shrubs, which indicate a poverty of soil," the sum of JC400 sterl.,
as soon as a patent could be obtained, and the title deeds made
out, and if any small islands, not specified in the above offer, were
found to lie in the vicinity, they were to be included. In a post-
script he offered to pay one hundred per cent, on whatever these
islands shall cost in the gross, when payment was made to the
state of New York, according to the measurement.

It is probable that the fact of Grenadier Island's being con-
tracted to Macomb, was not known to the parties who presented
Feb. 24, 1803, to the legislature, the following petition:

"The memorial of Samuel English, and Hezekiah Barret,
humbly sheweth; that whereas your memorialists did petition the
honorable legislature in their last session, for a grant of a cer-
tain island, lying in the Lake Ontario, between Oswego, and the
head of the river St. Lawrence, belonging to the people of this
state, on such terms as your honorable body should deem meet
and reasonable, which island is known by the name of Grenadier
Island, and is supposed to contain about 1000 acres. Your me-
morialists being informed, that a bill did pass the honorable house
of assembly last session in their favor, but doubts arising in the
breasts of some of the members, that the Indian title might not
be extinguished, the bill was finally lost. Your memorialists hav-
ing made diligent inquiry, are satisfied that there is no claim
upon said island, by the Indians, and that it is actually the pro-
perty of this state, which induces them once more to pray, that
your honorable body will grant them the said Island, and they
will engage to settle the same within twelve months, after re-
ceiving a grant therefor."

A slight investigation was sufficient to prove, that the state
had no power to convey the island, which was not done until the
boundary had been finally settled.

Grenadier Island, first began to be settled two or three years
before the war, and in 1813 it became the rendezvous of the
army and fleet of General Wilkinson, in his disastrous expedi-
tion down the St. Lawrence, which both in plan, and execution,
reflected unmitigated disgrace upon the American arms, and
deserved infamy upon the chief conductors. The currents have
thrown up beaches, at the east extremity of the island, in such
a manner, as to form a capacious bay, which is named Basin
Harbor. The shores, in common with those of the main land,
afford valuable seine fisheries, and the soil is very fertile. Before
a proprietor appeared to show title, it had been occupied by
about fourteen families. It is now owned by parties in Clayton
Village, and is occupied as an extensive dairy farm. The first
settler on this island is said to have been John Mitchel, who en-
dured many hardships from his isolated position and distance from
neighbors.