

been in constant communication with the different tribes inhabiting these extensive countries, and I say it with peculiar satisfaction, that their condition is much ameliorated.

When competition in trade existed, the encouragement afforded to the Indians to make large collections of skins led to the destruction of the fur-bearing animals of all ages and sexes, and at all seasons. If this system had been continued much longer, those animals, which were rapidly decreasing in numbers, would have been almost entirely extirpated. Instead of exhausting the country, we now use every means in our power to preserve it, by withdrawing our trading posts, and the Indians attached to them, for a time from such parts as have been impoverished, so as to enable them to recruit; and by discouraging hunting during the seasons when the females are bearing and rearing their young, the animals are now becoming numerous. The employment we afford at those seasons to many of the Indians, whereby they are brought into frequent communication and intercourse with our officers and servants, tends towards their gradual civilization and improvement; and we find our own interests promoted by an equitable and liberal system of trade and management.

Our different trading establishments are the resort or refuge of many of the natives, who, from age, infirmity or other causes, are unable to follow the chase: they have the benefit of the care and attention, free of expense, of our medical men, of whom about 12 are usually employed in the service, every trading establishment being, in fact, an Indian hospital; advantages which were not and could not have been afforded to them during the competition in trade. In short, I have no hesitation in saying, that the native population of the countries through which the Hudson's Bay Company's business extends, never derived any real benefit from their intercourse with the whites until the fur trade became exercised under the existing license. In proof of this, the population of some of the tribes, previous to that time, sensibly diminishing, is now increasing; and from my experience of the times of opposition, I can further say, that if the trade were again thrown open to competition, all the horrors of the late contest would break out afresh; drunkenness and demoralization would have their former sway, not only among the natives but among the whites, whom we are now enabled to keep under proper subordination, which was never the case during the excitement occasioned by the rivalry in trade; the fur-bearing animals would in the course of a very few years become nearly extinct; and the inevitable consequences would be, the desertion of the natives by the traders, the latter having no longer any inducement to remain among them; that unfortunate population, thus left to their own resources, must inevitably perish from cold and hunger,—the use of the bow and arrow, and other rude implements, formerly affording them the means of feeding and clothing themselves, being now unknown, and our guns, ammunition, fishing-tackle, iron works, cloth, blankets and other manufactures having become absolutely necessary to their very existence. The country in which the Hudson's Bay Company now trade is divided into four great districts, known by the names of the Northern, Southern, Columbia and Montreal Departments, in which there are 126 establishments, besides hunting expeditions and shipping, affording employment to 25 chief factors, 27 chief traders, 152 clerks, and about 1,500 regular servants, besides the occasional labour in boating and other services of a great number of the natives.

Previous to 1821 the business of the Columbia department was very limited; but it has since been very greatly extended at much expense, and, I am sorry to add, at a considerable sacrifice of life among the Company's officers and servants, owing to the fierce, treacherous and blood-thirsty character of its population, and the dangers of the navigation; it now comprehends 22 trading establishments, besides several migratory, hunting and trading expeditions, and six armed vessels on the north-west coast.

The fur trade is the principal branch of business at present in the country situated between the Rocky Mountains and the Pacific Ocean. On the banks of the Columbia River, however, where the soil and climate are favourable to cultivation, we are directing our attention to agriculture on a large scale, and there is every prospect that we shall soon be able to establish important branches of export trade from thence in the articles of wool, tallow, hides, tobacco, and grain of various kinds.

I have also the satisfaction to say, that the native population are beginning to profit by our example, as many, formerly dependent on hunting and fishing, now maintain themselves by the produce of the soil.

The country situated between the northern bank of the Columbia River, which empties itself into the Pacific, in lat. 46° 20', and the southern bank of Fraser's River, which empties itself into the Gulf of Georgia, in lat. 49°, is remarkable for the salubrity of its climate and excellence of its soil, and possesses, within the Straits of De Fuca, some of the finest harbours in the world, being protected from the weight of the Pacific by Vancouver's and other islands. To the southward of the Straits of De Fuca, situated in lat. 48° 37', there is no good harbour nearer than the bay of St. Francisco, in lat. 37° 48', as the broad shifting bar off the mouth of the Columbia, and the tortuous channel through it, renders the entrance of that river a very dangerous navigation even to vessels of small draught of water.

The possession of that country to Great Britain may become an object of very great importance, and we are strengthening that claim to it (independent of the claims of prior discovery and occupation for the purpose of Indian trade) by forming the nucleus of a colony through the establishment of farms, and the settlement of some of our retiring officers and servants as agriculturists.

Our population in Red River settlement amounts to about 5,000 souls, say about 2,000 whites, and about 3,000 half-breeds and Indians. The population, at the close of the late contest in trade, did not amount to as many hundreds; but so pernicious was the excite-

## Appendix, No. 11.

ment occasioned by the contest, even among that small population, that it was then frequently the scene of bloodshed, robbery and riot; and in one of those riots, in the year 1816, 22 persons were killed, and several wounded; among the former was Mr. Semple, Governor of the Company's territories, a man of judgment and discretion, and of the most amiable and benevolent character.

The blessings of tranquillity, however, immediately followed the cessation of that contest, peaceful industry having reigned in the settlement ever since, and offences so few as rarely to call for magisterial interference. Our population, however, is now so large, and increasing so rapidly, both as regards Indians and half-breeds, and whites, that the time has arrived when it is no longer safe to trust the peace of the settlement solely to the good-will of its inhabitants. I therefore consider it highly necessary, to the security of lives and property, that a court of justice, for the trial of civil and criminal cases, with an efficient police to support the civil power, should be established there without delay.

I have, &c.  
(signed) *Gen. Sympton.*

## — No. 2. —

COPY of a LETTER from the Under-Secretary of State for the Colonies to  
*Denis Le Marchant, Esq.*

No. 2.  
Letter from the Under-Secretary of State for the Colonies to Denis Le Marchant, Esq. 28 February 1837.

10 February 1837.

Sir,  
I AM directed by Lord Glenelg to transmit to you herewith a letter addressed to his Lordship by the Governor of the Hudson's Bay Company, describing the present state of the Company's establishment in North America, and calling his Lordship's attention to the approaching termination of the Charter, granting them the exclusive right of trading within their territories.

I am to request that you will bring this letter before the Lords of the Committee of the Privy Council for Trade, and move their Lordships to favour Lord Glenelg with their opinion how far it would be expedient to entertain and encourage the application made by the Company for a renewal of their commercial privileges at the expiration of their present Charter.

I have, &c.  
(signed) *J. Stephen.*

## — No. 3. —

COPY of a LETTER from *Denis Le Marchant, Esq.*, to the Under-Secretary of State for the Colonies.

Office of Committee of Privy Council for Trade,  
Whitehall, 2 June 1837.

No. 3.  
Letter from Denis Le Marchant, Esq. to the Under-Secretary of State for the Colonies, 2 June 1837.

Sir,  
I HAVE laid before the Lords of the Committee of Privy Council for Trade your letter of the 28th February last, with its enclosures, respecting the Hudson's Bay Company, and I am directed by their Lordships to request that you will inform Lord Glenelg, that after an attentive consideration of the facts stated in the above-mentioned enclosures, and of such additional information as their Lordships have been able to obtain on the subject, they have arrived at the conclusion that it is desirable that the application of the Company for a renewal of the exclusive license to trade in those parts of North America beyond the limits of their Charter, which they at present enjoy, should be favourably entertained by his Majesty's Government, with a view to their extension for a definite term of years after the present license shall have expired. The proceedings of the Company of late years appear to their Lordships to have been distinguished generally by a liberal and enlightened policy; and the peculiar nature of the fur trade seems to justify, and even to recommend, the adoption of the principle of conferring exclusive privileges upon a great body engaged in it, however objectionable such a principle appears with reference to commercial affairs generally. It is with reference to these particular circumstances that their Lordships have satisfied themselves that it would not be safe to withdraw from the Company the powers which they now exercise.

Their Lordships have only further to observe, that as to any pecuniary conditions being attached to the renewal of the license under the 1 & 2 Geo. 4, c. 65, that is a point which they presume will be made the subject of communication between Lord Glenelg and the Commissioners of Woods and Forests. They may, however, remark that it would be very inadvisable, in their opinion, to adopt any provisions upon this subject which might tend to cramp the operations of the Company, or place them in unfair competition with other traders in fur.

I am, &c.  
(signed) *Denis Le Marchant.*

## — No. 4. —

COPY of a LETTER from the Under-Secretary of State for the Colonies to  
*Denis Le Marchant, Esq.*

Sir,

Downing-street, 25 July 1827.

No. 4.

I AM directed by Lord Glenelg to acknowledge your letter of the 2d ultimo, relative to the application from the Hudson's Bay Company for a renewal of the exclusive privilege of trading on certain parts of the continent of North America, which they at present enjoy, under a Charter granted in pursuance of the Act 1 & 2 Geo. 4, c. 66.

Letter from the Under-Secretary of State for the Colonies to Denis Le Marchant, Esq. 25 July 1827.

Lord Glenelg desires me to express his concurrence in the opinion of the Lords of the Committee of Privy Council for Trade as to the expediency of reviving this Charter; but he directs me to observe, that whenever that step shall be taken it will be indispensable to introduce into the new Charter such conditions as may enable Her Majesty to grant, for the purpose of settlement or colonization, any of the lands comprised in it, and with that view his Lordship thinks that a power should be reserved even of establishing new colonies or provinces within the limits comprised in the Charter. With whatever confidence the sterility of a great part of that extensive portion of the globe, and its unfitness to sustain any considerable population, may have hitherto been asserted, Lord Glenelg thinks that such statements cannot be assumed as incontrovertible; and as the country is very imperfectly known, especially in that part of it which borders on the chain of the lakes, his Lordship is disposed to regard them with distrust. I am, therefore, to request that you will inform me, whether in their negotiations with the Company, the Lords of the Committee of Privy Council for Trade have adverted to any stipulation for the purposes above mentioned, and if not, I am to suggest, that before any further steps are taken, it would be desirable to ascertain whether the Company would object to receive an extension of their Charter at the present time, introducing into it such a reservation as has been mentioned, of the right of establishing new colonies, and of the right of withdrawing from the control and authority of the Company any of the lands comprised in such future colonies.

I am, &c.

(signed) *J. Stephen.*

## — No. 5. —

COPY of a LETTER from *J. D. Hume, Esq.*, to the Under-Secretary of State for the Colonies.

Sir,

Office of Committee of Privy Council for Trade,  
Whitehall, 7 August 1827.

No. 5.

YOUR letter of the 25th ultimo, relative to the privileges of the Hudson's Bay Company, has been laid before the Lords of the Committee of Privy Council for Trade, and their Lordships, after having adverted to your former letter of the 28th of February last on the same subject, and the answer thereto of the 2d June, to which you now refer, have directed me to request that you will inform Lord Glenelg that no negotiation has been entered into with this department by the Hudson's Bay Company for a renewal of their license; nor has any measure been taken in the matter under their Lordships' directions, except the transmission of the letter of the 2d of June before mentioned.

Letter from *J. D. Hume, Esq.* to the Under-Secretary of State for the Colonies, 7 August 1827.

I am, however, to state to you, for the information of Lord Glenelg, that the Lords of this Committee are ready, if so desired by him, to confer with the Company upon this subject; at the same time, I am to observe, that, as the peculiar point for discussion relates to colonization, it may be desirable that Lord Glenelg should, in the first instance, apprise the Company of his views upon that subject.

I am, &c.

(signed) *J. D. Hume.*

## — No. 6. —

COPY of a LETTER from the Under-Secretary of State for the Colonies to *J. D. Hume, Esq.*

Sir,

Downing-street, 15 August 1827.

No. 6.

HAVING laid before Lord Glenelg your letter of the 7th instant, I am directed to acquaint you, in answer, that as the Lords of the Committee of Privy Council for Trade have already undergone the labour of investigating the question of the propriety of renewing the Charter of the Hudson's Bay Company, and have formed an opinion on that subject, in which Lord Glenelg coincides, it appears to his Lordship that the negotiation with the Company, as to the terms of their Charter, would be conducted more advantageously for the public interest by their Lordships than by Lord Glenelg; and in this conclusion he is confirmed by the consideration, that the question is important chiefly in its bearing on the commercial interests of the empire at large.

Letter from the Under-Secretary of State for the Colonies to *J. D. Hume, Esq.* 15 August 1827.

## Appendix, No. 11.

With regard to the question of colonization, Lord Glenelg will of course explain his views to the Company, if their Lordships should, on farther reflection, think that course expedient. But, as he is apprehensive of some danger of producing misconceptions by multiplying the channels of official communication with that body, and as his views on the subject of colonizing the territory in question lie within a very narrow compass, it appears to Lord Glenelg that they may be perhaps more conveniently stated to the Company by the Board of Trade than by himself. Lord Glenelg is of opinion that the public interest may not improbably require the erection of some part of the territory comprised in the Company's Charter into one or more colonies, independent of and distinct from either Upper or Lower Canada. The limits of any such colonies must, for the present, be matter of conjecture and surmise; but Lord Glenelg thinks that the proposed new Charter should contain an express condition, providing that nothing to be therein contained should prevent Her Majesty, Her heirs and successors, from establishing any such colonies within the territories in question, and that, from the time of their being so established, all the rights of the Company within the limits of any such colony should cease.

I am, &c.  
(signed) J. Stephen.

## — No. 7. —

(Private.)

COPY of a LETTER from the Governor of the Hudson's Bay Company to Lord Glenelg.

## No. 7.

Letter from the Governor of the Hudson's Bay Company to Lord Glenelg, 9 September 1837.

My Lord,

Hudson's Bay House, 9 September 1837.

It is of so much importance to the Hudson's Bay Company to know the decision of Her Majesty's Government on the subject of the renewal of the Grant of that part of the Northwest district of America which is not within the Company's territories, and as the measures which the Company will feel it right to pursue will depend on that decision, and ought to be communicated to their chief in the Columbia by the ship that is now preparing to go to the Pacific, and will sail in the course of the next month, I trust will be a sufficient apology for my now requesting that you will favour me with a communication on this subject, or, if there is any difficulty, with an audience, and much oblige, &c.

(signed) J. H. Pelly.

## — No. 8. —

COPY of a LETTER from the Under-Secretary of State for the Colonies to the Governor of the Hudson's Bay Company.

## No. 8.

Letter from the Under-Secretary of State for the Colonies to the Governor of the Hudson's Bay Company, 19 Sept. 1837.

