

‘ and purchasers of the original proprietors, with no distinct allotment, especially
 ‘ of the Wilderness Land ; that the Petitioners are placed in a most embarrassed
 ‘ and unfortunate situation, having no allotments which each individual or family
 ‘ can call its own and whereon to make improvements, or have the security of a
 ‘ home, nor capable of resorting to the ordinary legal remedies when wrongs are
 ‘ committed upon them ; that although various persons from Richibucto and
 ‘ other places, without right, and in no way connected with the Lands in question,
 ‘ come and occupy them, or at least repeatedly cut and carry the best of the
 ‘ lumber, wood and other trees growing upon the Lands, and required for the
 ‘ immediate and necessary wants of the occupants, the Petitioners have no legal
 ‘ power to prevent or punish them ; that the Petitioners are consequently suffering
 ‘ great injury arising from the extraordinary character of the Grant referred to,
 ‘ so issued by the Government without any apportionment or designation into
 ‘ Lots by Plan or otherwise, agreeably to the intention and wording of the
 ‘ aforesaid application, to enable the intermediate boundaries to be run, as was
 ‘ usual and essential in such cases, at the time such Grant issued ; and praying
 ‘ that their unfortunate situation may be taken into account and some provision
 ‘ made for dividing the Lands and remedying the grievances therein complained
 ‘ of, or that such other relief may be afforded to them as to right and justice may
 ‘ belong, Report:—Your Committee having taken the circumstances of the case
 ‘ into their consideration, recommend that the Government should appoint during
 ‘ the ensuing summer a competent person from the indoor establishment of the
 ‘ Crown Land Office, to investigate the matters set forth in said Petition, and the
 ‘ situation of Land and the parties living thereon, and report for the information
 ‘ of this House at the next Session, and that Government pay his necessary
 ‘ expenses, and this House will make provision for the same, and that the House
 ‘ do address His Excellency to carry out this Report.

Committee Room, }
 26th April, 1851. }

W. J. RITCHIE.
 D. HANINGTON.
 R. B. CUTLER.”

Address to the
 Lieut. Governor.

‘ In pursuance of which Report the said House voted an Address to His Excel-
 ‘ lency the Lieutenant Governor, of which the following is a copy, that is to say :
 ‘ “ Resolved, That a copy of the Report of the Committee on the Petition of
 ‘ Olivier Richard and others, French inhabitants at Richibucto, as regards the
 ‘ defining of the bounds of an ancient Grant under which they hold their Titles,
 ‘ be communicated to His Excellency the Lieutenant Governor ; and that an
 ‘ humble Address be presented to His Excellency, praying that His Excellency
 ‘ will be pleased to cause the recommendation therein contained to be carried
 ‘ into effect :” And whereas in pursuance of such Address, His Excellency the
 ‘ Lieutenant Governor in Council, on the fourth day of October in the year of
 ‘ our Lord one thousand eight hundred and fifty one, appointed the Honorable
 ‘ James Davidson to investigate the matters set forth in the said Report of the
 ‘ said Select Committee, the situation of the Lands, and to report the names of
 ‘ the respective parties living thereon, with their respective localities : And
 ‘ whereas in pursuance of such appointment the said James Davidson has attended
 ‘ to the duties thereby in him reposed, and has made a report of his doings to
 ‘ His Excellency the Lieutenant Governor, which has been laid before the House
 ‘ of Assembly, together with Schedules A and B and the Plan therein referred to,
 ‘ of which Report and Schedules the following are copies :—

Appointment of
 Commissioner.

“ Miramichi, January 20th, 1852.

Report of
 Commissioner.

“ SIR,—In pursuance of your communication of the 4th August last, I pro-
 ceeded to Richibucto on the 11th October, when I called a meeting of the inha-
 bitants interested in the Grant. On examination, I found it impossible to trace
 the respective claims by heirship, from their intermarriages, &c. After consi-
 derable conversation with them, I considered that the only thing I could do was
 to make a correct survey and plan of the whole Grant, agreeably to the way they
 had themselves divided and continued to occupy it for several years. It appears
 that two tracts of Land were granted to these people in the year 1793, and the
 second tract in the said grant, which is the land in question, was granted to Pierre
 Richard and fifteen others jointly. The original proprietors divided the land
 among themselves, as well the woodland as the plot of ground on which they then
 settled, and is now called the Village. The second generation made another
 division, and it has since been sub-divided as they increased, until they arrived
 at the strange figures represented on the plan herewith sent. I suggested to