Enclosed is the receipt of your letter with its enclosure, with return. Seeing the oft-repeated words, personal interest was so much concerned, and giving due consideration to the sum, it has been some years as a resident in these colonies, I was very reluctant to venture on having anything to say respecting the road to Mulgrave Battery. As the path is interested, however, I have the greatest difficulty in proceeding with the lease, whilst the question of the line of road remained undischarged. I was constrained to make up my mind, and to give my opinion upon it.

The question was me, as between the public and Mr. Thompson, the original grant made by the Governor, conveyed Mr. Thompson the land in question, reserving a right of
The Road at high Water Mark. Thus it was
marked down. Lord Governor Jollie, in order to enhance
the value of Fort Edward's property, consented
to alter and sanction a place before a line
of houses in front of the Road. It certainly
from the earliest moment I saw the ground appeared
that it was abandoning a public right of
very great importance, and one which
could afterwards be alone recovered at a very
heavy expense to the Crown. It appeared also
true that the Lord Governor, acting in
subordination to the Governor-in-Chief, did
not protest the Power to alienate a right
which had been explicitly reserved to the
Public, nor was there any official, formal
document to show that he had done so although
I did not doubt the accuracy of Mr. Knott's
statement, on this ground. My judgment
was founded upon the most mature
colaboration I could give the subject.
and when the information then before me, it remained unaltered. But if Mr. Thoroughgood would desire I have the point considered, I will take any memorial into consideration before the Executive Council. 

Yet it was, however, due to myself to state that while I acted up to what I considered my duty in this respect, I was not disregarded by Mr. Thoroughgood entirely, but took an early opportunity of communicating with the Archdeacon upon the inadequacy of provision, which had been made, and an arrangement is consequently in prospect, which I hope will be concluded in a few weeks, and prove beneficial to Mr. Thoroughgood’s future comfort. I have the honor to be, sir, your most obedient servant,

Wm. Bethune Clark

George Arthur

R.S. 1873/460
Lieutenant Arthur
letter to
W. M. Hume 1841
12 Dec 1826