Sir,

Downing-street, 19 September 1837.

I AM directed by Lord Glenelg to acknowledge the receipt of your letter, marked "Private," of the 9th instant.

His Lordship directs me to acquaint you in answer, that Her Majesty's Government do not object to the renewal of the Charter of the Hudson's Bay Company, or to the extension of it to the territory to which your letter refers. But it is proposed to stipulate, as the condition of any such grant, that it should not prevent the erection within the limits of the Charter of any new colonies or provinces which Her Majesty may be disposed to establish there; and that if any such province or colony should be so established, the Charter should thenceforth cease to be in force, so far as respects the territories which may be embraced within the limits of the new colony. Lord Glenelg would be happy to know how far it would be in the power of the Company to accept the renewal of the Charter on those terms.

I have, &c.  
(signed) J. Stephen.

## — No. 9. —

COPY of a NOTE from the Governor of the Hudson's Bay Company to the Under-Secretary of State for the Colonies.

## No. 9.

Note from the Governor of the Hudson's Bay Company to the Under-Secretary of State for the Colonies, 25 October 1837.

Hudson's Bay House, 25 October 1837.

MR. PELLY presents his compliments to Mr. Stephen, and sends herewith a draft for a Grant to the Hudson's Bay Company of exclusive trade with the Indians in certain parts of North America, drawn in conformity with the original one, and of the Act passed in the second year of his late Majesty Geo. 4, and providing for the conditions contained in Mr. Stephen's letter to him. In it is likewise extended the reservation of trade to the subjects of any Foreign State, who, under or by force of any convention between Great Britain and such Foreign State, may be entitled and shall be engaged in said trade. This in the old grant was reserved exclusively for the subjects of the United States; since which a convention has been entered into with the Emperor of Russia. Mr. P. has therefore had it drawn to include

For Copy of the Grant to the Hudson's Bay Company, vide p. 414.

any Foreign State, which alteration he submits would be advisable to adopt. Should Mr. S. wish to see Mr. P. on the subject, he will, after next week, attend any appointment. Appendix, No. 10.

## — No. 10. —

COPY of a NOTE from the Under-Secretary of State for the Colonies to the Governor of the Hudson's Bay Company.

No. 10.

Note from the Under-Secretary of State for the Colonies to the Governor of the Hudson's Bay Company, 8 November 1837.

Downing-street, 8 November 1837.

MR. STEPHEN presents his compliments to Mr. Pelly, and, with reference to his note of the 25th ultimo, is directed by Lord Glenelg to request that Mr. Pelly will be good enough to furnish his Lordship with a copy of the Grant of exclusive trade with the Indians of North America, which was made to the Hudson's Bay Company in the year 1821.

## — No. 11. —

COPY of a NOTE from the Governor of the Hudson's Bay Company to the Under-Secretary of State for the Colonies.

No. 11.

Note from the Governor of the Hudson's Bay Company to the Under-Secretary of State for the Colonies, 10 November 1837.

Hudson's Bay House, 10 November 1837.

MR. PELLY presents his compliments to Mr. Stephen; begs to acknowledge his note of the 8th instant, and to enclose for my Lord Glenelg a copy of the Grant of exclusive trade with the Indians of North America, made to the Hudson's Bay Company 5th December 1821.

Enclosure in No. 11.

GEORGE R.

(L.S.)

GEORGE the Fourth, by the Grace of God of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Ireland King, Defender of the Faith.

Encl. in No. 11.

To all to whom these Presents shall come, greeting:

WHEREAS an Act passed in the second year of our reign, intitled, "An Act for regulating the Fur Trade, and for establishing a Criminal and Civil Jurisdiction within certain parts of North America;" wherein it is amongst other things enacted, that from and after the passing of the said Act, it should be lawful for us, our heirs or successors, to make Grants or give our Royal License, under the hand and seal of one of our Principal Secretaries of State, to any body corporate or company, or person or persons, of or for the exclusive privilege of trading with the Indians in all such parts of North America as should be specified in any such Grants or Licenses respectively, not being part of the lands or territories heretofore granted to the Governor and Company of Adventurers of England trading to Hudson's Bay, and not being part of any of our provinces in North America, or of any lands or territories belonging to the United States of America, and that all such Grants and Licenses should be good, valid and effectual, for the purpose of securing to all such bodies corporate, or companies, or persons, the sole and exclusive privilege of trading with the Indians, in all such parts of North America (except as hereinafter excepted) as should be specified in such Grants or Licenses, any thing contained in any Act or Acts of Parliament, or any law to the contrary notwithstanding; and it was in the said Act farther enacted, that no such Grant or License made or given by us, our heirs or successors, of any such exclusive privileges of trading with the Indians in such parts of North America as aforesaid should be made or given for any longer period than 21 years, and that no rent should be required or demanded for or in respect of any such Grant or License, or any privileges given thereby, under the provisions of the said Act, for the first period of 21 years; and it was further enacted, that from and after the passing of the said Act, the Governor and Company of Adventurers of England trading to Hudson's Bay, and every body corporate and company and person, to whom every such Grant or License should be made or given as aforesaid, should respectively keep accurate registers of all persons in their employ, in any parts of North America, and should once in each year return to our Principal Secretaries of State accurate duplicates of such registers, and should also enter into such security as should be required by us for the due execution of all criminal processes, and of any civil process in any suit where the matter in dispute shall exceed 200 *l.*, and as well within the territories included in any such Grant as within those granted by Charter to the Governor and Company of Adventurers of England trading to Hudson's Bay, and for the producing and delivering into safe custody, for the purpose of trial, all persons in their employ, or acting under their authority, who should be charged with any criminal offence, and also for the due and faithful observance of all such rules, regulations and stipulations as should be contained in any such Grant or License, either for gradually diminishing and ultimately preventing the sale or distribution of spirituous liquors to the Indians, or for promoting their moral and religious improvement; or for any other object which we might deem necessary for the remedy or prevention of any other evils which have been heretofore found to exist: And whereas it was

Appendix, No. 11. also in the said Act recited, that by a Convention entered into between his late Majesty and the United States of America, it was stipulated and agreed, that every country on the North-west coast of America to the westward of the Stone Mountains should be free and open to the citizens and subjects of the two powers for the term of ten years from the date of the signature of that Convention; and it was therefore enacted, that nothing in the said Act contained should be deemed or construed to authorise any body corporate, company or person, to whom his Majesty might, under the provisions of the said Act, make or grant, or give a license of exclusive trade with the Indians in such parts of North America as aforesaid, to claim or exercise any such exclusive trade within the limits specified in the said article, to the prejudice or exclusion of any citizens of the said United States of America who might be engaged in the said trade: Provided always, that no British subject should trade with the Indians within such limits without such Grant or License as was by the said Act required.

And whereas the said Governor and Company of Adventurers of England trading into Hudson's Bay, and certain Associations of persons trading under the name of the "North-west Company of Montreal," have respectively extended the fur trade over many parts of North America which had not been before explored: And whereas the competition in the said trade has been found for some years past to be productive of great inconvenience and loss, not only to the said Company and Associations, but to the said trade in general, and also of great injury to the native Indians, and of other persons our subjects: And whereas the said Governor and Company of Adventurers of England trading into Hudson's Bay, and William McGillivray, of Montreal, in the Province of Lower Canada, esquire, Simon McGillivray, of Suffolk-square, in the City of London, merchant, and Edward Ellice, of Spring-gardens, in the county of Middlesex, esquire, have represented to us, that they have entered into an agreement, on the 20th day of March last, for putting an end to the said competition, and carrying on the said trade for 21 years, commencing with the outfit of 1821, and ending with the returns of 1841, to be carried on in the name of the said Governor and Company exclusively:

And whereas the said Governor and Company, and William McGillivray, Simon McGillivray and Edward Ellice, have humbly besought us to make a Grant, and give our Royal License to them jointly, of and for the exclusive privilege of trading with the Indians in North America, under the restrictions and upon the terms and conditions specified in the said recited Act: Now know ye, That we, being desirous of encouraging the said trade and remedying the evils which have arisen from the competition which has heretofore existed therein, do grant and give our Royal License, under the hand and seal of one of our Principal Secretaries of State, to the said Governor and Company, and William McGillivray, Simon McGillivray and Edward Ellice, for the exclusive privilege of trading with the Indians in all such parts of North America to the northward and the westward of the lands and territories belonging to the United States of America as shall not form part of any of our provinces in North America, or of any lands or territories belonging to the said United States of America, or to any European government, state or power; and we do by these presents give, grant and secure to the said Governor and Company, and William McGillivray, Simon McGillivray and Edward Ellice jointly, the sole and exclusive privilege, for the full period of 21 years from the date of this our Grant, of trading with the Indians in all such parts of North America as aforesaid (except as therein/ter excepted); and we do hereby declare that no rest shall be required or demanded for or in respect of this our Grant and License, or any privileges given thereby, for the said period of 21 years, but that the said Governor and Company, and the said William McGillivray, Simon McGillivray and Edward Ellice shall, during the period of this our Grant and License, keep accurate registers of all persons in their employ in any parts of North America, and shall once in each year return to our Secretary of State accurate duplicates of such registers, and shall also enter into and give security to us, our heirs and successors, in the penal sum of 5,000 *l.* for ensuring, as far as in them may lie, the due execution of all criminal processes, and of any civil process in any suit where the matter in dispute shall exceed 200 *l.*, by the officers and persons legally empowered to execute such processes within all the territories included in this our Grant, and for the producing and delivering into safe custody, for purposes of trial, any persons in their employ, or acting under their authority within the said territories, who may be charged with any criminal offence.

And we do also hereby require, that the said Governor and Company, and William McGillivray, Simon McGillivray and Edward Ellice shall, as soon as the same can be conveniently done, make and submit for our consideration and approval such rules and regulations for the management and carrying on the said fur trade with the Indians, and the conduct of the persons employed by them therein, as may appear to us to be effectual for gradually diminishing or ultimately preventing the sale or distribution of spirituous liquors to the Indians, and for promoting their moral and religious improvement.

And we do hereby declare, that nothing in this our Grant contained shall be deemed or construed to authorise the said Governor and Company, or William McGillivray, Simon McGillivray and Edward Ellice, or any person in their employ, to claim or exercise any trade with the Indians on the north-west coast of America to the westward of the Stone Mountains, to the prejudice or exclusion of any citizens of the United States of America, who may be engaged in the said trade: Provided always, that no British subjects other than and except the said Governor and Company, and the said William McGillivray, Simon McGillivray and Edward Ellice, and the persons authorised to carry on exclusive trade by

them

them on Grant, shall trade with the Indians within such limits during the period of this our Grant. Appendix, No. 11.

Given at our Court at Carlton-house the 5th day of December 1821, in the second year of our reign.

By His Majesty's command.  
(L. S.) *Rothwell.*

— No. 12. —

COPY of a LETTER from the Secretary of the Committee of Privy Council for Trade to the Governor of the Hudson's Bay Company.

Office of Committee of Privy Council for Trade,  
Whitehall, 20 January 1828.

Sir,

I AM directed by the Lords of the Committee of Privy Council for Trade to inform you, that they have received from Lord Glenelg your application on behalf of the Hudson's Bay Company for a renewal of the exclusive right of trading granted to the Company by the Royal License dated the 6th of December 1821, with the view of leaving the arrangement of the terms of such renewal to the determination of this Board.

Their Lordships not feeling themselves qualified, without further information than is contained in the papers transmitted to them from the Colonial Office, to settle this matter satisfactorily, I am directed to request that you will favour this Board with some account of the past and present state of the Company, with reference to its capital, and the dividends paid thereon, as well as any other circumstances that may assist the Board in coming to a decision upon the terms of the proposed License.

I am, &c.  
(signed) *Denis Le Marchant.*

No. 12.

Letter from the Secretary of the Committee of Privy Council for Trade to the Governor of the Hudson's Bay Company, 20 January 1828.

— No. 13. —

COPY of a LETTER from the Governor of the Hudson's Bay Company to the Lords of the Committee of Privy Council for Trade.

My Lords,

Hudson's Bay House, 7 February 1828.

I HAVE the honour to acknowledge a letter addressed to me by your Lordships' direction, through Mr. Le Marchant, under date 20th ult., wherein you inform me that you have received from Lord Glenelg my application on behalf of the Hudson's Bay Company for a renewal of the exclusive right of trade granted to the Company by the Royal License dated 6th December 1821, with the view of leaving the arrangement of the terms of such renewal to the determination of your Board, and that your Lordships, not feeling qualified without further information than is contained in the papers transmitted to you from the Colonial Office to settle the matter satisfactorily, request that I should furnish some account of the past and present state of the Company, with reference to its capital, and the dividends paid thereon, as well as any other circumstances that may assist the Board in coming to a decision on the terms of the proposed License.

In accordance with that request, I now beg to lay before you the following particulars, which I have no doubt will satisfy you that the Hudson's Bay Company have every reason confidently to expect that Her Majesty's Government will be pleased to grant them a renewal of the License of exclusive trade of the country denominated "Indian Territories," beyond the limits of the Company's Charter, without any rent or pecuniary consideration being required for the same, nor subject to any other condition than that proposed by the accompanying letter from the Secretary of State for the Colonies.

The Hudson's Bay Company was incorporated in the year 1670, under a Royal Charter of Charles the Second, which granted them certain territories in North America described in that Charter, together with exclusive privileges of trade, &c. &c. Between the years 1670 and 1690, a period of 20 years, the profits appear to have been very large, as, notwithstanding losses sustained by the capture of the Company's establishments by the French in the years 1692 to 1698, amounting to 118,914*l.*, they were enabled to make a payment to the proprietors in 1684 of 50 per cent.; another payment in 1688 of 50 per cent.; and of a further payment in 1689 of 25 per cent.

In 1690 the stock was trebled without any call being made, besides affording a payment to the proprietors of 25 per cent. on the increased or newly created stock; in the years 1692, 1694, 1696 and 1697, the Company incurred loss and damage, to the amount of 97,500*l.*, by other captures of their establishments by the French.

These losses appear to have rendered it necessary for the Company to borrow money, on which they paid six per cent. interest; they were enabled, nevertheless, in 1726, again to treble their capital stock, with only a call of 10 per cent. on the proprietors, and, notwithstanding another heavy loss sustained, by the capture of their establishments by the French under La Perouse, in 1782, they appear to have been enabled to pay dividends of from 3 to 12 per cent., averaging nine per cent., and showing, as nearly as I am able to judge from

No. 13.

Letter from the Governor of the Hudson's Bay Company to the Lords of the Committee of Privy Council for Trade, 7 February 1828.

