

tive purchase to make a profitable bargain and then offer it to Government.

I heard nothing more on the subject until when Lieut. Col. Cockburn informed me that the Richmond Landing had been sold, and that Capt. LeBreton was in Quebec to offer it to Government. It was stated to me that he had bought it for £400, and offered it at £3,000, but in all probability might yield it at £2,000. I desired to see Captain LeBreton personally, and he came with Colonel Cockburn up to my writing room. I asked him if he seriously proposed such a demand. He said he did, and justified himself, I forget in what terms. I, at once, and very angrily, told him, I would not permit so scandalous an imposition on H. M. Government, and I gave him all my reasons for so thinking:

1st, A breach of confidence in availing himself of the information which passed at my table.

2ndly. It was not becoming in a British officer to catch at such a speculation.

3rdly. The difference from £400 to £3000, or even £2000 before he himself had paid his price, was indecent and shameful imposition.

From that one interview I formed an unfavorable opinion of Captain LeBreton and I have seen no cause to alter it since. I know nothing of his character. I thought then and think still that due notice of the Sheriff's sale was not given, and although the Solicitor General did report to Sir P. Maitland that it was done in due form, the later Memorials of Mr. Randall himself incline me to think the sale was not legal, and therefore Mr. LeBreton's title altogether bad, and the purchase of the lot an illegal transaction. I do not believe one word of Mr. LeBreton's assertion that he could have obtained from Mr. Fraser at £15 the lot for which that gentleman obtained £750 from Government.

With regard to the family of Firth, I did say I would support that family if ill treated by those illegal proprietors, and I will do so still at my own private cost.

I know nothing of Dr. Thom, Mr. Sherwood or any of those people named.