



Downing Street,

November, 1920.

Sir,

I have the honour to transmit to you a copy of a letter addressed to the Prince of Wales by Mr. A. E. Bourne, of Bermuda, regarding the compulsory purchase of property at Tucker's Town.

2. I have to request that you will inform Mr. Bourne that his letter has been received by His Royal Highness and by him referred to me, but that, as the matter to which it relates has been decided by the Legislature of the Colony, it does not appear to be one in which I should be able to intervene.

I have the honour to be,

Sir,

Your most obedient,

humble servant,

*Wilbur*

R. E. BOURNE,

General Merchant,

61 Front Street, Hamilton,

Bermuda.

October 29th 1920.

Sir,

Will you kindly lay the enclosed clipping from the Bermuda Mid-Ocean of October 23rd before His Royal Highness, The Prince of Wales, as this is the only way I know of to bring the attention of His Majesty's Advisors to the dark deed now being enacted in Bermuda which gives certain private interest the power to take the freehold property from owners by a law which has passed our Legislature. Most of the owners of this property are poor people, not able to take any action to defend their rights. This iniquitous law has been passed under the guise of developing Bermuda, by men <sup>are</sup> who/mostly public officials and who have claimed that there is a precedent for their action as they claimed that Messrs Harland and Wolff acquired property in England to extend their shipyard, since this bill passed it has been said but not publicly that this was not the case, as the owners of that property agreed to the sale.

His Excellency the Governor of Bermuda is in favour of the scheme as he has been advised by these same men that it will be beneficial to Bermuda, but I know that these men are buying up all the land they can in Bermuda and have passed this Bill to take 500 acres and if they are successful will get another bill through to take all else that they wish. If His Royal Highness wishes to get information from an unofficial source the best way I think would be to send a naval officer

in

in plain clothes to the homes of the people at Tuckers  
Town to ascertain if they are being justly treated.

His Royal Highness may remember speaking to  
me at my gate at Prosperos Cave when he drove through  
to St. Georges the day he left Bermuda.

I am, &c.,

(Sgd) A. E. BOURNE.

WILKINSON THOMAS, Bt.M.V.O.

SECRETARY TO HIS ROYAL HIGHNESS

THE PRINCE OF WALES.