

Copy of the Petition of ROBERT COWIE, Esquire

PROVINCE OF LOWER CANADA.

DISTRICT OF }
QUEBEC. }

To the Honorable James Kerr, Esquire, one of His Majesty's Justices of the Court of King's Bench for the District of Quebec.

The Petition of Robert Cowie, of the City, County and District of Quebec, Esquire,

Respectfully represents,

That your Petitioner is now confined, as a prisoner, in the Common Gaol of the District of Quebec, under a certain warrant, or order, of Thos. Wilson, and J. Bte. Duchesnay, Esquires, whereof a true copy, being the paper writing marked C. annexed to the affidavit of your Petitioner, accompanies this Petition.

That your Petitioner conceives he has been, and continues to be, illegally, unwarrantably, and oppressively deprived of his liberty, under the said warrant, or order.

Wherefore your Petitioner humbly prays, that His Majesty's writ of *Habeas Corpus* may issue, directed to the keeper of the said Common Gaol, returnable before your honor *immediate*; and thereupon that by the order, and under the authority of your honor, he may be forthwith discharged from and out of custody, and go at large.

Quebec, 14th December, 1830.

(Signed) R. COWIE.

Subscribed and delivered in the presence of

JAMES M'KENZIE,
FRANCIS WARD PRIMROSE. } Witnesses.

Let a writ of *Habeas Corpus* issue as prayed for returnable *immediate* before me at the Judges' Chambers in the City of Quebec.

Quebec, 14th December, 1830.

(Signed) J. KERR.

PROVINCE OF LOWER CANADA,

QUEBEC, To Wit.

ROBERT COWIE, of the City, County, and District of Quebec, Esquire, one of the chief traders of the Hudson's Bay Company, being duly sworn upon the Holy Evangelists, maketh oath and saith, that the said Hudson's Bay Company, long before the first day of May, one thousand eight hundred and thirty, were, and from thence hitherto have been, lessees of the seigniory of *Mille Vaches*, in the district of Quebec, within which is situated the post of Portneuf, which said seigniory has been, and is, held by them, for the purpose of carrying on trade there with the Indians.—That in carrying on their trade there with the Indians, the said Hudson's Bay Company, as all other persons engaged in such trade, necessarily distribute spirituous liquors in presents, and in moderate quantities, to and among the Indians, as occasion may require.—That the said seigniory of *Mille Vaches* is an unsettled part of the Province of Lower Canada, where no white persons reside, except such as are in the service of the said Hudson's Bay Company, and employed in carrying on trade there.—That this deponent, as one of the chief traders, and one of the agents of the said Hudson's Bay Company, resided at Portneuf, within the said seigniory, during part of the spring, summer, and autumn of this present year, for the purpose of superintending the said Hudson's Bay Company's establishments, at the said seigniory of *Mille Vaches*, and of carrying on their trade there, and had, by himself, or by the servants of the said Hudson's Bay Company, at different times, in the course of their intercourse with the said Indians, at the said seigniory of *Mille Vaches*, distributed spirituous liquors, as presents, and in moderate quantities, among the said Indians, of the said seigniory of *Mille Vaches*.—That in the latter end of the month of October, now last past, this deponent was served with a certain summons, hereunto annexed, marked A;—And this deponent further saith, that the extra-parochial place, in the said summons mentioned, and therein said to be called Portneuf, in