of townships, Milton, Upton, Orford, Shalford, &c., where the inaccuracy has been ascertained. "

Commissioner Buller said very the same in his report. " The surveys of the township lands also were so imperfect and erroneous as to add very considerably to the practical difficulties in the way of settlement. Instances have occurred in which the lots professed to be granted had no existence except on the diagram in the Surveyor General's office, yet more numerous were the cases in which a person receiving a grant of 200 acres, found that the lot assigned to him contained from 40 to 90 acres more or less than its assumed dimension. In many instances the grant was without a boundary, or its figure and boundaries were totally different from those which, by reference to the map, would be found to have been assigned to it. "

" From the system pursued originally, the greater part of the surveys were made by persons who were only nominally under the control of his department. The surveyor employed for the purpose was paid by the person to whom the land, when surveyed, was to be granted, and those surveyors were employed who would contract for the performance of the survey upon the cheapest terms. Many professed surveys, therefore, were made by persons who never had been on the ground. The outlines of the township were run ; but the interior plan was filled up entirely, either according to the fancy of the surveyor or from the report of the Indians or hunters who were acquainted with the general character of the land included within the limits of the township. "

It is not surprising after this that there should still be considerable confusion and uncertainty as to the original title deeds under which real estate is held in many parts of the townships conceded from 1796 to 1840.