

— No. 1. —

COMMISSION.

Province of }
Lower Canada. }

DURHAM.

VICTORIA by the GRACE OF GOD, of the United Kingdom of *Great Britain* and *Ireland*, Queen, Defender of the Faith.

To CHARLES BULLER, Greeting:—

WHEREAS it is highly expedient and desirable that the disposal of the extensive tracts of waste land, the property of the Crown, in Our Provinces of Lower Canada, Upper Canada, Nova Scotia, and New Brunswick, and our islands of Prince Edward and Newfoundland, should be placed upon such a footing as may most effectually conduce to the increase of population and wealth in the said provinces and islands, and the general prosperity thereof, and in particular to greatly increased emigration from the mother country, both of capitalists and labourers, as permanent settlers; to the end that, while the vast but imperfectly developed resources of the said provinces and islands should as soon as possible be made fully productive, a more intimate connexion between Britain and her colonial empire in North America, founded on common interests and productive of mutual advantages, may be established and permanently secured. And whereas We have ordered and directed each of Our Lieutenant-governors of Our Provinces of Upper Canada, Nova Scotia, and New Brunswick, and our islands of Prince Edward and Newfoundland respectively, to affix the Great Seal of the province or island of which each is respectively Lieutenant-governor, to a commission addressed by Us to you, to the like effect and containing the like powers and authorities, for inquiry, touching the waste lands, the property of the Crown, in each such province or island respectively, as are hereinafter contained: Know ye, therefore, that We, reposing great trust in your zeal, ability, and discretion, have nominated, constituted and appointed, and by these presents do nominate, constitute and appoint you the said Charles Buller, to proceed with the utmost despatch to inquire into the past and present methods of disposing of waste lands, woods, forests and other domains and hereditaments, the property of the Crown, in our Province of Lower Canada, and to collect information respecting the operation thereof in regard to the advancement of our said Province, and in particular to the promotion of emigration thereto from the mother country. And Our further will and pleasure is that you, after due examination of the premises, do and shall, as soon as conveniently may be, report to us under your hand and seal, what you shall find touching or concerning the premises upon such inquiry as aforesaid, and also that you shall suggest such alterations or modifications of the laws and regulations at present in force, as may appear likely to promote the objects aforesaid. And for the better discovery of the truth in the premises, We do by these presents give and grant to you full power and authority to call before Us and so many of the officers of the Crown Lands Department and agents for emigrants, in our said Province of Lower Canada, and such other officers of the Crown, and other persons, as you shall judge necessary, by whom you may be the better informed of the truth in the premises, and to inquire of the premises and every part thereof, by all other lawful ways and means whatsoever. And We do also give and grant to you full power and authority to cause all and singular the officers aforesaid, in our said Province of Lower Canada, or any other person or persons having in their custody any records, orders, regulations, books, papers or other writings relating to or in any wise connected with the premises, to bring and produce the same before you. And for your assistance in the due execution of this our Commission, We do hereby authorize you to nominate and appoint such person or persons as you shall think fit to be assistant commissioner, or assistant commissioners, for the purposes aforesaid, or any of them, and to delegate to him or them such and so many of the powers hereinbefore vested in you as may seem expedient. And Our will is, and We do hereby direct and ordain, that the person or persons so nominated by you shall possess and exercise any powers and authorities so as aforesaid delegated to him or them, in as full and ample a manner as the same are possessed and may be exercised by you under the authority of these presents. And We do hereby further authorize and empower you, at your discretion, to appoint such person as secretary to this Our commission, as to you shall seem proper, and to frame such temporary rules, orders, and regulations with regard to the manner of disposing of such Crown lands in Our said Province of Lower Canada, as may to you appear expedient, and from time to time, at such like discretion, to alter and vary the same, due regard being had in all such rules, orders, and regulations, to any Provincial Act or Acts, and to any Royal instructions now in force in Our said Province of Lower Canada, touching or concerning the disposal of the said waste lands or any part thereof. And We do hereby further authorize and empower you to give instructions to the several officers of the Crown lands department and agents for emigrants in Our said Province, as to the performance of the duties of their respective offices, subject, nevertheless, to all such Provincial Acts or Royal instructions as aforesaid; which instructions shall be in all respects binding upon the officer or officers to whom the same shall be respectively addressed.