Appendix, No. 11.

the defective state of the books during the past century, profits on the originally subscribed capital stock actually paid up of between 60 and 70 per cent. per annum from the year 1680 to 1800.

Up to this period the Hudson's Bay Company had no great cause for complaint of interference with their inland trade, and if they had been left unmolested, or been protected in the undisturbed possession of it, and of the rights and privileges vested in them by their Charter, they would in all probability have continued in the enjoyment of the advantages they were then deriving from their labours and exertions in those remote and little frequented wilds.

But about that period their rights of territory and trade were invaded by rival traders, which led to animosities, feuds and breaches of the peace, extending to the loss of lives, and considerable destruction of property, injurious to the native Indians, by reason of the unrestricted use of spirituous liquors and other demoralising influence, consequent on opposition, and so prejudicial to the interests of the Hudson's Bay Company, that between 1800 and 1821, a period of 22 years, their dividends were, for the first eight years, reduced to four per cent.; during the next six years they could pay no dividend at all; and for the remaining eight years they could only pay four per cent.

During a long succession of years, while this destructive contest existed, very frequent applications for protection and redress were made by the Hudson's Bay Company to his Majesty's Government, as may be seen by reference to the records of the Colonial Office, but without avail, and scenes of bloodshed, robbery and demoralisation, resulting to humanity, were allowed to pass without any effectual measures being taken to punish or prevent them, although the Hudson's Bay Company had every claim on Government to support them in their just rights of territory and trade.

At length, in the year 1821, when the violence of the contest had nearly exhausted the means of both parties, an arrangement was entered into between them, by which their interests became united, under the management of the Hudson's Bay Company.

The proprietary were then called upon to pay 100*l.* per cent. upon their capital, which, with the stock in trade of both parties in the country, formed a capital stock of 400,000*l.*, on which four per cent. dividend was paid in the years 1821 to 1824, and from that time to the present, half-yearly dividends of five per cent., with a bonus of 10 per cent. from the year 1828 to 1832, and since that an average bonus of six per cent. until last year, when none was paid.

When your Lordships come to consider the very hazardous nature of the trade, requiring a degree of enterprise unknown to almost any other business, together with the heavy losses to which the parties interested therein were subjected for a long series of years, from the want of protection and support, which they had a right to expect from his Majesty's Government, I feel assured your Lordships will join me in opinion that the profits now arising from the business are no more than a fair return for the capital employed, and the services the Hudson's Bay Company are rendering the mother country in securing to it a branch of commerce which they are at present wresting out of the hands of foreigners, subjects of Russia and the United States of America, but which the Company would have been unable to prosecute, had they not been protected by the License of exclusive trade they now hold.

In looking at these profits, however, it should be borne in mind that Hudson's Bay stock, in like manner as in all other stocks, changes hands very frequently, and that the price of the stock is entirely regulated by the return it produces, thereby affording to the bulk of the present proprietors little more than six per cent. for their money.

In order to secure to the Company the enjoyments of the rights of territory and trade granted to them by their Charter, and to prevent a recurrence of the evils attendant on rivalry or competition in trade that existed for so long a time, and were productive of such disastrous consequences in so remote a country, that the difficulty of bringing offenders to justice amounted to an impossibility of giving effect to the laws, the Act of 1st & 2d Geo. 4, c. 66, was passed, and under the provisions of that Act, a License was granted to the Hudson's Bay Company for the exclusive privileges of trade in the districts of country denominated the Indian Territories, for a term of 21 years.

That the peace and tranquillity of the country has been restored; that the abuse of spirituous liquors has been discontinued; that the condition of the native population is greatly ameliorated; and that the commercial interests of Great Britain are improving under the management of the Hudson's Bay Company, through the provisions of that Act, will appear manifest by the report of Mr. Simpson, the governor of the Company's territories, and their principal representative in North America, which accompanied my application of 10th February last to Lord Glenelg (*vide* page 417), copies of which are herewith transmitted for your Lordship's information.

The Act in question, while extending the criminal and civil jurisdiction of the courts in Canada to the Company's territories, held under their Charter, and to the Indian territories comprehended in the License of exclusive trade, contemplated the necessity of establishing courts of record, under the great seal, for the trial of criminal and civil offences, and for the appointment of proper officers to act in aid of such courts within the territories of the Hudson's Bay Company and the Indian territories.

Had the establishment of such courts been necessary, it would have subjected the Government to a heavy expense in the payment of Commissioners and in the maintenance of legal authority; and from the state of the country while open to competition, it is natural to infer, that such would have been necessary had the exclusive right of trade

not



not been in the hands of the Hudson's Bay Company, who by their good management have rendered these measures uncalled for, thereby occasioning a considerable saving of expense, to which, under other circumstances, the mother country would have been exposed.

Hitherto the peace of the country has been maintained at a moderate expense to the Hudson's Bay Company; but the population of their principal agricultural settlement of Red River is now so much increased, amounting to upwards of 5,000 souls, principally Indians and half-castes, belonging to all the interior tribes, who are very difficult of management, that it has become necessary to establish a more regular form of government and administration of the laws than heretofore. These measures are now in progress, and it is estimated that the attendant expenses will exceed 5,000*l.* per annum, which will be borne by the Company, although they might, with great propriety, call on Her Majesty's Government to relieve them from that charge.

By reference to Mr. Simpson's report, your Lordships will observe, that the Company are incurring other heavy expenses, which are augmenting from year to year, connected with that infant settlement, from which they derive no benefit in regard to trade, as there are no fur-bearing animals in that part of the country, but which in due time promises to become valuable to the mercantile interests of the mother country in the production of wool, flax, and other exports; while the population benefit by the change of habits of life that have been produced by a change of occupation, as the inhabitants have abandoned the chase, and now employ themselves in agricultural pursuits; while moral and religious instruction are afforded them by the Company's chaplains and schoolmasters.

This settlement, which affords so much benefit to the native population, requires the most vigilant attention on the part of the Company, as its inhabitants are of so mixed a character, and so little used to the restraints of civilised life, that mismanagement would inevitably lead to an outbreak among them, which would prove ruinous to their trade throughout the country.

Such outbreak had very nearly occurred last year, occasioning much apprehension in the minds of the Company, through the mischievous instigation of a man named "Dickson," styling himself, "Liberator of the Indian Race," who succeeded in assembling a number of leading half-breeds, and proceeded with them to Red River, with the view of raising that population, so as to seize the Company's depôts and trading posts, and taking possession of the trade and country, as may be seen by reference to the accompanying correspondence with the Foreign Office;\* this I notice, in order to show how precarious the Company's tenure of their trade is, and how much they require the countenance and support of Her Majesty's Government, in affording them protection from the intrusion of strangers.

The principal benefit the Company derive from the exclusive License of trade is the peaceable occupation of their own proper territory, from which they draw nearly the whole of the profits of their trade, and for the protection of which they have a right to look to Government in common with the rest of Her Majesty's subjects, as the trade of the country embraced in the Royal License is as yet of very little benefit to them, and affords greater advantages to the mother country in the employment of shipping, and in the revenue arising from imports and exports, than the Company derive from it.

The country denominated "Indian Territories," comprehended in the Royal License, is principally situated on the west side of the Rocky Mountains, the most valuable part thereof being the north-west coast, bordering on the shores of the Pacific.

For many years previous to the grant of exclusive trade to the Hudson's Bay Company, the trade of that coast was engrossed by the subjects of the United States of America and Russia, the only establishment occupied by British traders being "Astoria," afterwards named "Fort George," at the mouth of the Columbia River, while no attempt was made, through the means of shipping, to obtain any part of the trade of the coast; and so unprofitable was it in the years 1818, 1819, 1820, 1821 and 1822, and so difficult of management, that several of the leading and most intelligent persons in the country strongly recommended that the Company should abandon it altogether. The Company, however, felt that the honour of the concern would, in a certain degree, be compromised were they to adopt that recommendation, holding, as they did under Government the License in question, and with a degree of energy and enterprise, which I feel assured your Lordships will admit, reflects much credit on themselves and on their officers and servants in the country, they directed their efforts so vigorously to that branch of the business, that they compelled the American adventurers, one by one, to withdraw from the contest, and are now pressing the Russian Fur Company so closely, that although that association is supported by its government to the extent of affording them the assistance of a strong military guard at each of their establishments, which, with their shipping, are officered by naval and military officers of the Imperial army and navy, we are gaining ground upon them, and hope at no very distant period to confine them to the trade of their own proper territory.

The outlay and expense attending this competition in trade are so heavy, that the profits are yet but in perspective, none worthy of notice having been realised, the result showing some years a trifling loss, and in others a small gain, fluctuating according to the degree of activity

\* As the Correspondence with the Foreign Office referred to does not relate to the renewal of the Grant to the Hudson's Bay Company, it has not been appended to these Papers.

Appendix, No. 11. activity with which the contest is maintained; but by energy and perseverance, we hope, in due time, to bring it to a more favorable issue, if the facilities of protection now required of Her Majesty's Government be afforded.

This trade, nevertheless, affords employment to about 1,000 men, occupying 21 permanent trading establishments, two migratory, trading and trapping expeditions, a steam vessel, and five sailing vessels from 100 to 300 tons burthen, all armed; and so dangerous is the trade, that I lament to say that it has not been unattended with loss of life.

In order to afford your Lordships an opportunity of forming some idea of the strength of opposition we have to contend against, and the difficulty we have to encounter in this branch of business, I beg to enclose copy of a memorandum\* I lately had occasion to hand to Her Majesty's Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs, in reference to the operations of the Russian in that quarter.

That the Hudson's Bay Company have the strongest possible claims upon Her Majesty's Government for a renewal of the exclusive License of trade, without any pecuniary consideration whatsoever, cannot, I should hope, admit of a question after the explanation I have given; but when it is considered that the greater part of the country to which the License applies is Indian country, opened by treaty to citizens of the United States of America, as well as to British subjects, and, consequently, the License of exclusive trade does not protect the Company from the competition of citizens of the United States, it must appear evident that no substantial benefit is likely to arise from the boon we are soliciting, beyond the probable means of affording peace to our own territories, in the tranquillity of which Her Majesty's Government ought to feel as deep an interest as the stockholders of the Hudson's Bay Company.

If further proof be necessary that we are not in the undisturbed enjoyment of the fur trade, I beg to hand to your Lordships copy of applications we have lately had occasion to make to the Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs for redress of grievances sustained by the aggression of Russian authorities at Stikine, on the north-west coast, in the year 1834, by the violation of a treaty between Great Britain and his Imperial Majesty, involving a claim of 20,000*l.* loss and damage actually sustained by the Hudson's Bay Company, for which, as yet, they have received no indemnification, although they confidently look to obtain such through the efforts of Her Majesty's Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs.

On the grounds of promoting discovery and science, we have likewise a strong claim on the countenance and support of Her Majesty's Government, as at this moment the Company have an expedition on foot, quite unconnected with any ulterior views towards any pecuniary advantage or benefit arising from trade, but solely for the honour of completing the survey of the northern coast of America, at a cost to the Company, before it can be accomplished, of several thousand pounds,—an object that has attracted the attention not only of Great Britain, but of Russia and other foreign powers.

I could enlarge on the claims of the Hudson's Bay Company to the privileges I am now soliciting at your Lordship's hands, but I should hope that sufficient has been already said to induce you to concur with the Secretary of State for the Colonies, in granting a renewal of the exclusive License of trade to the Hudson's Bay Company, on the conditions detailed in Mr. Stephen's letter to me of 19th September last, by Lord Glenelg's directions, already referred to, and with the conditions of which I am, on behalf of the Hudson's Bay Company, ready to comply.

Allow me to hope for an early and favourable consideration of this subject, as several important arrangements, in reference to the government of the country, the formation of a police corps, the mode of administering justice, and farther measures for more effectually resisting the encroachments of the Russians on the British territory, all involving a heavy outlay of money, are now pending, and cannot be determined until I am favoured with your Lordship's decision on this subject.

I have, &c.  
(signed) J. H. Pelly, Governor.

— No. 14. —

Copy of a LETTER from the Under-Secretary of State for the Colonies to the Governor of the Hudson's Bay Company.

No. 14.

Letter from the Under-Secretary of State for the Colonies to the Governor of the Hudson's Bay Company, 3 February 1838.

Sir,

Downing-street, 3 February 1838.

With reference to your letter of the 24th October last, I am directed by Lord Glenelg to inform you, that his Lordship, having attentively considered the draft of the Royal License, granting to the Hudson's Bay Company the exclusive trade with the Indians in certain parts of North America for a further period of 21 years, and the draft of the Covenant for the performance of the conditions contained in that License which you have transmitted, will be prepared, subject to one alteration, to advise Her Majesty to direct the issue of Her Royal License in the terms which you have proposed. The alteration to which I have alluded is

\* As the Memorandum referred to does not relate to the renewal of the Grant to the Hudson's Bay Company, it has not been appended to these Papers.

in the final clause, respecting the erection of colonies within the territory comprised in the grant, for which Lord Glenelg would propose to substitute the following words:—

Appendix, No. 11.

"Provided nevertheless, and we do hereby declare our pleasure to be, that nothing herein contained shall extend or be construed to extend to prevent the establishment by us, our heirs or successors, within the territories aforesaid, or any of them, of any colony or colonies, province or provinces, or for annexing any part of the aforesaid territories to any existing colony or colonies, to us in right of our Imperial Crown belonging, or for constituting any such form of civil government as to us may seem meet within any such colony or colonies, province or provinces; but with a view to the establishment of any such colony or colonies, province or provinces; or to the introduction of any such form of civil government, we do hereby reserve to us, our heirs and successors, full power and authority to revoke these presents, or any part thereof, in so far as the same may embrace or extend to any of the territories aforesaid, which may hereafter be comprised within any such colony or colonies, province or provinces as aforesaid."

If you should be prepared, on behalf of the Hudson's Bay Company, to accede to this alteration, the only question which will remain to be decided will be the amount of the rent which, in conformity with the 2d clause of the Act 1 & 2 Geo. 4, c. 66, is to be paid by the Company after the expiration of the first period of 21 years from the date of their original grant. This is a question lying exclusively within the cognizance of the Lords Commissioners of the Treasury, and Lord Glenelg has accordingly referred it for their Lordships' consideration. You will probably receive from their Lordships an early communication on the subject.

I have, &c.  
(signed) Geo. Grey.

For Correspondence  
relative to the  
Amount of Rent  
vide Nos. 16 to 20.

