

at present to answer, to give all the satisfaction I cou'd wish, as all my papers are in Ireland. But as soon as we had made this Purchase from the Missionaries and Indians, I immediately acquainted Gen^l Hope of it and receiv'd a very favorable answer, assuring me that we shou'd not be interrupted in it; and, I think, I either show'd you this letter, or mention'd the contents to you. And when I went down to Quebec, I mention'd the matter very particularly to General Hope himself; And I remember very well his answer; which was, that tho' Government in general was not favorable to such Grants, but that as we had been at a very considerable expence in this purchase, and on the lands afterwards; (And also paying me some compliments on my conduct during my Command at Detroit, which I dont chuse to mention) that on this Occasion the Grant should be looked upon as valid. And, I think, I wrote to this purpose to you from Quebec before I sail'd for England, but of this I cannot now be certain, after so long a space of time.

I shall certainly hope that those Gentlemen, the Commissioners, when they come to settle those claims, can have no objection to this of ours, so fairly purchas'd; And which at the same time was a great Act of humanity and justice to those Missionaries And Indians; in re-imbursing them for the expences they had been at in their Buildings, And clearing the lands, and a reward for their labour, and which otherwise must have been a total loss to them, on leaving the spot.

You have all the papers respecting this purchase with the Missionaries & Indians; Specifying the Sums we paid, And Sign'd by all the Missionaries, and also the Chiefs of Indians, I believe. As also a Correct Survey of the lands taken by M^r Frey⁵³ which cost us likewise some money. I have also a Copy of that Survey.

From all those circumstances, I can make no doubt of our being perfectly Establish'd in our right—tho [I] regret not having it in my power to have recourse to my Papers and correspondence with General Hope, which I cannot have at present.

⁵³ Lieutenant Phillip R. Fry, for sketch of whose career see *B. H. R.*, I, 226.