

the neighbouring islands. This letter is well worth reproduction,—

“Cornwall, 8th October, 1807.

Dear Sir,—

I enclose you two petitions, one for two hundred acres of land, agreeable to the regulations of the Province, providing for settlers; also one for a lease of Lot No. 39 in the first Concession (or front) of the Ottawa River, opposite to the Falls, known by the name of the Chaudiere, in the Township of Nepean, a short distance above the mouth of the River Rideau. The petition for two hundred acres as a settler, I have left a blank for you to fill up, agreeable to the instructions hereby given. If Lot 39 is a reserved lot, as I presume it is, and if there be a broken front, which I also think there is, and likewise a broken front to lot No. 38, lying adjoining No. 39, on the upper side, and should there also be a broken front on No. 40, adjoining No. 39, on the lower side, provided these fronts will be sufficient to fill my claim for two hundred acres, you will please to lay my petition upon the said broken fronts, comprehending all water privileges as far as the channel of the Ottawa or Grand River including all lands between the channel of said river and the banks of the main, from the west side of lot 39 running ten chains below the east line of Lot No. 40.

This, Sir, requires an explanation. There are four small islands at or near the Chaudiere Falls which lay so situated as to make them actually necessary to be procured for the purpose I have in view, which is to extend a dam, from the main bank to the upper islands lying at the Falls and taking the water between the main and said islands for the purpose of a grist or saw mill. The Ottawa River is very narrow at the Chaudiere Falls, therefore you will find the distance to be but short from the main to the channel of the river, and the quantity of acres which those islands contain cannot exceed twenty, but the Government not having it in their power to grant islands, makes it necessary to apply in this way, as Government can make a grant in this way that will be as effectual as if the islands were expressed in the deeds, but should the broken fronts of lots Nos. 38, 39 and 40, not