## — No. 15. —

COPY of a LETTER from the Governor of the Hudson's Bay Company to the Under-Secretary of State for the Colonies.

Sir,

Hudson's Bay House, 7 February 1828.

I HAVE the honour to acknowledge your letter of 2d instant, with reference to my letter of 25th October, wherein you say that you are directed by Lord Glenelg to inform me, "that his Lordship having attentively considered the draft of the Royal License, granting to the Hudson's Bay Company the exclusive trade with the Indians in certain parts of North America for a further period of 21 years, and the draft of the Covenant for the performance of the conditions contained in that License, will be prepared, subject to one alteration, to advise Her Majesty to direct the granting of the Royal License on the terms which you have proposed."

And further saying, that the alteration to which you "have alluded is in the final clause, respecting the erection of colonies within the territory comprised in the Grant, for which Lord Glenelg would propose to substitute the following words," &c. &c.

In reply, I beg to say I have considered the alteration proposed by Lord Glenelg, and that I am prepared, on behalf of the Hudson's Bay Company, to accept the License, subject to the alteration in question.

I have, &c.  
(signed) J. H. Pelly.

No. 15.

Letter from the  
Governor of the  
Hudson's Bay  
Company to the  
Under-Secretary of  
State for the  
Colonies,  
7 February 1828.

## — No. 16. —

COPY of a LETTER from the Under-Secretary of State for the Colonies to  
A. Y. Spearsman, Esq.

Sir,

Downing-street, 3 February 1828.

I AM directed by Lord Glenelg to inform you, that in the month of February 1827, his Lordship received from the Hudson's Bay Company the accompanying letter, soliciting a renewal of the Grant of exclusive trade, which they hold under the provisions of the Act 1 & 2 Geo. 4, c. 66.

This letter having been referred for the consideration of the Lords of the Committee of Privy Council for Trade, their Lordships have expressed their opinion that, adverting to the peculiar nature of the trade in question, the application of the Hudson's Bay Company should be complied with.

0.24—Sess. 2.

3 H 4

I enclose

No. 16.

Letter from the  
Under-Secretary of  
State for the  
Colonies to  
A. Y. Spearsman,  
Esq., 3 February  
1828.

19 February 1827,  
vide page 417.

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Board of Trade, 2 June 1835 : vide page 422.  
 Mr. Stephen, 25 July 1837 : vide page 423.  
 Board of Trade, 7 Aug. vide page 423.  
 Mr. Stephen, 15 Aug. 1835 : vide page 423.

I enclose for the information of the Lords Commissioners of the Treasury, copies of the correspondence on this subject, which has passed between this department and the Board of Trade.

You will observe that in renewing the Grant to the Hudson's Bay Company, it is intended to insert in that instrument a clause authorising Her Majesty to erect, within the limits of the Grant, any new colonies or provinces which Her Majesty may be disposed to establish there; and that if any such province or colony should be so established, the Charter should thenceforth cease to be in force, so far as respects the territories which may be included within the limits of the new colony.

This condition having been communicated to the Governor of the Hudson's Bay Company, he has forwarded to Lord Glenelg the draft of a Charter, herewith enclosed, embracing a provision to that effect; as, however, this provision does not appear to be correctly expressed, Lord Glenelg proposes to substitute for it one in the following words:

"Provided nevertheless, and we do hereby declare our pleasure to be, that nothing herein contained shall extend, or be construed to extend, to prevent the establishment by us, our heirs or successors, within the territories aforesaid, or any of them, of any colony or colonies, province or provinces, or for annexing any part of the aforesaid territories to any existing colony or colonies to us, in right of our Imperial Crown, belonging, or for constituting any such form of civil government as to us may seem meet, within any such colony or colonies, province or provinces; but with a view to the establishment of any such colony or colonies, province or provinces, or to the introduction of any such form of civil government, we do hereby reserve to us, our heirs and successors, full power and authority to revoke these presents, or any part thereof, in so far as the same may embrace or extend to any of the territories aforesaid, which may hereafter be comprised within any such colony or colonies, province or provinces as aforesaid."

Assuming that this alteration will be accepted by the Hudson's Bay Company, another question remains to be decided—that, namely, of the rent to be demanded from the Company in conformity with the second section of the Act 1 & 2 Geo. 4, c. 66, after the expiration of the period of 21 years, for which their first Charter was granted: this is a question lying especially within the province of the Lords Commissioners of the Treasury; and I am therefore to request that you will move their Lordships to enter into communication with the Hudson's Bay Company for the purpose of concluding a satisfactory adjustment of it.

I have, &amp;c.

(signed) J. Stephen.

## — No. 17. —

COPY of a LETTER from A. Y. Spearman, Esq., to the Under-Secretary of State for the Colonies.

No. 17.

Letter from  
 A. Y. Spearman,  
 Esq., to the Under-  
 Secretary of State  
 for the Colonies,  
 8 March 1838.

Sir,

Treasury Chambers, 8 March 1838.

THE Lords Commissioners of Her Majesty's Treasury having had under their consideration your letter, dated 3d ultimo, with the enclosed application from the Hudson's Bay Company, soliciting a renewal of the Charter of exclusive trade which they hold under the provisions of the Act 1 & 2 Geo. 4, c. 66, I have it in command from the Lords Commissioners of Her Majesty's Treasury to request you will state to Lord Glenelg, with reference to the suggestion which his Lordship has submitted to this Board that they should enter into communication with that Company respecting the amount of rent which should be paid in conformity with the second section of the said Act for the proposed extension of their exclusive privilege of trading in the North-west territory of North America, that any Lords apprehend that no further information respecting the establishments or proceedings of the Company can be obtained than is afforded by the statements which have been submitted to his Lordship on behalf of the Company; and that as his Lordship has been enabled to determine on the expediency of renewing their exclusive privilege, he will be more competent than their Lordships to form an opinion as to the utility and value of the Company's establishments for the suppression of crime among the hunters and traders, the improvement and civilisation of the Indians, and the maintenance of the British influence in the territories to which the privilege in question extends, or the charges which the Company may incur for these purposes, and as to the propriety, with reference to these considerations; or demanding rent from the Company, or of granting the Charter which they apply for, with the reservation of the nominal rent only, provided for in the draft Grant which accompanied your letter.

I am directed, therefore, to request you will move Lord Glenelg to favour my Lords with a communication of the opinion which his Lordship may entertain on the subject.

I am, &amp;c.

(signed) A. Y. Spearman.

— No. 18. —

Appendix, No. 11.

COPY of a LETTER from the Under-Secretary of State for the Colonies to  
A. Y. Spearman, Esq.

Sir,

Downing-street, 14 March 1838.

No. 18.

I AM directed by Lord Glenelg to acknowledge your letter of the 6th inst., referring for his Lordship's decision the question of the rent to be paid by the Hudson's Bay Company for the Royal License of exclusive trade in certain parts of North America. In reply, I am to transmit to you herewith a copy of a letter on the same subject from the Secretary to the Board of Trade, and to inform you that Lord Glenelg concurs in the opinion of the Lords of the Committee of Privy Council for Trade, that the rent to be demanded from the Hudson's Bay Company should be merely nominal. I am, therefore, to request that you will move the Lords Commissioners of the Treasury to instruct their solicitors to co-operate with the proper officers of the Company in carrying the proposed arrangement into execution, with a due observance of all the necessary forms of law, and with a reference to the suggestions contained in my letter of the 3d ult.

Letter from the Under-Secretary of State for the Colonies to A. Y. Spearman, Esq.  
14 March 1838.

6 March.

I have, &c.  
(signed) J. Stephens.

— No. 19. —

COPY of a LETTER from Denis Le Marchant, Esq., to the Under-Secretary of State for the Colonies.

Office of Committee of Privy Council for Trade,  
Whitehall, 6 March 1838.

No. 19.

Sir,

WITH reference to your letter of the 12th August 1837, on the subject of the proposed License of exclusive trade to the Hudson's Bay Company, I am directed by the Lords of the Committee of Privy Council for Trade to request that you will inform Lord Glenelg that they have settled the terms of such License with the Governor of the Company, pursuant to his Lordship's desire, and in accordance with his Lordship's views, as expressed in your above-mentioned letter.

Letter from Denis Le Marchant, Esq., to the Under-Secretary of State for the Colonies  
6 March 1838.

The accompanying draft Grant of License and Covenant have been submitted on behalf of the Company to this Board, and the same being, as far as their Lordships can judge, unexceptionably warranted, their Lordships would recommend Lord Glenelg to obtain Her Majesty's assent to the Grant, upon the covenant being duly executed by the Company, and after both instruments shall have received the approval of the law officers of the Crown. Their Lordships have only further to observe, that they have communicated with Her Majesty's Commissioners of Woods and Forests on the question of the rent to be made payable to the Crown under the License, and the circumstances of the case having been laid before the Commissioners, they concurred with this Board in the propriety of such rent being only nominal.

I am, &c.  
(signed) Denis Le Marchant.

— No. 20. —

COPY of a LETTER from the Under-Secretary of State for the Colonies to  
Denis Le Marchant, Esq.

Sir,

Downing-street, 14 March 1838.

No. 20.

I AM directed by Lord Glenelg to acknowledge your letter of the 6th instant, enclosing the draft of a License of exclusive trade in certain parts of North America, the terms of which have been settled between the Hudson's Bay Company and the Lords of the Committee of Privy Council for Trade, and stating their Lordships' opinion that the rent to be demanded from the Company in return for this License should be merely nominal.

Letter from the Under-Secretary of State for the Colonies to Denis Le Marchant, Esq.  
14 March 1838.

In reply, I am to inform you, that Lord Glenelg has referred the whole correspondence on this subject to the Lords Commissioners of the Treasury, expressing at the same time his concurrence in the views as to the rent expressed in your letter, and has requested their Lordships to direct their solicitors to take the necessary steps for concluding the proposed arrangements with all the proper forms of law.

I have, &c.  
(signed) J. Stephens.

Appendix, No. 11.

— No. 21. —

Copy of a LETTER from the Assistant Secretary to the Lords of the Treasury to the Governor of the Hudson's Bay Company.

No. 21.

Letter from the Assistant Secretary to the Lords of the Treasury to the Governor of the Hudson's Bay Company, 7 June 1838.

Sir,

Treasury Chambers, 7 June 1838.

I AM commanded by the Lords Commissioners of Her Majesty's Treasury to transmit to you herewith the grant of a License to trade for the Hudson's Bay Company; and I am to request that the Deed of Covenant on the part of the Company, duly executed in such manner as the solicitor of this Board may require, may be returned to this department.

I am, &amp;c.

(signed) A. Y. Sparrow.

Enclosure in No. 21.

COVENANT by the Hudson's Bay Company for performance of Conditions and Reservations contained in the Crown Grant of even date.—(Dated 30 May 1838.)

Encl. in No. 21

WHEREAS Her Majesty hath, by an instrument under the hand and seal of the Secretary of State, the Right honourable Charles Lord Glenelg, bearing even date herewith, granted and given Her Royal License to us, the Governor and Company of Adventurers of England, trading into Hudson's Bay, and our successors, the exclusive privilege of trading with the Indians in all such parts of North America to the northward and to the westward of the lands and territories belonging to the United States of America as shall not form part of any of Her Majesty's provinces in North America, or of any lands or territories belonging to the United States of America, or to any European government, state or power, and hath secured to us, the said Governor and Company, and our successors, the sole and exclusive privilege, for the full period of 21 years from the date of the said grant, of trading with the Indians in all such parts of North America as aforesaid (except and with such restrictions as hereinafter accepted), and hath thereby declared that no rent shall be required or demanded for or in respect of the said Grant or License, or any privileges given thereby, for the first four years of the said term of 21 years, and hath thereby reserved to Her Majesty, Her heirs and successors, for the remainder of the said period of 21 years the yearly rent of 5*l.* to be paid by us, the said Governor and Company, and our successors, on the 1st day of June in every year, into Her Majesty's Exchequer, on account of Her Majesty, Her heirs and successors: We, therefore, the said Governor and Company of Adventurers of England trading into Hudson's Bay, do hereby covenant and bind ourselves and our successors, that we and they shall yearly and every year, and on every 1st day of June, from and after the expiration of the first four years of the said term of 21 years, and thenceforth during the continuance of the said Grant and License, pay or cause to be paid the said yearly rent of 5*l.* into Her Majesty's Exchequer, and on the account of Her Majesty, Her heirs and successors, and that we and our successors shall, during the period of the said Grant and License, keep accurate registers of all persons employed by us or our successors in any parts of North America, and shall once in each year return to Her Majesty's Secretary of State accurate duplicates of such registers; and we, the said Governor and Company, do hereby bind ourselves and our successors in the penal sum of 5,000*l.*, that we will, as far as in us may lie, ensure the due execution of all criminal and civil processes by the officers and persons legally empowered to execute such process within all the territories for the time being included in the said grant, and for the producing or delivering into safe custody for the purpose of trial of any person in our employ or acting under our authority within the said territories who may be charged with any criminal offence; and we do also hereby covenant that we will, as soon as the same can be conveniently done, make and submit to the consideration and approval of Her Majesty such rules and regulations for the management and carrying on the said fur trade, and the conduct of the persons employed by us therein, as have appeared or may appear to us to be most effectual for gradually diminishing and ultimately preventing the sale or distribution of spirituous liquors to the Indians, and for promoting their moral and religious improvement. Witness the seal of the said Company the 30th day of May 1838.

By order of the Governor and Committee,

(L.S.) (signed) W. G. Smith,  
Assistant Secretary.

Sealed under the common seal of the within-mentioned Governor and Company, and delivered by William Gregory Smith, their Assistant Secretary, pursuant to their order and appointment, being first duly stamped in the presence of

(signed) Thomas Cross,  
Threadneedle-street, Solicitor.

## Appendix, No. 12.

Appendix, No. 12.

PETITION from the Board of TRADE of the City of Toronto to the Legislative Council, presented 20th April 1857.

To the Honourable the Legislative Council of the Province of Canada, in Parliament assembled.

The Petition of the Board of Trade of the City of Toronto,

Humbly sheweth,

That an association of traders, under the title of "The Honourable Hudson's Bay Company," during a long period of time have claimed and exercised a sovereignty in the soil, together with the right of exclusive trade over a large portion of the province of Canada, and that the exercise of such claim is subversive to all those rights and privileges which were guaranteed to the inhabitants of Canada by Royal proclamation immediately after the conquest of the country, and subsequently secured to them by those acts of the British Parliament which gave to Canada a constitutional government.

