

rights of property and privileges such as unquestionably appertained to such lands and property, when held under the same maxim of law in France, and which rights of property have always been freely exercised under the sanction of the law and custom of the country, and continued to be so exercised up to the present time.

I am aware that these harsh proceedings and legislation in favor of one class only may appear to be so extraordinary as to seem exaggerated, and even to create doubt, but I appeal to the chief justice of Canada, sir James Stuart, bart., who, I trust, may not yet have left England, and who, I am confident, will establish to the full extent these facts, and as more clearly detailed in a statement I have the honor to transmit herewith. All that I ask and desire is that justice be done, that when I am required to give up my property and my rights for the public good, I receive a moderate but equitable compensation for that of which I am deprived, and that no part of my property held by myself and my predecessors, under the sanction of the law and custom of the country, and in perfect reliance on the good faith of the government and of the Crown, shall now be confiscated, and I earnestly appeal to the British government to prevent this gross injustice and violation of the rights of property.

Many years ago, when a bill of the imperial parliament was under consideration for the purpose of settling the question of the tenure of lands in Lower Canada, I had frequent conference with the secretary of the province, then in London, and by desire of the governor general, whose intimacy I had the honor to enjoy, I furnished a variety of information on this and on other subjects connected with Canada, and my name was at that time sufficiently known at the colonial office, where I was requested to attend while some of those matters were under consideration; it may, however, now be necessary for me to refer to any gentleman of old standing connected with Lower Canada, or to the present lord Panmure, who is aware of the position I held in that country and in England, to the hon. admiral Gordon, M. P. for Aberdeenshire.

I have, etc.,

PETER BURNET.

The Right Honorable
Sir John S. Pakington, Bart.,
etc., etc., etc.

(Copy.)

MEMORANDUM

The undersigned having resided for many years in Canada acquired a large extent of property in that colony.

One part of this property, as appears by titles registered in the registre d'intendance at Quebec, in the year 1723, is a seigniority granted by the King of France, with the