

2. Your Petitioners believe the fact to be that, when sovereignty over the territory included within the aforesaid limits (hereinafter referred to as "the said territory") was assumed by Great Britain, such sovereignty was accepted by the said Nation or Tribe, and the right of the said Nation or Tribe to possess, occupy and use the said territory was recognised by Great Britain.

3. From time to time since assuming sovereignty over the said territory the Crown has by Proclamation and otherwise recognised the right of the said Nation or Tribe so to possess, occupy and use the said territory, and, in particular, by the Proclamation of His Majesty King George the Third issued on the 7th day of October, 1763, having the force and effect of a Statute of the Parliament of Great Britain, it was (amongst other things) enacted as follows : -

" And whereas it is just and reasonable, and
" essential to Our Interest and the Security of Our
" Colonies, that the several Nations or Tribes of In-
" dians, with whom We are connected, and who live under
" Our Protection, should not be molested or disturbed in
" the Possession of such Parts of Our Dominions and
" Territories as, not having been ceded to, or purchased
" by Us, are reserved to them, or any of them, as their
" Hunting Grounds; We do therefore, with the Advice of
" Our Privy Council, declare it to be Our Royal Will and
" Pleasure that no Governor or Commander in Chief in any
" of Our Colonies of Quebec, East Florida, or West Flor-
" ida, do presume, upon any Pretence whatever, to grant
" Warrants of Survey, or pass any Patents for Lands be-
" yond the Bounds of their respective Governments, as
" described in their Commissions; as also, that no