Your petitioners further show, that up to the year 1763, when by the Treaty of Fontainebleau Canada was ceded to the British Crown, the whole region of country extending westward to the "Pacific Ocean," and northward to the shore of the "Hudson's Bay," had continued in the undisputed possession of the crown of France for a period of two centuries, and was known as *La Nouvelle France*, or Canada;

That during the half century succeeding the treaty above alluded to, an extensive trade and traffic was continued to be carried on throughout the country, described by commercial companies and traders who had established themselves there under authority of the crown of France, and that a trade was likewise, and at the same period, carried on by other traders of British origin, who had entered into that country and formed establishments there, consequently upon its cession to the British Crown;

That such trade and traffic was carried on freely and independent of any restrictions upon commercial freedom, either as originally enacted by the crown of France, or promulgated by that of Great Britain;

That in 1783 nearly all the aforesaid traders and companies united and formed an association, under the name of "The North-west Company of Montreal," which said company made many important discoveries, and extended their establishments throughout the interior of North America, and to within the Arctic circle and to the Pacific Ocean;

That in the year 1821 the said North-west Company united with the so-called Hudson's Bay Company, a company to all intents and purposes foreign to the interests of Canada, and owing no responsibility to her;

That under the name of the Honourable Hudson's Bay Company they advance claims and assume rights in virtue of an old charter of Charles II., granted in 1669, that bearing a date nearly 100 years before that this country had ceased to be an appendage to the crown of France, it pertained to that of Great Britain;

That under such pretended authority said Hudson's Bay Company assume a power to grant away and sell the lands of the Crown, acquired by conquest and ceded to it by the Treaty of 1673;

That said Company have also assumed the power to enact tariffs, collect customs dues, and levy taxes against British subjects, and have enforced unjust and arbitrary laws, in defiance of every principle of right and justice;

Your petitioners more especially pray the attention of your Honourable House to that region of country designated as the Chartered Territory, over which said Company exercises a sovereignty in the soil as well as a monopoly in the trade, and which said Company claims as a right that inures to them *in perpetuo*, in contradistinction to that portion of country over which they claim an exclusive right of trade but for a limited period only.

Whilst your petitioners believe that this latter claim is founded upon a legal right, they humbly submit that a renewal of such license of exclusive trade is injurious to the interests of the country so monopolised, and in contravention of the rights of the inhabitants of Canada.

Your petitioners therefore humbly pray that your Honourable House will take into consideration the subject of how far the assumption of power on the part of the Hudson's Bay Company interferes with Canadian rights, and as to the necessity of more particularly declaring the boundaries of Canada on the westward and on the northward, and of extending throughout the protection of Canadian laws, and the benefits of Canadian institutions.

And your petitioners, as in duty bound, will ever pray.

(signed) Thomas Clarkson, President.  
Charles Robertson, Secretary.

LETTER from *E. A. Meredith, Esq.*, to the Hon. Chief Justice *Draper, C. B.*

Sir,

Secretary's Office, Toronto, 20 February 1857.

I HAVE the honour, by command of his Excellency the Governor-general, to communicate to you hereby his Excellency's instructions for your guidance, in connexion with your mission to England as the special agent appointed to represent Canadian rights and interests before the proposed Committee of the House of Commons, on the subject of the Hudson's Bay territory.

I am to premise, however, that as it is impossible to anticipate the nature of the evidence that may be taken, or the conclusion that may be arrived at by the Committee, or the course which Parliament or Her Majesty's Government may think proper to adopt on the report of the Committee, it is not in his Excellency's power to convey to you at present any instructions of a precise or definite character.

His Excellency has, however, entire confidence in your knowledge and discretion, and he has the more readily intrusted this important mission to you, inasmuch as your high position in the colony removes you from all the ordinary influences of local or party consideration.

Immediately on your arrival in London you will place yourself in communication with the Right Honourable the Secretary of State for the Colonies (to whom these instructions have been communicated), and as soon as any Parliamentary Committee on the subject of the Hudson's Bay Company or Territory is constituted, you will take steps for offering to afford all information in your power relating to the interest or claims of Canada.

You will consider it as a part of your duty to watch over those interests by correcting any erroneous impressions, and by bringing forward any claims of a legal or equitable kind which this province may possess on account of its territorial position or past history.

You will not consider yourself as authorised to conclude any negotiation, or to assent to any definite plan of settlement affecting Canada, without reporting the particulars of the same, and your own views thereon, to his Excellency in Council.

His Excellency has full and complete confidence in the justice and consideration of Her Majesty's Government, and he is sure that the interests and feelings of Canada will be consulted so far as is consistent with right and justice. The people of Canada desire nothing more.

His Excellency feels it particularly necessary that the importance of securing the north-west territory against the sudden and unauthorised influx of immigration from the United States should be strongly pressed. He fears that the continued vacancy of this great tract, with a boundary not marked on the soil itself, may lead to future loss and injury both to England and Canada. He wishes you to urge the expediency of marking out the limits, and so protecting the frontier of the lands above Lake Superior, about the Red River, and from thence to the Pacific, as effectually to secure them against violent seizure or irregular settlement until the advancing tide of emigrants from Canada and the United Kingdom may fairly flow into them, and occupy them as subjects of the Queen, on behalf of the British empire.

With these objects in view, it is especially important that Her Majesty's Government should guard any renewal of a license of occupation (should such be determined on), or any recognition of rights by the Company, by such stipulations as will cause such license or such rights not to interfere with the fair and legitimate occupation of tracts adapted for settlement.

It is unnecessary, of course, to urge in any way the future importance of Vancouver's Island as the key to all British North America on the side of the Pacific, situated as it is between the extensive seaboard of Russian America and the vast territory in the hands of the United States.

His Excellency cannot foresee the course which a Committee of the House of Commons may see fit to pursue in the proposed inquiry, or determine beforehand on what points evidence may be required.

At any moment, however, his Excellency will be ready to attend to your suggestions, and supply such information, either by documentary evidence, or by witnesses from Canada, as you may think necessary, and he may be able to send over.

You will, of course, act upon such further instructions as may from time to time be conveyed to you by his Excellency's directions.

I have, &c.  
(signed) *E. A. Meredith*,  
Assistant Secretary.



## Appendix, No. 14.

Appendix, No. 14.

LETTER from R. G. Smith, Esq., to Major Colwell, Governor of Assiniboin.

Sir,

Hudson's Bay House, London, 5 April 1854.

I AM directed by the Governor and committee to acknowledge the receipt of your several letters, dated 24 and 18th November, and 12th December, with their respective enclosures.

The Governor and committee approve of the appointment of a Board of Works for the purpose of attending to the roads and bridges in the settlement, and are glad to find that the councillors are on the whole working harmoniously, and, they trust, beneficially to the interests of the inhabitants.

They note your wish for the appointment of a good surveyor, and have desired Sir George Simpson to look out for a suitable person in Canada; but it is doubtful whether he will succeed in obtaining one this season.

The Governor and committee trust that the course you pursued with the five deserters from the service of the fur trade will have a good effect in preventing such conduct in future.

The Minutes of Council held on the 18th October and 8th December are approved of.

With respect to your inquiry as to the competency of the Court of Assiniboin to adjudicate in civil cases exceeding the amount of 200*l.*, I am to inform you that that court being held under the authority of the charter within the limits of Rupert's Land, its powers are not restricted as to the amount upon which adjudication may be made, the rights held under the charter being reserved by the last clause of the Act Geo. 4, c. 66.

I am also directed to inform you, with reference to the petition of the Presbyterian congregation of Red River, that neither the Governor and Council of Assiniboin, nor the Governor and committee of the Hudson's Bay Company, have the power of incorporating any body of men for any purpose whatever. The property held by the Presbyterian congregation must therefore be vested in trustees, as it is at present; and you will be pleased to communicate this to the parties interested.

Mr. F. G. Johnson, Q. C., of the Montreal Bar, who has been appointed recorder of Rupert's Land, assessor and legal adviser to the Governor of Assiniboin, and to the Company, will proceed by the spring canoes to Red River, and will assume the law library now in the possession of Mr. Thorn.

From the accounts they have had of Mr. Johnson's ability and disposition, the Governor and committee have every expectation that he will act cordially with you for the general benefit of the settlement under your charge.

The account you give of the abundant supply of agricultural and plain provisions is very satisfactory; and, trusting that nothing may occur to disturb the peace and prospects of the settlement,

I have, &c.  
(signed) R. G. Smith,  
Assistant Secretary.

## Appendix, No. 15.

Appendix, No. 15.

PETITION of Inhabitants and Natives of the Settlement situated on the Red River,  
in the Assiniboin Country, British North America.

To the Honourable the Legislative Assembly of the Province of Canada, in  
Parliament assembled.

The Petition of the undersigned Inhabitants and Natives of the Settlement situated on the  
Red River, in the Assiniboin Country, British North America,

Humbly sheweth,

That many years ago a body of British emigrants were induced to settle in this country under very flattering promises made to them by the late Earl of Selkirk, and under certain contracts.

All these promises and contracts which had led them to hope that, protected by British laws, they would enjoy the fruits of their labour, have been evaded.

On the coalition of the rival companies, many of us, Europeans and Canadians, settled with our families around this nucleus of civilisation in the wilderness, in full expectation

Appendix, No. 15. that none would interrupt our enjoyment of those privileges which we believe to be ours by birthright, and which are secured to all Her Majesty's subjects in any other British colony.

We have paid large sums of money to the Hudson's Bay Company for land, yet we cannot obtain deeds for the same. The Company's agents have made several attempts to force upon us deeds which would reduce ourselves and our posterity to the most abject slavery under that body. As evidence of this, we append a copy of such deeds as have been offered to us for signature.

Under what we believe to be a fictitious charter, but which the Company's agents have maintained to be the fundamental law of "Rupert's Land," we have been prevented the receiving in exchange the peltries of our country for any of the products of our labour, and have been forbidden giving peltries in exchange for any of the imported necessities of life, under the penalty of being imprisoned, and of having our property confiscated; we have been forbidden to take peltries in exchange even for food supplied to famishing Indians.

The Hudson's Bay Company's clerks, with an armed police, have entered into settlers' houses in quest of furs, and confiscated all they found. One poor settler, after having his goods seized, had his house burnt to the ground, and afterwards was conveyed prisoner to York Factory.

The Company's first legal adviser in this colony has declared our navigating the lakes and rivers between this colony and Hudson's Bay with any articles of our produce to be illegal. The same authority has declared our selling of English goods in this colony to be illegal.

On our annual commercial journeys into Minnesota, we have been pursued like felons by armed constables, who searched our property, even by breaking open our trunks: all furs found were confiscated.

This interference with those of aboriginal descent had been carried to such extent as to endanger the peace of the settlement.

Thus we, the inhabitants of this land, have been and are constrained to behold the valuable commercial productions of our country exported for the exclusive profit of a company of traders who are strangers to ourselves and to our country.

We are by necessity compelled to use many articles of their importation, for which we pay from one hundred to four hundred per cent. on prime cost, while we are prohibited exporting those productions of our own country and industry, which we could exchange for the necessities of life.

This country is governed and legislated for by two distinct Legislative Councils, in constituting of which, we have no voice, the members of the highest holding their office of councillors by virtue of rank in the Company's service. This body passes laws affecting our interest; as, for instance, in 1845 it decreed that 20 per cent. duty would be levied on the imports of all who were suspected of trading in furs; this duty to be paid at York Factory. Again, in 1854, the same body passed a resolution imposing 12½ per cent. on all the goods landed for the colony at York Factory.

The local legislature consists of the Governor, who is also judge, and who holds his appointments from the Company: they are appointed by the same body, and are, with one or two exceptions, to a greater or less extent dependent on that body. This Council imposes taxes, creates offences, and punishes the same by fines and imprisonments, (*i. e.*) the Governor and Council make the laws, judge the laws, and execute their own sentence. We have no voice in their selection, neither have we any constitutional means of controlling their action.

Our lands are fertile, and easily cultivated, but the exclusive system of Hudson's Bay Company effectually prohibits the tiller of the soil, as well as the adventurer in any other industrial pursuit, from devoting his energies to those labours which, while producing to the individual prosperity and wealth, contribute to the general advantage of the settlement at large.

Under this system our energies are paralysed, and discontent is increasing to such a degree, that events fatal to British interest, and particularly to the interest of Canada, and even to civilisation and humanity, may soon take place.

Our country is bordering on Minnesota territory: a trade for some years has been carried on between us. We are there met by very high duties on all articles which we import into that territory, the benefits of the Reciprocity Treaty not being extended to us. Notwithstanding this, the trade has gone on increasing, and will continue to do so; we have already great cause to envy those laws and those commercial advantages which we see enjoyed by our neighbours, and which, wherever they exist, are productive of prosperity and wealth.

As British subjects, we desire that the same liberty and freedom of commerce, as well as security of property, may be granted to us as is enjoyed in all other possessions of the British Crown, which liberty is because essentially necessary to our prosperity, and to the tranquillity of this colony.

We believe that the colony in which we live is a portion of that territory which became attached to the Crown of England by the Treaty of 1763, and that the domain heretofore exercised by the Hudson's Bay Company is an usurpation antagonistic to civilisation and to the best interests of the Canadian people, whose laws being extended to us, will guarantee the enjoyment of those rights and liberties which would leave us nothing to envy in the institutions of the neighbouring territory.

When we contemplate the mighty tide of immigration which has flowed towards the north these six years past, and has already filled the valley of the Upper Mississippi with settlers,

and which will this year flow over the height of land and fill up the valley of the Red River, is there no danger of being carried away by that flood, and that we may thereby lose our nationality? We love the British name! We are proud of that glorious fabric, the British Constitution, raised by the wisdom, consecrated and hallowed by the blood of our forefathers.

We have represented our grievances to the Imperial Government, but through the chicanery of the Company and its false representations we have not been heard, and much less have our grievances been redressed. It would seem, therefore, that we have no other choice than the Canadian plough and printing press, or the American rifle and Fugitive Slave law.

We, therefore, as dutiful and loyal subjects of the British Crown humbly pray that Your Honourable House will take into your immediate consideration the subject of this our petition, and that such measures may be devised and adopted as will extend to us the protection of the Canadian Government, laws and institutions, and make us equal participators in those rights and liberties enjoyed by British subjects in whatever part of the world they reside.

Wherefore, your petitioners will ever pray.

(signed) *Roderick Kennedy,*  
and 574 others.

