

Correspondence  
respecting  
Mr. Felton.

The first trees that I cut down on the said lot were cut down in the month of June, and I am positive that there were no settling duties done upon the said half lot before that month; as to the year, it was either six or seven years ago, but I am positive it was not more than seven years ago. The proprietor of the other half lot is John Dundun; he settled upon it after me. When I agreed for the purchase of the land, Mr. Felton gave me a bond for a deed, viz., he was to deliver to me a title transferring the property from him to me, so soon as I should have paid the price. About a year ago last summer, that is, about 15 June 1834, he said he wanted to settle with me, and all the others who had bought land from him; that he was getting old, and that he wanted me and the rest to pay up. I then said that I wanted a deed from him; to which he replied, that he would get me one from Quebec, if I would make him up 20 dollars, and that he would not give it me otherwise. He then took paper, on which he wrote a promissory note, which he requested me to sign, and I accordingly did so. I had the greatest confidence in him at the time, and allowed him to keep the bond for the deed above-mentioned, which he took, saying I should want it no more; he also kept several orders that he had sent to me for articles which I delivered to him at his request, and receipts for payments which I had made on account of my said purchase. I asked him for a memorandum of the sums which I had paid him, and he then delivered the said statement marked (D.) as above. I have never had any other transaction with him, and he has no other claim whatever against me except the price of the land. I learnt by accident, some time last fall, that I had got a patent direct from the Crown for the said land. I am a British subject, born in Ireland.

Mr. *William Johnson*, of the township of Ascot, called in; and being interrogated, answered:—I have known the Hon. William Bowman Felton for the last 15 years. About 10 years ago I applied to him for a grant of Government land; I heard that he was authorised to make grants to settlers on the performance of settling duties only, and without any payment of money by the settlers; I told him so, and said I wanted a grant on those terms; he answered that he had no land to give away, but that he had land to sell. I believed him, and therefore I offered to buy some, and he agreed to sell me lot No. 8, in the 8th range of Ascot, at the rate of a dollar an acre, and, after a good deal of bargaining, I concluded to bargain for the same. He told me that the land was his, and that he would give me a title as soon as I had paid the price. Thereupon I delivered in provisions and work to the value of about 64 dollars; of that land I got a deed, and I am satisfied of that bargain; but since that time I have learnt that I was included in letters patent for the west half of lot No. 7, in the 8th range, and I applied to Mr. Felton for information respecting that point. He told me the land was not for me, but for a William Johnson in Quebec. I believe that he stated that the William Johnson in question was a servant to Lord Dalhousie. It is now a little more than a year since that conversation occurred. It is very true that I never performed the settling duties, but it is also very true I am the only William Johnson that has resided in the township of Ascot for the last 15 years. It is also true that no William Johnson ever appeared to make settlement duties, or perform any other work on the said lot; I have the means of knowing, because I live on the neighbouring lot. The only man that ever worked upon the said lot was one Alexander Weir and his father. I understood from the son that he had bought the land from Mr. Felton. Weir told me, before he went to work upon the land, that he had bought it from Mr. Felton. This occurred about six years ago. I am positive that not a tree was cut upon the land, and I am also positive that no improvements were made upon the land before the year 1829. I never got a location ticket. I am a British subject, born in Ireland; I served 14 years in the Irish militia.

Mr. *Archibald M'Curdy*, of the township of Ascot, called in; and being interrogated, answered:—I have known the Hon. William Bowman Felton for the last 18 years. In the course of that time I heard that it was his duty to grant land, without pay, to such of the King's subjects as performed the settling duties. About 17 years ago we wanted land in Ascot, near Sherbrooke, and we asked him for some; he said we could not get any, but he was willing to make us a sale of one of his own lots near Sherbrooke, at the rate of two dollars per acre, provided we consented to make over to him our right to a lot of land at a distance, for which he said he would put in a claim for us. Having full confidence in him, and being ignorant of our rights, we acceded to this bargain. In consequence of this bargain, Mr. Felton gave us a title to lot No. 15, in the 8th range; and my brother and I accordingly settled upon it, and paid up the 100*l.* which we had undertaken to give him. We then believed, from what Mr. Felton told us, that we could not get any other land, and that we could not get any without payment; therefore we took the lot in question upon his own terms. Before he would give us a title, he obliged us to make over to him our claim as above stated; and we have since learnt, by accident, that lot No. 2, in the 5th range, was patented to us. Had we known we could have obtained this last lot, we should have preferred it, because it is much more valuable than the lot we bought, and it is sufficiently near Sherbrooke to suit our purposes. It was in consequence of what he impressed on our minds that we consented to make so bad a bargain. Neither my brother nor myself ever performed any settling duties upon lot No. 2, in the 5th range. We were able-bodied men, and prepared to perform settling duties, and it would have been a much better bargain for us to have done so. I never got a location ticket. I am a British subject, born in Ireland. I served 14 years in the Irish militia, and I showed Mr. Felton my certificate to that effect.

Mr. *James Horan*, of the township of Ascot, called in; and being interrogated, answered:—I have known the Hon. William Bowman Felton for upwards of 13 years. My father and myself