

Memorial of  
A. Manahan &  
others.

# Memorial of A. Manahan, and others communicated by his Excellency the Lieutenant Governor.

To his Excellency Sir John Colborne K. C. B. Lieutenant Governor of the Province of Upper Canada, and Major General commanding His Majesty's forces therein, &c. &c. &c.

The memorial of the undersigned inhabitants of the county of Hastings, in the Midland district, of the said province, respectfully sheweth :

That your memorialists viewing the Marmora Iron works (situated within this county) as an establishment, which, if carried on with vigor, and if reasonably supported would tend to conferring many important advantages on the province generally, on this district, more immediately, and the county of Hastings more especially ; from a due conviction of the reality of which your memorialists feel an anxious desire to aid and support the proprietors of the said works as much as they in justice can.

Your memorialists beg leave respectfully to acquaint your Excellency that one of the principal disadvantages operating against the successful and prosperous progress of the said works, is the very bad and dangerous, as well as circuitous roads forming the present access to the works, being at a distance of thirty miles from the village of Belville and twenty-eight from the mouth of the Trent, of which however, sixteen miles have been cut and kept in a state of repair to render them passable at the expense of the works, for the last nine years—and your memorialists further pray leave to state that the late and present state of the roads have mainly retarded the active settlement of the rear townships, which your memorialists feel persuaded, would, were the case different be found to settle very fast as the said works when in active operation afford a better market, and more certain and desirable employment to a certain extent, than does any commercial village in the province, a fact in which your memorialists are borne out by the example, experienced in the partial settlement of the township of Marmora, which commenced and depended on the operations hitherto of the said establishment, and many of the settlers in which are now rich and comfortable.

Under these circumstances your memorialists would crave the protection of the colonial government under your Excellency's care, and pray for the means of establishing a thoroughly good road from the said works, to such point or place on the bay of Quinte as may be deemed the most eligible upon an actual survey of the lines, which means they most respectfully suggest would be the grant of a certain sum of money beside the appropriation expected of right to be made from any fixed fund for the maintenance in repair and establishment of roads, your memorialists hereby promising and consenting to pay annually for ten or more years to come, in addition to such assessed taxes as the law already imposes, such sum as will amount to the sum which the colonial government, in your Excellency's wisdom, may seem fit to grant.

And your memorialists as in duty bound will ever pray.  
Hastings Decr. 24th 1830.

(Signed by) A. MANAHAN and 70 others.

Wm. W. WALBRIDGE & 142 others

and ELIJAH ALLAN and 2 others.

## Communication from the deputy Post Master General transmitted to the house of Assembly by his Excellency the Lieutenant Governor.

Communication from D. P. Genl. to Mr. Secy. Mudge.

General Post Office, Quebec, }  
23 November, 1830. }

COPY.

SIR,

I have the honor to inform you for the information of his Excellency the Lieutenant Governor, that with a view as far as lay in my power to meet the wishes of the house of Assembly of Upper Canada, relative to the post intercourse with the United States on the Niagara frontier, I addressed a letter of which the enclosed is a copy, to the Post Master General of the United States on the 29th April last. Having waited for an answer to this letter, until the month of September, without receiving any, and being anxious to ascertain the cause of Mr. Barry's silence on so important a subject, and to accomplish some arrangement which would be likely to afford public satisfaction, I repaired to Washington to have a personal communication with him.

Mr. Barry explained to me that the reason my letter had not been replied to, was, that having been referred to an officer of his department for the purpose of obtaining his opinion and report thereon, it had by some accident got mislaid or lost, and that in the expectation of finding it, he had, from day to day, deferred addressing me.

The subject, however, had not been neglected by the Postmaster General; he has sent his agent to visit the country and the frontier that he might from actual observation report upon the facts bearing on the question. This report was in Mr. Barry's hands, and the result of the information thus required, upon his mind was, that it would lead to serious inconvenience to the post office department in both countries to have more than one general distributing and receiving point on the Niagara frontier for America corres-

pondence and that under all the circumstances, in the present state of those countries, Lewiston and Queenston formed that point.