#### AGREEMENT.

THIS indenture, made the 13th day of March, in the year of our Lord 1844, between the Governor and Company of Adventurers of England, trading into Hudson's Bay, of the one part, and John Slater, of Red River settlement, farmer, of the other part. Whereas the said John Slater is desirous of becoming a settler upon the said hereinafter described or intended so to be, being certain part of a territory in North America, belonging to the said Governor and Company, and held under the Crown by charter. Now therefore, this indenture witnesseth, that in consideration of the said John Slater having acquired right to the title formerly held by Peter Erasmus to one of the undermentioned parcels of land, and of the said John Slater's past services as regards the other parcel of land, and in consideration also of the covenants hereinafter contained on the part of the said John Slater, they the said Governor and Company do hereby grant, demise and lease unto the said John Slater, his executors, administrators and assigns, 50 statute acres, with four chains frontage, of that parcel of land described in the survey of Red River settlement, as No. 123, and also 50 statute acres, with four chains frontage, of that adjoining parcel of land described in the said survey as No. 124; both parcels being described therein, with the necessary appurtenances thereto, to have and to hold the said piece or parcel of land hereby demised, or intended so to be, and every part thereof, with the appurtenances, unto the said John Slater, his executors, administrators and assigns, from the day next before the day of the date of these presents, and for and during and unto the full term of 1,000 years thence next ensuing, yielding and paying therefore, yearly, and every year during the said term, and upon the Michaelmas-day in each year, the rent or sum of three pepper-corns, the first payment whereof to be made upon the 29th day of December next ensuing the date hereof; and the said John Slater for himself, his heirs, executors, administrators, doth hereby covenant and agree with the said Governor and Company, in manner following; that is to say, that the said John Slater shall or will, within 40 days from the date hereof, settle or establish himself or themselves, and continue to reside upon the said hereby demised land, and shall or will, within five years from the date of these presents, being or cause or procure to be brought into a state of cultivation, one-sixth part of the said hereby demised land, and henceforth continue the same in such state, and that the said John Slater, his executors, administrators or assigns, shall or will from time to time, and at all times during the said term, contribute in a due proportion to the expense of all public establishments, whether of an ecclesiastical, civil, military, or other nature, including therein the maintenance of the clergy, the building and endowment of schools, which are or shall or may be formed under the authority of the charter or charters hereinafore referred to. And also that he or they at proper seasons, in every year, and on towards the making and repairing of such roads and highways, as lie within two miles from the said hereby demised premises, shall and will employ himself or themselves, and his or their servants, horses, cattle, carts and carriages, and other necessary things for that purpose where and when required so to do by the surveyor or overseer for the time being, appointed for the making and amending public roads, bridges and highways within such limit as aforesaid; such requisition nevertheless, in point of time, not to exceed six days in each year, computed day by day, and from Michaelmas to Michaelmas; and shall or will use his or their endeavours, for the benefit and support of the clergy, to whom, or whose communion he or they shall belong, himself or themselves, or his or their servants, horses, cattle, carts, and carriages, and other things necessary for the purpose, not exceeding at and after the rate of three days in the spring, and three days in the autumn of each year, and in every other respect whom, and whereby the clergyman shall appoint; and also that the said John Slater, his executors, administrators and assigns, shall not, nor will, without the license or consent of the said Governor and Company, for that purpose first obtained, carry on or establish, or attempt to carry on or establish in any parts of North America, any trade or traffic in or relating to any kind of skin, furs or peltries, nor dressed leather, nor in any manner directly or indirectly, aid or abet any person

## Appendix, No. 15.

or persons in carrying on such trade or traffic, nor shall nor will at any time or times during said term, distil or procure, or cause to be distilled spirituous liquors of any nature or kind soever, either upon the land hereby demised, or within any other part of the territories belonging to the said Governor and Company in North America, nor during the said term, knowingly suffer or permit any other person or persons whomsoever, to distil any such liquors upon the said demised lands or any part thereof; and also, that the said John Slater, his executors, administrators and assigns, shall not, nor will at any time export beyond the territories of the said Governor and Company any effects being the produce of the said land, or acquired by the said John Slater, his executors, administrators and assigns, within the territories of the said Governor and Company, and intended so to be exported by him the said John Slater, his executors, administrators and assigns other than and except at Port Nelson (one of the ports belonging to the said Company) and in ships or vessels belonging to or in the service of the said Governor and Company, to be conveyed to the port of London, and there to be lodged and deposited in some one of their warehouses belonging to or used for that purpose by the said Governor and Company, and with power to sell and dispose of the same effects, on account of the said John Slater, his executors, administrators and assigns, and also shall not, nor will import any goods or effects into the territories of the said Governor and Company in North America or any part thereof, other than and except from the said port of London, and through some one of the warehouses of goods in the said port of London, and other than and except in a vessel or vessels, ship or ships belonging to the said Governor and Company, or in their service; and also that he or they shall or will pay and allow to the said Governor and Company in respect of all such produce, goods and commodities, whether exported or imported, all charges as and for and in the nature of gangage, wharfage, warehouse room, and commission for sale, which shall be or constitute the average price or prices in similar cases, together with such charge for freightage as shall at the time or respective times be fair and reasonable, and shall or will allow and pay as in the nature of a custom or duty any sum not exceeding 5*l.* for and upon every 100*l.* or value or amount of the produce, goods, and commodities which shall or may be conveyed to or from Port Nelson from or to the port of London as aforesaid, and so in proportion for a less quantity or value, or in amount than 100*l.*, unless the same kind of produce, goods and commodities shall be subject to a higher rate of duty on importation at Quebec, and then in cases of importation, that he or they shall and will pay and allow unto the said Governor and Company sums at and after the same rate as shall be paid or payable at Quebec, such value or amount to be from time to time fixed, and as contained in all cases of import by and upon the actual and *head file* invoice prices, and in all cases of export by the net proceeds of sales at London aforesaid, and the said John Slater for himself, his heirs, executors and administrators, doth hereby further covenant with the said Governor and Company, and their successors, that he the said John Slater, his executors, administrators and assigns, will use his and their best endeavours to maintain the defence and internal peace of the territories of the said Governor and Company in North America, and shall and will be chargeable therewith according to such laws and regulations as are now in force in respect of the same territories, or shall from time to time be made by competent authority; and also that the said John Slater, his executors, administrators or assigns, shall not, nor will at any time or times during the said term, attempt or by any direct or indirect, mediate or immediate manner, ways or means, infringe or violate, or, set about or to infringe or violate, or aid, assist or abet or set about or attempt to aid to assist or abet, or supply with spirituous liquors, trading goods, provisions or other necessaries, any person or persons whomsoever, corporate or incorporate, or any prince, power, or potentate or state whatsoever, who shall infringe or violate, or who shall set about or attempt to infringe or violate the exclusive rights, powers, privileges, and immunities of or belonging, or in any wise appertaining to, or held, used, or enjoyed by the said Governor and Company, and their successors, under the charter or charters, without the license or consent of the said Governor and Company and their successors for the time being, first had and obtained; and lastly, that he the said John Slater, his executors, administrators or assigns, shall not nor will at any time during the said term, underlet or assign or otherwise alienate or dispose or part with the actual possession of the said land hereby demised, or any part thereof, for all or any part of the said term, or any interest demised under the same, without the consent in writing of the said Governor and Company for the time being first had and obtained; and also, that the said John Slater, his executors, administrators or assigns, shall or will, within six calendar months from the date hereof as to these presents, and within six calendar months from the date of such respective assignment, and underlease to be made under or through these presents, and with respect to such assignment and underlease respectively, cause these presents and every such assignment or underlease, when made, to be registered in the register of the said territories in North America, or of the district in which the said hereby demised land shall be situate, and wherever such register shall be kept at the time.

Provided always, nevertheless, and it is hereby declared and agreed, that if the said John Slater, his executors, administrators or assigns, shall not in all things well and truly observe and perform all and every the covenants and agreement herein contained, on his or their behalf to be observed and performed, then and in either of such cases, and either upon or after the first breach or any subsequent breach or breaches of the covenant, and as to any subsequent breach or breaches, notwithstanding there may have been any waiver or waivers, or supposed waiver or waivers thereof by the acceptance of rent or otherwise, it shall or may be lawful to and for the said Governor and Company, and their successors or assigns, to enter into and upon the said hereby demised premises, or any part thereof, in the name of  
the

the whole thereof, and to have, to hold, retain and enjoy the same as in their former state, and also to put an end to and determine the same term of 1,000 years, or so much thereof as shall be then unexpired, and all and every person or persons then occupying the same premises, or claiming title thereto, to put out and remove, anything heretofore contained to the contrary notwithstanding. In witness whereof the said parties to these presents have hereunto set their hands and seals the day and year first above written.

Signed, sealed, and delivered in  
presence of Geo. Taylor,  
of Red River Settlement,  
Surveyor, and

For the Governor and Company aforesaid,  
*Duncan Finlayson,*  
Governor of Assiniboine.  
*John x Slater.*

John Black, of the same place,  
Clerk in the service of the  
said Governor and Company.

Countersigned, *George Taylor,*  
*John Black,* } Witnesses.

## Appendix, No. 16.

LETTER from the Committee of the Aborigines Protection Society to the  
Right Honourable *Henry Labouchere*, M.P., Chairman.

Sir,

THE condition and circumstances of the Indian tribes inhabiting the vast territory under the administration of the Hudson's Bay Company have for many years engaged the attention of the Aborigines Protection Society, who have witnessed with deep interest the movement which has resulted in the inquiry now pending before the Select Committee of the House of Commons.

Impressed with the importance of this movement as affecting the future destiny not only of the wide region conceded by charter to the power of the Hudson's Bay Company, but that of the adjoining provinces of Canada, with which its interests are so intimately interwoven, the Society took early steps to procure such facts and information relating to the territory and its inhabitants as were accessible to them, and have on various occasions brought the subject under the notice of Her Majesty's Government.

Apart from all considerations of humanity, they could not be unmindful of the circumstance that while in too many instances, in other portions of our colonial dominions, the aboriginal proprietors of the soil have been viewed as an obstruction to the advancing interests and exigencies of the white settlers who have displaced them, both policy and humanity must concur in the preservation and just treatment of the native races of the Hudson's Bay, who are the support of an important and lucrative commerce, and the real producers of the vast wealth, amounting, on competent authority, to more than 20 millions sterling, with which the fur trade has already enriched England.

The Society trust that they are not too far presuming if they desire to avail themselves of the present opportunity to submit their views on the important subject at present under the consideration of the Committee of the House of Commons. They beg to assure the Committee that in so doing they have been most anxious not unreasonably to intrude on their attention by raising merely theoretical discussions. They have watched the progress of the evidence with great interest, and they have collected with much care, both from public sources and from private and personal communications with individuals, such facts and information bearing on the condition and prospects of the aboriginal race as appeared to them calculated to aid the investigation now in progress, by throwing additional light upon points where the evidence has been defective, or by suggesting considerations which may lead to further inquiry, and to such an enlarged view of our connexion with the Indian tribes as may tend to the adoption of proper measures for their future improvement and preservation.

The subjects which appear to the Society to be deserving of special attention in connexion with the present inquiry, and on which they would respectfully offer a few observations embodying the information they have been able to procure, are the following:—

1. The general character, geographical distribution, and estimated numbers of the tribes of the Hudson's Bay.
2. Their rapid decrease, and threatened extinction.
3. The character and operation of the system of trade and administration of the Hudson's Bay Company, as connected with this decrease.
4. The prevalence of famines, and their effects.
5. The result of missionary operations, in reference to the capacity of the Indian for the habits of civilised life.
6. The prospects of the Indian race under the contemplated annexation of the Hudson's Bay territory to Canada.

Notwithstanding the diversity of petty independent tribes, of whom between 50 and 60 names are found scattered over the surface of this wide region, there does not appear at the present day to be more than six languages of a radically distinct character in the whole area of British North America.

1. Beginning from the north, the Esquimaux, an exclusively maritime family, occupy the entire circumference of the Arctic coast of the American continent, from Russian America on the west to Labrador on the east.

2. The Kolosch, comprising great variety of tribes, many of whom are also maritime in their habits, occupy a large portion of British Oregon and of Russian America, and extend eastward to McKenzie's River.

3. The Athabaskan or Chapevyan, a wide-spread family, contemporaneous on the north with the previously mentioned family, extend from Fort Churchill to Hudson's Bay, across the entire continent, through new Caledonia and the adjacent parts of British Oregon to the shores of the Pacific Ocean.

4. The great Algonquin division, the largest of all the North American groups, subtend the Athabascans on the north, and extend in a southerly direction far into the territory of the United States. They include the well-known tribes the Delawares, Crees, Chippewas, &c., besides many now extinct races.

5. The Iroquois, completely surrounded by and inclosed in the vast area of the Algonquins, formed the famous confederacy of the five nations, whose original area comprised the greater portion of the present limits of Canada, and extended southwards as far as the States of Pennsylvania and New York.

6. Disregarding minor subdivisions, the remaining portion of the country included between the limits of the Algonquins and the Rocky Mountains may be considered as in the occupancy of the Sioux, at the present day by far the most numerous and warlike native confederacy of North America. The Sioux are dominant over the vast prairie region watered by the Missouri and the upper waters of the Saskatchewan. To quote the language of a recent writer, "The Iroquois and Algonquins exhibit in the most typical form the characteristics of the North American Indians, as found in the earliest descriptions, and they are the two families upon which the current notions respecting the physiognomy, habits, and moral and intellectual powers of the so-called Red Race are chiefly founded. As a general rule, though not without important exceptions, the Algonquin and Iroquois classes lie to the east of the Mississippi, and their original area was the region of the forest rather than the prairie;" a remark which applies also to the Kolosch and Athabascans, who are usually classed by the Hudson's Bay traders under the general designation of Thickwood Indians. In the accompanying Map, coloured ethnologically, the limits of the great division just mentioned, together with the localities of the most important tribes of which they consist, are indicated with as much precision as the nature of the subject will allow. For the convenience of comparison, a statement of the numbers and distribution of the Indian tribes as far south as the Gulf of Mexico, based on the Reports of the United States Commissioners on Indian Affairs, has been added; and the whole, it is believed, exhibits a summary of information from the most recent and reliable sources in regard to the Indian tribes of North America, as complete as the present state of our knowledge admits.

