

W. Macomb resides at Detroit he will explain many Matters. with regard to Hazell, I merely want a usual acknowledgm^t of the Property being mine. If any Rent can be obtained (I have receiv'd £80 York) please reserve it, till I have the pleasure to see you, which I hope will not be long. I will inform you when I am about to leave England, that I may execute any Commission for you or Family, and in the interim shall esteem myself happy in your Commands.

I remain my D^r Sir, with much esteem Your most obed^t and very humble Serv^t

Henry Bird³⁶

Usk—Monmouthshire March 29th 1796.

Charles Blake Esq^r Montreal

STATUS OF APPLICATIONS FOR LAND GRANTS

Niagara 17 April 1796

Dear Sir, I have received your letters of the 8 & 17 of March. I have not been able to collect any determination on the Natural Meadows at the Mouth of the Thames. The business you mention of removing Setlers to within our Lines would not be attended to in the way of a Letter to me, but his Excellency is open to the knowledge of such a measure by petition to him in Council. the selling of Lots before the patents are issued is considered as improper & it is a very difficult matter to get the Reserves moved. If you allude to Commodore Grants³⁷ Children, a memorial to be put on a footing with him would be ineffectual, as he got Lands for them in the proportion he has done, purely because he was a privy Counsellor, and as such due to his Rank. The Reserves are chiefly under the Care of the Surveyor of the Woods & the Receiver General. The terms of townships are generally promulgated in his Excellencys original proclamation, so that I see little or no pecuniary advantage to be derived from them. I apprehend that such Canadians as ask to remove within our Limits may be accommodated nearly in the Situation you mention, if they

³⁶ Further copies of documents which follow (the last dated April 21, 1797) indicate that Blake transferred Bird's power of attorney to Alexander Duff of Amherstburg.

³⁷ Alexander Grant, whose career is noted in *B. H. R.*, I, 75-76. For additional biographical data concerning him, see *Burton Hist. Coll. Leaflet*, VI, 65-80.