To accommodate the inhabitants of Buffalo and Fort Erie, and of Youngstown and Niagara, Mr. Barry agreed to an intercourse between these places respectively which will give to the two towns on our side the advantage of receiving their letters from any part of the United States direct, and of sending their correspondence in the same way, which I conceive is every thing they can require.

Mr. Barry having embodied this project in a letter addressed to me, dated 18th October, copy of which I have the honor to inclose, I acceded to it, and we agreed that the fifth January should be the period for carrying it into effect that being the commencement of a quarterly period.

Hoping that this arrangement will afford satisfaction to his Excellency, and to the house of Assembly.

I have the honor to be,

Sir,

Your most obedient  
humble servant,

(Signed) T. A. STAYNER.

D. P. M. General.

B. N. A.,

Z. Mudge, Esq.

Secretary,

&c. &c. &c.

General Post Office Quebec, }  
29th April, 1830. }

Letter from  
D. P. G. Stayner to P. M.  
Genl. of U. S.

SIR.

As regards the post communication between our respective countries, more particularly of that portion lying on the Niagara frontier, I beg to state, that on the 27th of November 1828, I had the honor to convey to Mr. McLean the then post-master general of the United States, my ideas for giving to that intercourse a more official and respectable character than it had previously borne :—in consequence of which Mr. McLean, in his letter to me of the 8th of December following, signified his assent to there being three points of communication between the United States and Upper Canada, in all : and two for Lower Canada; those fixed for U. C. were as follows :

U. S.

U. C.

Youngstown ..... with Niagara.

Cape Vincent ..... with Kingston.

Ogdensburg ..... with Prescott.

This arrangement accordingly went into operation, and tended very much to simplify the duties of my deputies in accounting for America postages collected within our territory, and consequently to afford me relief; I had hoped it would have ensured every reasonable accommodation to the people in both countries; but it appears to have given umbrage to the inhabitants on the British side of the frontier, at Queenston, and Fort Erie, (who consider themselves entitled to a more direct intercourse than they now possess,) and to some other parts of the province also, because it is alleged, the communication through Youngstown does not afford the readiest means of intercourse with the city of New-York, where the correspondence chiefly centres.

The arguments now set up by the opponents to the present plan, is, that your offices at Lewiston and Buffalo should also be established as mediums of Post office communication, thus having three channels on that frontier instead of one as at present.

This question having been considered of sufficient importance to engage the attention of the Legislature of the province, they have lately addressed His Excellency the Governor on the subject, requesting his interposition to have the three points abovementioned, on the Niagara frontier, opened, & His Excellency having referred that application to me, I have now detailed the circumstances of the case for your consideration, and beg to enquire if you are willing, on your part, to consent to the establishment of the two additional channels, placing them on the same footing as that at Youngstown.

I do not ask you to give any orders on the subject immediately, for I am not prepared at this moment to act in the measure, even if your consent were obtained; but it would serve to guide my further proceedings for you to state, at your early convenience, whether you are disposed or not, to open the several communications alluded to.

It may not be improper to acquaint you that previous to my arrangement with Mr. McLean, for limiting the intercourse, on the Niagara frontier, to one point, your offices at Lewiston and Buffalo were in communication with ours at Queenston and Fort Erie, as was Youngstown with Niagara; but the intercourse had never been recognized (so far as I could learn) by the head of the Post office department in either country—it had gradually sprang up and been managed by the respective Post masters according to their own views—but the plan of proceeding appeared to me to be highly improper, and such as should not be suffered to go on. The Postmasters defrayed the expense of ferriage themselves, and the British postmaster indemnified himself by charging at the rate of 1s. (that is 20 cents) an ounce on all letters and packets passing through his hands—and 1d. on a Newspaper &c. whilst the American postage was collected by the British Postmaster, and paid o-