The data for estimating the past and present population of the Hudson's Bay territories are by no means satisfactory. The census given in evidence before the present Committee by Sir George Simpson, of 55,370 for the entire territory east of the Rocky Mountains, would seem to indicate, from the vast disproportion between the population and the extent of the territory they occupy, that here, as in other parts of the North American continent, the aboriginal race is rapidly wasting away. The testimony of travellers to this painful fact is uniform and emphatic. "Since 1829," says Mr. Parker, an American writer, speaking of the tribes west of the Rocky Mountains, "probably seven-eighths, if not, as Dr. McLaughlin (the superintendent of the Hudson's Bay Company's affairs in that quarter) believes, nine-tenths of the entire population have been swept away by disease, principally fever and ague. The malignancy of these diseases may have been increased by predisposing causes, such as intemperance and the general spread of venereal, since their intercourse with Europeans; but a more direct cause of the great mortality was their mode of treatment."

Among other causes of this lamentable waste of Indian life, the decrease of the game upon which the Indians subsisted has been much dwelt upon. The subject is one of great importance in reference to the future disposition of these territories; and as it is also intimately connected with the system of trade carried on by the Hudson's Bay Company, it appears to the Society to call for most serious attention.

The destructive influences operating on the Indians, from the prevalence of epidemic diseases and the habits of intemperance, may perhaps be considered as rather of a temporary than a permanent character. How far the Hudson's Bay Company have employed their full influence in preventing the introduction of spirituous liquors, and arresting the spread of European diseases, are questions which will doubtless receive the careful attention of the Committee. The daily operation and tendency of the Company's system in the destruction of the game, which necessarily forms the sole support of a hunting population, is of greater importance as respects the future prospects of the country and the fate of its aboriginal inhabitants. The furs of wild animals forming the sole articles of export from the country, the business of hunting and trapping falls exclusively on the Indians; and to satisfy the demands of the traders, whose profits depend upon the amount of the returns, it

is pursued by them very far beyond what would be required to supply the personal wants of a simple people subsisting by the chase. Differing wholly in its nature from a trade in manufactured articles, demand does not, in this case, increase supply, but the ratio is necessarily reversed. It is asserted, indeed, that the Company's regulations prevent, as far as possible, the wanton destruction of the animals producing the finer furs, by discouraging the trade in the skins of the young and those killed at improper seasons. Such regulations do not extend, however, to the larger animals—the buffalo, the moose, and the deer—whose flesh is adapted for the food of man, immense herds of which are wantonly destroyed for the sake of their tongues alone, to supply a delicacy for the table.

It must be obvious that as the demands of such a system increase, the difficulty of meeting them becoming proportionately great, the more the furs are required, the greater must be the difficulty in finding and killing the animals; more fatiguing and longer-continued hunting expeditions are required; and, as the population itself decreases and the hunters become fewer, the labour of procuring the furs becomes more onerous on the survivors. The result is inevitable: the children and old persons perish or suffer, and settlement and progressive improvement become impossible. Even those acts which exercised native ingenuity and skill, and sufficed originally for subsistence suited to their primitive condition and simple wants, are abandoned or forgotten, as the manufactured articles sold by the Company are often more effectual as well as more easily obtained. To complete their entire dependence upon the Company, they are, by the custom of giving all the articles supplied to them on credit, invariably kept in debt—another powerful means of repressing the energies and advancement of any people, whether barbarous or civilized.

The practical operation of such a system cannot perhaps be better described than in the words of Mr. M-Lean, himself a partner of the Hudson's Bay Company, who in his recently published work "Notes of a Twenty-five years' residence in Hudson's Bay," has the following remarks on the subject:—

"That the Indians wantonly destroy the game in years of deep snow, is true enough, but the snow fell to as great depth before the advent of the whites as after, and the Indians were as prone to slaughter the animals then as now, yet game of every description abounded, and want was unknown. To what causes then are we to attribute the present scarcity? There can be but one answer, to the destruction of the animals which the prosecution of the fur trade involves. As the country becomes impoverished, the Company reduce their outfits so as to insure the same amount of profits, an object utterly beyond their reach, although economy is pushed to the extreme of parsimony; and thus while the game becomes scarcer, and the poor natives require more ammunition to procure their living, their means of obtaining it instead of being increased are lessened. The general outfits for the whole northern department, amounted in 1835 to 31,000 £, now (1845) it is reduced to 15,000 £, of which one-third at least is absorbed by the stores at Red River settlement, and a considerable portion of the remainder by the officers and servants of the Company throughout the country. I do not believe that more than one half of the outfit goes to the Indians. While the resources of the country are becoming yearly more and more exhausted, the question naturally suggests itself: What is to become of the natives when their lands can no longer furnish the means of subsistence? This is indeed a serious question, and well worthy of the earnest attention of the philanthropist. While Britain makes such strenuous exertions in favour of the sable bondsmen of Africa, and lavishes her millions to free them from the yoke, can nothing be done for the once noble, but now degraded aborigines of America? Are they to be left to the tender mercies of the trader, until famine and disease sweep them from the earth?"—*M-Lean*, vol. 2, pp. 266-269.

A former correspondent of the society, Mr. Alexander Simpson, also a partner of the Company, and at present in this country, gives evidence of a similar character:

"There are some extensive tracts of country in which the means of subsistence," he says, "are scanty in the extreme. In the region lying between Lake Superior and Winnipeg, the natives during the winter, can with difficulty collect enough of food to support life. In the country lying immediately north of the Canadas, though fur-bearing animals are still comparatively numerous, and the trade consequently valuable, the poor Indians have at all times a hard fight against famine. In this tract of country, fish is at all seasons scarce, and in winter the sole dependence of the natives for subsistence is placed upon rabbits (the most wretched food upon which to exist for any time that can possibly be conceived), and when these fail, the most frightful tragedies at times take place, parents have been known to lengthen out a miserable existence by killing and devouring their own offspring."

The prevalence of famines such as are here described, and which there is but too much reason to fear are gradually extending over every part of the country, with the exception of the peairie districts; and the deplorable consequences they entail upon the suffering and helpless natives, are events which must perhaps, cause regret rather than censure. To prevent altogether the occurrence of such calamities may indeed be beyond the power of the Company, and it may be admitted that their treatment of the Indians is as considerate and humane as is consistent with the interests of a body having the primary question of a profitable trade as the object of their association. But the fact is no less certain and deplorable, that while under the system now in force, we have given unlimited scope to the cupidity of a company of traders, placing no stint on their profits, or limits to their power, the unhappy race we have assigned to their keeping, and from whose toil their profits are wrung, are perishing miserably by famine, while not a vestige of an attempt has been made on the part of their rulers to imbue them with the commonest arts of civilized life, or to

induce them to change the precarious livelihood obtained by the chase for a certain subsistence derived from the cultivation of the soil. While we are hesitating to introduce the changes, which these and similar considerations seem imperatively to call for, from a fear that under a free Government the fur trade will suffer from the apprehended extermination of the fur-bearing animals, the question is irresistibly forced upon us: Are we not already effecting the same object far more speedily and certainly, by the extermination of the Indian?

The capacity of the red men for the habits of civilised life is abundantly demonstrated in the success which has attended the efforts of the missionary societies at the Red River settlement, and other parts of the territory. We find there a considerable community of pure Indian blood, subsisting by agriculture, and in point of intelligence not inferior to the whites of the same rank of life by whom they are surrounded. Famine, with its attendant horrors, is there unknown; population is on the increase; intemperance and the vices usually incident to a savage state are declining, if they have not wholly disappeared; and the inference from the whole is irresistible that the extension of settlement, and a free government in these territories is far more favourable to the moral and intellectual advancement of the aboriginal race, than the irresponsible and destructive regime of the fur trade.

It may be said indeed, that although the Company have no missions or schools of their own in any portion of their territories, they have offered no obstacle to their establishment by benevolent societies from England and Canada; but it is submitted that this can scarcely be considered an adequate fulfilment of the duties and responsibilities imposed by their position. The monopoly of the fur trade, if not a conquest for the benefit of the Indian, is an injustice; as it deprives him of the fair value of his toil, debars him from intercourse with civilised men, and the ameliorating influences without which he can never rise in the scale of humanity. For the last two centuries has the right of exclusion been rigidly enforced from the shores of the Hudson's Bay, and never perhaps in the whole world and in all time, has a fairer opportunity been offered for the regeneration of the Indian race. No surrounding communities have acted upon them with evil and pernicious influences, no opposing interests have interfered with the most comprehensive and benevolent plans for their amelioration; they have been cut off from the intercourse, the contentions, and the contagion of the world. And yet what has been the result? The system which has made the Company prosperous and powerful, has made the Indian a slave, and his country a desert. He is at this day wandering about his native land, without home or covering as much a stranger to the blessings of civilisation as when the white man first landed on his shores. It is far from the intention of the Society to cast indiscriminate censure upon the servants of the Hudson's Bay Company, many of whom are without doubt, benevolent and humane, as well as enterprising and intelligent. But it must be obvious that their character and habits, as well as the policy of the Company, are alike unfavourable to that progressive settlement and civilisation of the country which has been going on in so remarkable a manner to the south of the British and American boundary, and the question really comes to be whether those territories are to remain a wilderness till the tide of population bursts in upon them, over a conventional line from a country where the possessory rights either of Indians or civilised states are little regarded, or be opened up under the auspices of the Canadian Government, whose interest in the welfare and improvement of the native race living under its jurisdiction, the society is thankful to acknowledge. The recent enactment of the provincial Legislature, conferring on them the right of suffrage is one of the most hopeful characters, as it admits them to full participation in the privileges and duties of British subjects. In pleading for the extension of the Government of Canada over the Indian tribes of Hudson's Bay, the Society indulge the hope that similar rights will be accorded to them, and that the necessary measures will be taken for promoting their moral and religious improvement by settling them on lands of their own, instructing them in the arts of civilised life, and by the establishment of missions and schools, bringing within the reach of every member of the community the means of Christian training and instruction.

Signed on behalf of the Committee.

18 May 1857.

R. N. Fowler, Chairman.  
F. W. Chesson, Secretary.

LETTER from F. W. Chesson, Esq., Secretary to the Aborigines Protection Society,  
to the Right Hon. H. Labouchere, M.P., Chairman.

19, Harpur-street, Bloomsbury, W. C.

Sir,

7 June 1857.

On behalf of the Aborigines Protection Society I beg to forward you a letter which has been addressed to them by Péguis, chief of the Salteaux tribe, at the Red River settlement, detailing some of the grievances of which he alleges he has to complain under the present government of the country. The letter, I am informed, is in the handwriting of his son, and may be regarded as a creditable proof of Indian capacity. The settlement over which the chief Péguis presides is a remarkable example of the improvement of which the Indian race is capable. The great majority of the tribe are settled down as farmers, but singularly enough they furnish the only harness maker and tinsmiths which the Red River settlement possesses. No better proof of their high moral condition could be



be wished for than the fact that, despite many cases of poverty and want which exist among them, "there is not a locked or barred door at night even during the hours of sleep, from one end of the settlement to the other." Appendix, No. 16.

I beg respectfully to express the hope that you will deem the facts contained in Pégau's letter to be of sufficient importance to bring them before the Select Committee on the Hudson's Bay Territories, and thereby render an act of justice to one of Her Majesty's oldest and most devoted servants.

I have, &c.  
(signed) F. W. Chesson,  
Secretary.

LETTER from Pégau, Chief of the Saulteaux Tribe at the Red River Settlement, to the Aborigines Protection Society, London.

Gentlemen,

MANY winters ago, in 1812, the lands along the Red River, in the Assiniboin country, on which I and the tribe of Indian of whom I am chief, then lived, were taken possession of without permission of myself or my tribe by a body of white settlers. For the sake of peace I, as the representative of my tribe, allowed them to remain on our lands on their promising that we should be well paid for them by a great chief, who was to follow them. This great chief, whom we call the Silver Chief (the Earl of Selkirk), arrived in the spring after the war between the North-west and Hudson's Bay Companies (1817). He told us he wanted our land for some of his countrymen, who were very poor in their own country, and I consented, on the condition, that he paid well for my tribes' lands, he could have from the confluence of the Assiniboin to near Maple-sugar Point, on the Red River (a distance of 20 or 24 miles), following the course of the river, and as far back on each side of the river as a horse could be seen under (easily distinguished). The Silver Chief told us he had little with which to pay us for our lands when he made this arrangement, in consequence of the troubles with the North-west Company. He, however, asked us what we most required for the present, and we told him we would be content till the following year, when he promised again to return, to take only ammunition and tobacco. The Silver Chief never returned, and either his son or the Hudson's Bay Company have ever since paid us annually for our lands only the small quantity of ammunition and tobacco which, in the first instance, we took as preliminary to a final bargain about our lands. This surely was repaying me very poorly for having saved the Silver Chief's life, for the year he came here Gathbert Grant, with 116 warriors, had assembled at White-horse Plain, intending to waylay him somewhere on the Red River. I no sooner heard of this than I went to Gathbert Grant, and told him, if he came out of the White-horse Plain where his warriors were assembled, I should meet him at Sturgeon Creek with my entire tribe, who were then much more numerous than they are now, and stand or fall between him and the Silver Chief. This had the desired effect, and Mr. Grant did not make the attempt to harm the Silver Chief, who came as he went, in peace and safety. Those who have since held our lands not only pay us only the same small quantity of ammunition and tobacco, which was first paid to us as a preliminary to a final bargain, but they now claim all the lands between the Assiniboin and Lake Winnipeg, a quantity of land nearly double of what was first asked from us. We hope our Great Mother will not allow us to be treated so unjustly as to allow our lands to be taken from us in this way.

We are not only willing, but very anxious after being paid for our lands, that the whites would come and settle among us, for we have already derived great benefits from their having done so, that is, not the traders, but the farmers. The traders have never done anything but rob and keep us poor, but the farmers have taught us how to farm and raise cattle. To the missionaries especially we are indebted, for they tell us every praying day (Sabbath) to be sober, honest, industrious, and truthful. They have told us the good news that Jesus Christ so loved the world that he gave himself for it, and that this was one of the first messages to us, "Peace on earth and good will to man." We wish to practise these good rules of the whites, and hope the Great Mother will do the same to us, and not only protect us from oppression and injustice, but grant us all the privileges of the whites.

We have many things to complain of against the Hudson's Bay Company. They pay us little for our furs, and when we are old are left to shift for ourselves. We could name many old men who have starved to death in sight of many of the Company's principal forts.

When the Home Government has sent out questions to be answered in this country about the treatment of the Indians by the Company, the Indians have been told if they said anything against the Company they would be driven away from their homes. In the same way when Indians have wished to attach themselves to missions, they have been both threatened and used badly. When a new mission has been established, the Company has at once planted a post there, so as to prevent Indians from attaching themselves to it. They have been told they are fools to listen to missionaries, and can only starve and become lazy under them. We could name many Indians who have been prevented by the Company from leaving their trading posts and Indian habits when they have wished to attach themselves to missions.

