

"Never was told I could not obtain entry for this. Other people wishing to have their claims in 10 chain lots, concluded I would also have one. Never was told the Government had sold or granted this land to any individual, corporation or colonisation company, and always thought that eventually entry would be given as the other settlers in this township desired. Never was told by Riel that I would not obtain entry for this land as claimed."

The above extract is from a statement made under oath by Modeste Laviolette concerning his claim to a portion of Section 5, Township 45, Range 27, West of the 2nd Meridian, being his reply to question No. 42, of this statement. Sworn before Mr. Superintendent Pearce, at Prince Albert, on the 12th day of December, 1885.

NORTH-WEST TERRITORIES : { I, Solomon Boucher, of Township 45 Range 27, West 2nd M., Farmer, make oath and say :

1st. That the walls of a building on the North-West quarter of Section 5, Tp. 45, R. 27, W. 2 M., intended for a chapel were erected in the spring of 1884. The building is 21 x 32, the logs in the same are flattened on two sides and as they stand are worth \$1.25 each.

2nd. One William Bruce had the contract to put on a shingle roof, but failed to do so. Bruce was paid to some extent on said contract.

Sworn before me at Township 45 R., 27, W. 2 M., this 9th day of December, 1885, having been read over and explained to him and he appeared thoroughly to understand the same. (Signed) WM. PEARCE, Superintendent. (Signed) SOLOMON BOUCHER.

NORTH-WEST TERRITORIES : { I, Magloire Boyer, of Township 45, Range 27, West of 2nd Meridian, make oath and say :

That I know Marguerite Boyer who has made oath to the affidavit hereto attached and so far as her answers to questions numbered 1, 3, 5, 12, 13, 16, 17, 18, 20, 27, 21, 26, 28, 30, 32, 35, 40, 42 and 43, I know them to be correct, and believe the remainder are true and correct in every particular.

That I most emphatically state I never was told by anyone that entry could not be obtained by the settlers in this township or that the Government had sold the land to any corporation.

Sworn before me at Prince Albert, N.-W. T., this 13th day of December, in the year of our Lord 1885. (Signed) WM. PEARCE, Superintendent. (Signed) MAGLOIRE BOYER.

NORTH-WEST TERRITORIES : { In addition to the above affidavit taken before George Duck on the 23rd day of July last, I further state :

That I claimed this as a 10-chain river lot. My neighbors wishing to have it in 10-chain claims, I supposed I would also obtain a 10-chain lot. Knew it was surveyed into quarter-sections at time I took up claim; never applied for entry and always supposed I would obtain one. Never was told by anyone that this land had been sold or granted in any way by the Government to any corporation, individual, or colonisation company. Never was told by Riel that entry could not be obtained for this land or any of it in township 45, range 27, west 2nd meridian, nor did I hear any of the settlers in said township state they could not obtain entry for these lands.

Sworn before me at township 45, range 27, west of second meridian, this 10th day of December, 1885, having first been read in French by Louis Mariot and he seemed thoroughly to understand to what he was subscribing. (Signed) WM. PEARCE, Superintendent. (Signed) ALEX. LAMIRANDE.

Appendix to affidavit taken before Geo. Duck at St. Louis de Langevin, on the 23rd day of July, 1885, and sworn to by the said Alexandre Lamirande.

NORTH-WEST TERRITORIES : { I, Alexander McDougall, of section 13, township 45, range 27, west of 2nd meridian, farmer, make oath and say :

1st. That when I settled on this land in November, 1884, I took up this claim as I did because it was generally considered that entry would be given us by legal sub-divisions or portions thereof so as to give the settlers a river frontage extending back from the river about 1 1/2 to 2 miles.

2nd. That I never was informed that any portion of this township belonged to a colonisation company, and have not been to this day notified to that effect, having always understood that the colonisation company's tract did not extend further north than the southerly limit of township 45, range 27, west of 2nd meridian.

Mr. WHITE (Cardwell).

3rd. That I hoped to obtain entry, 20 chains in width, extending back 1 mile from the river.

Sworn before me at township 45, range 27, west of 2nd meridian, this 9th day of December, 1885. Having first been read over to him and thoroughly explained and was understood perfectly by him. (Signed) WM. PEARCE, Superintendent. (Signed) his ALEX. X McDOUGALL, mark

NORTH-WEST TERRITORIES : { I, Charles Eugène Boucher, of section 1, township 45, range 27, west of 2nd meridian, farmer, make oath and say :

That I am the Charles Eugène Boucher mentioned in the attached affidavit of my brother Solomon Boucher; that I have heard read over to me the said affidavit of my brother concerning the lands mentioned by him, and now claimed by myself, my brothers and sister and by my mother on behalf of my father, Jean Baptiste Boucher, senior, and that the same is true and correct in every particular, and that I particularly state that I never heard nor do I think that any of my father's family ever heard that the Government had disposed of the land, and that we could not eventually obtain entry in the land office therefor, nor that any of the settlers in township 45-27, west of 2nd meridian could not obtain entry for their lands as claimed.

Sworn before me at Prince Albert this 17th day of December, A.D., 1885, having been first read over and he thoroughly seemed to understand the same. (Signed) WM. PEARCE, Superintendent. (Signed) CHAS. EUG. BOUCHER.

I believe there were only two who ever heard there was a company, all the others swearing that they did not know there was such a thing. Now, Mr. Speaker, I think I may fairly say that under these circumstances the hon. gentleman and those who join with him in attacking the Government can hardly claim that they have succeeded in making out any case against the Government. We have this important fact, that no half-breed has ever been removed from his land by any act of the Government, that no half-breed has ever been disturbed in the possession of his land; and I know of countries where the people would be happy if they could say the same thing. Why, Sir, in the adjoining county of Ottawa, when the hon. gentleman who sits opposite (Mr. Langelier) was Commissioner of Crown Lands for the Province of Quebec, settlers were attempted to be driven off their lands because they had not complied with all the conditions imposed by the Government. Then we have this further fact, in relation to their patents, that the Government, so far from refusing them patents, sent their officers in order that they might personally impress upon the half-breeds the manner in which patents could be obtained, and urge them, if possible, to make the entry necessary to obtain their lands. In the North-West it is absolutely necessary in the obtaining of lands, that there should be general rules which all persons must follow; and it was not too much for this Government, nor is it too much for any Government, to ask that those who have possession of lands in the North-West shall use the reasonable means and conform to the conditions required by the Government in order to get the entry of those lands, and to obtain their patents. The Government not only did this, but they adopted a principle by which the settlement duties performed in advance of survey, and in advance of the entry of lands, even where they were permitted to make their entries long after survey, should all count as if they had been performed after survey. The ordinary white settler going into the North-West and settling on surveyed lands is required at once to make entry. There is no such thing recognised by the law as a squatter upon surveyed lands. But we have dealt in an entirely different manner with those half-breeds. They have been protected against the cancellation which white settlers in similar circumstances are subject to; and they were given, and are still being given, time to make their entry, their