

to administer the several oaths therein mentioned to Major Ross and Mr. Neil McLean, which I have accordingly done, and enclose the same herewith, together with the *Dedimus Potestatem*.

I have likewise the honor to report to Your Excellency that I have completed the survey and settlement of the 5th township,* situate on the Peninsula between Lake Ontario and Bay of Quinte. The whole of the disbanded British troops and Germans have drawn their lots. Each man has taken the oaths, agreeable to the King's instructions, signed the books, received his certificate, and is now in possession of his land, with which I am persuaded they will be pleased, as the land in general appears to be of good quality.

I am sorry to acquaint Your Excellency that the business with respect to completing the survey and settlement of the townships laid out last autumn is not so forward as could be wished, or, from the length of time, Your Excellency has reason to expect. The poor people have set themselves down, half a dozen together, in different parts of the townships, not knowing where to find their lots, except those on the front; nor can it be expected, until the several lines between the different concessions be drawn and boundaries fixed, which has not yet been done. I should have set out on that business this day, but find myself too weak, having just got quit of a fever which I have had for some days past. However, I have employed Mr. Tuffe and Mr. Henry Holland, with each a good party, in drawing the lines of the second and third concessions of the first township. On their return I shall proceed up the lake and complete the survey of the second and third townships in the same manner. With respect to the fourth township, nothing can be done until Your Excellency determines to whom it belongs. No doubt the party who is obliged to quit their claims will expect their land in some other place. I shall, therefore, without loss of time, when the business above mentioned is completed, go in search of another township, and by the first conveyance send Your Excellency a plan of the settlement lately made, with an account of my success.

I find great difficulty to get men, and am obliged to pay high. I have taken the liberty to draw on Capt. Maurer for £100 currency to carry on this service, which I hope Your Excellency will approve of. Your Excellency may faithfully rely on my bringing this troublesome business to as speedy a conclusion as possible.

I have the honor to be,
Your Excellency's most obedient and humble servant,

To His Excellency General Haldimand.

JOHN COLLINS,
D. S. General.

*Afterwards called Mary'sburgh, after the Duchess of Gloucester—eleventh child of the King.