When it is decided that this country is to be more extensively settled by the whites, and before whites will be again permitted to take possession of our lands, we wish that a fair

## Appendix, No. 16.

and mutually advantageous treaty be entered into with my tribe for their lands, and we ask, whenever this treaty is to be entered into, a wise, discreet, and honourable man, who is known to have the interests of the Indian at heart, may be selected on the side of the Indian, to see that he is fairly and justly dealt with for his land, and that from the first it be borne in mind, that in securing our own advantages, we wish also to secure those of our children and their children's children.

I commit these my requests to you as a body now well known by us to have the welfare of the poor Indians at heart, and in committing this to you in behalf of myself, do so also on behalf of my tribe, who are as one man in feeling and desires on these matters. Will you, then, use the proper means of bringing these our complaints and desires in a becoming and respectful manner both before the Great Council of the nation (Parliament), and through it to our Great Mother (the Queen), who will show herself more truly great and good by protecting the helpless from injustice and oppression than by making great conquests.

I give you at the end of this such certificates of character as I hold from the Silver Chief (Lord Selkirk) and the Governor of Rupert's Land (Sir George Simpson), I have also a British flag and valuable medal from our Great Mother (the Queen), which I treasure above all earthly things.

Wishing that the Great Spirit may give you every good thing, and with warmest thanks for your friendship,

I remain, gentlemen, your true friend,

his  
Peguis, + or Was. Prince,  
mark.

Chief of the Saulteaux Tribe at Red River.

The bearer Peguis, one of the principal chiefs of the Chapeways or Saulteaux of Red River, has been a steady friend of the settlement ever since its first establishment, and has never deserted its cause in its greatest reverses. He has often exerted his influence to restore peace, and having rendered most essential services to the settlers in their distress, deserves to be treated with favour and distinction by the officers of the Company, and by all the friends of peace and good order.

Fort Douglas, 20 July 1817.

(signed) Selkirk.

These are to certify that Peguis, the Saulteaux Indian chief, has uniformly been friendly to the whites, well-disposed towards the settlement at Red River, and altogether a steady, intelligent well-conducted Indian. In consideration of these facts, and being now in the decline of life, unable to maintain himself and family by the produce of the chase alone, it is hereby certified that I have assured him an annuity for life from the Honourable Hudson's Bay Company of 5*l*. sterling, commencing with a payment of that amount this day.

Fort Garry, 1 January 1835.

(signed) George Simpson.

## Appendix, No. 17.

## Appendix, No. 17.

LIST of the Adventurers of England trading into *Hudson's Bay*, November 1856.

*Whereof those marked \* have by their Adventurers two Vets or more.*

Arbuthnot, George, and others.  
\* Auldjo, Madeline Helen Margaret.

Baggsley, Richard, and others.  
Baker, Charlotte.  
Baker, George.  
Baker, Matilda Caroline.  
\* Baker, William Robert.  
\* Balfour, John.  
Barclay, Jas. Pringle and George Forsyth.  
\* Barclay, Joseph Gurney.  
Barklimore, Archibald.  
Barnett, Edward.  
Barnett, Edward.  
Barnett, Edward, and others.  
\* Barnett, John and Sarah Beale.  
\* Barnett's Thomas.

Bartrum, Thomas Reynolds, deceased, T. J. Laing, and S. L. Lancaster Lucas.  
Bartrum, Thomas Reynolds, deceased, T. J. Laing, and S. Tremerebere.  
Bayly, William Davis, deceased.  
\* Beauvois, Richard Benyon De, deceased.  
\* Beidley, Joseph.  
Bennett, Rev. Alexander Morden.  
Bennett, Elizabeth Caroline Amelia.  
Bennett, Saint John.  
\* Bentley, James.  
Berens, Charlotte Elizabeth.  
\* Berens, Henry Hulse.  
\* Berens, Joseph, deceased.  
Bevan, Mary Catharine.  
Bicknell, Henry.  
Binks, Richard.

- Block, Samuel Richard, and William.  
 Bousfield, Martha.  
 Bousfield, William, deceased.  
 Broughton, Rev. Thomas Delves, and  
 Frances.  
 Broughton, Rev. Thomas Delves, and  
 Charles Corkran.  
 Buchanan, Walter.  
 Burnester, Edward.  
 Burnell, Henry.  
 \*Buxton, Sir Edward North, Bart.  
 Buxton, Thomas Fowell.  
 Campbell, James and Caroline.  
 Carew, Elizabeth, deceased.  
 Cary, George Marcus.  
 \*Cavan, the Right Hon. Lydia, Comtes-  
 Dowager of, and the Hon. E. A. F. H.  
 Lambert, deceased.  
 Chambers, Rev. Oswald Lyttelton.  
 \*Chapman, Aaron, deceased.  
 Charles, John.  
 Chatteris, William Pollet Brown.  
 Clarke, Henry Matthew.  
 Clarke, John Stanley, and others.  
 Clayton, Frances, deceased, and the Rev.  
 Edward.  
 Cleashy, Isabella.  
 \*Colville, Eden.  
 \*Corkran, Charles.  
 \*Cotton, John.  
 Cripps, Elizabeth, and Charlotte.  
 \*Currie, Isaac George.  
 Currie, Raikes.  
 Currie, Raikes, and George Wodehouse.  
 Currie, William.  
 \*Dallas, Alexander Grant.  
 Davies, Robert Cradock.  
 Devey, Francis, and others.  
 Dimond, John Baker, deceased.  
 Drake, Robert.  
 Duck, Catharine Tolson.  
 Duck, Elizabeth Amelia.  
 Duck, John Nehemiah.  
 Dundas, the Hon. John Charles, and others.  
 Eden, the Hon. Emily.  
 Eden, the Hon. Frances Harriet, deceased.  
 \*Ellice, the Right Hon. Edward.  
 \*Ellice, the Right Hon. Edward, and others.  
 \*Ellice, Edward.  
 \*Ellice, Rev. James, deceased.  
 \*Ellice, Robert, deceased.  
 Ellice, Russell.  
 \*Ellice, Russell, and others.  
 Ellice, William, and Helen Anne Burrell.  
 Fane, Vere, and others.  
 \*Farham, Harriet, and others.  
 Feilden, Joseph.  
 Fenzing, George, and R. H. Shepard.  
 Fetherston, Anne.  
 Fetherston, Jane.  
 Firmin, Rev. Robert.  
 Fly, Henrietta Susanna.  
 \*Folkestone, the Right Hon. Viscount, and  
 others.  
 \*Forsyth, Margaret, and George.  
 Fort, George.  
 Fox, Francis.  
 Frampton, Eleanor Mary.  
 Frampton, Mary Hamwood, and Ann.  
 Franklin, Elizabeth, deceased.  
 Franklin, Sir John, deceased, and Rev. Appendix, No. 17.  
 Thomas Willingham Booth.  
 \*Franks, Frederick, deceased.  
 Franks, Charles, and James Whatman Bos-  
 sanquet.  
 \*Friend, James Taily.  
 Gansell, Thomas.  
 Gibbs, Richard, deceased.  
 Gore, Lieut.-general the Hon. Charles.  
 Graham, Thomas.  
 Grant, Charles.  
 Grant, William Forsyth.  
 \*Green, Richard.  
 Gunner, Hannah.  
 \*Gurney, Samuel, deceased.  
 Haldane, John.  
 Halkett, Rev. Dunbar Stewart.  
 \*Halkett, Peter Alexander.  
 \*Hambrough, John.  
 Hamilton, Rev. Adolphus, and others.  
 Hancock, Rev. Robert, and Charles Stokes.  
 Hare, Anna Maria.  
 \*Harrison, Benjamin, deceased.  
 \*Harrison, Benjamin, deceased, and Rev.  
 Benjamin.  
 \*Harrison, Benjamin, deceased, and Catha-  
 rine Sarah.  
 \*Harrison, Rev. Benjamin.  
 \*Harrison, Rev. Benjamin, and John Curtis  
 Hayward.  
 \*Hayward, John Curtis.  
 Hewat, Michael Grayhurst.  
 \*Hewat, Richard James, and Alexander.  
 Hewat, Richard James, and Margaret.  
 Heywood, Sarah.  
 Hodgson, Jane.  
 Hodgson, John, and others.  
 \*Hodgson, Kirkman Daniel.  
 Hodgson, Mary.  
 Holland, John, and others.  
 \*Hope, Hon. Charles.  
 Hoyes, James, deceased, and Elizabeth,  
 deceased.  
 Hue, Clement.  
 Hue, Rev. Clement Berkeley.  
 Hue, Corbet.  
 \*Hulse, Sir Charles, bart., deceased.  
 Hurlock, Philip Johnson, deceased.  
 Hutchesson, Jane.  
 Hyslop, Walter.  
 Ireland, Thomas James.  
 Jenkinson, Right Rev. John Banks, Bishop  
 of St. David's, deceased.  
 Johnson, Henry.  
 Jones, Rev. Dennis Edward.  
 Laing, Thomas Josiah.  
 Leigh, James Brooks.  
 \*Lucas, Josiah, deceased.  
 Lucas, Josiah, deceased, and T. J. Laing.  
 \*Lucas, Samuel Lucas Lancaster, and others.  
 \*Maddox, Frederick.  
 Marindin, Henry Richard.  
 Marjoribanks, Edward, and Sir Edmund  
 Antrobus, bart.  
 Marsh, Emma.  
 Marshall, Sir Charles.  
 \*Matheson, Alexander.  
 Matheson, Thomas.  
 Mayhew, Charles, and others.

- Appendix, No. 17.
- \* Meehi, John Joseph, and George Chambers.
  - \* Miller, Elizabeth, deceased.
  - \* Mills, John Remington.
  - \* Mills, John Remington, and others.
  - \* Mills, Thomas.
  - \* Milner, Agnes.
  - \* Milner, Mary Eleanor.
  - \* Milner, John, deceased.
  - \* Mitchell, Sarah Anna, and William Robert.
  - \* Mitchell, William Robert.
  - \* Moore, Charlotte, the younger.
  - \* Moser, Roger.
  
  - Newbery, George, deceased.
  - Nicoll, Samuel.
  
  - Ogilvy, Jane.
  - \* Oliver, Joseph, deceased, George, and Joseph.
  - \* Oliver, Joseph.
  - \* Otway, Loftus Charles, and William Angerstein.
  - Owen, Rev. Edward Pryce.
  
  - Paterson, Margaret.
  - Pearse, Rev. George, and Laura Elizabeth Buck.
  - Pearson, Arthur Thomas Farrer.
  - \* Pelly, Albert.
  - \* Pelly, Albert, and Edmund.
  - \* Pelly, Richard Wilson.
  - \* Pilews, Henrietta, deceased.
  - \* Pitt, Elizabeth.
  - \* Pitt, Rev. George.
  - \* Porter, Rev. Charles.
  - \* Powell, William and Lucilla Young.
  - \* Poynder, Thomas Henry Allen.
  - \* Poynder, Thomas Henry Allen, and others.
  - \* Poynder, William Henry.
  - \* Prater, Charles.
  - \* Probyn, George, deceased.
  
  - \* Raikes, George, deceased.
  - \* Raikes, William Henley, deceased.
  - Ramsay, Elizabeth.
  - Ramsay, Henrietta Margaret.
  - Ramsay, Lydia Ann, deceased.
  - Ravenshaw, Edward Cockburn.
  - Rennie, Caroline Lucas.
  - Rennie, George, deceased.
  - Rennie, Sir John, and others.
  - \* Rigge, John Sanderson, and others.
  - Rogers, John Charles, and others.
  - \* Rosal, Charles Gray.
  - \* Russell, William, Accountant-general Court of Chancery.
  
  - Simpson, Harriet.
  - \* Schacht, George Henry.
  - Scrivener, Mary, and Mary Ann Cross.
  - \* Selkirk, the Right Hon. Dunbar James, Earl of.
  - Seymour, Francis Hugh George, and others.
  - \* Shepherd, John.
  - Sinclair, Sir George, bart., and others.
  
  - \* Singer, Samuel Weller.
  - Skinner, George Thomas.
  - Skinner, John.
  - Skinner, Lucina Sarah.
  - Slade, William.
  - \* Smith, William, deceased.
  - Stanbrough, Charles Henry.
  - Stephens, Charles.
  - Stephenson, Daniel, deceased.
  - Stewart, Alexander Patrick.
  - Stokes, Katharine Emma.
  - \* Streetfield, Hannah.
  - Strickland, Henry Eustatius.
  - Strong, Rev. Clement, deceased.
  - Strong, Henry Linwood, and others.
  - \* Stuart, Charles.
  
  - \* Temple, Frederic James Henry, and Thomas Ramsday Sayth.
  - \* Thelluson, Charles Sabine Augustus, and others.
  - \* Thorthwaite, Thomas.
  - \* Thwaytes, Ann.
  - \* Tomlin, James, deceased.
  - Trutter, Sir Coutts, deceased, and Edward Marjoribanks.
  
  - Vachell, Horatio, and Tanfield.
  - Vesey, Elizabeth Margaret.
  - Vesey, George.
  - Vigne, Augustus.
  - \* Vigne, Thomas, deceased.
  
  - Wales, Mary.
  - \* Walker, Isaac, deceased.
  - Warner, Edward.
  - Webb, Rev. Robert Holden.
  - Wedmore, Thomas.
  - Weekes, Nathaniel.
  - \* Wellbank, Robert.
  - Wells, William Frederick, deceased.
  - Wells, Emma Anne, and Louisa.
  - Wheeler, Charles West.
  - \* Wheeler, George, deceased, and Henry, deceased.
  - Wheeler, George, deceased, and others.
  - Wheeler, Thomas Lowe, deceased.
  - Wheeler, Thomas Rivington.
  - Wheeler, Thomas, deceased, and James Lowe.
  - White, Charles.
  - White, John, deceased.
  - \* Wigram, Loftus Tottenham.
  - \* Wilby, Thomas.
  - Wilby, Warner.
  - Wilson, John, and William Fetherston.
  - Wix, Jane, and others.
  - Wix, William.
  - Woodhouse, Francis Lewis Philip Secretan.
  - Woods, William Leyland.
  - Wormsland, John, and others.
  - Worth, Henry John, deceased.
  - Wright, Edward.
  - Wynford, the Right Hon. William Samuel, Baron, and others.