Title by Adverse Possession of Land

This report LRC 67-2002 Report on Title by Adverse Possession of Land looks at a narrowly focused, historically deep-rooted problem in relation to the type of title acquired by a squatter to lands when that squatter has fulfilled the requisite period of adverse possession in respect of another's land. Ownership of land can be acquired after a period of squatting (usually 12 years), however, the exact type of title acquired is in need of clarification. In particular, the title may be so problematic that it cannot be sold on - the result may be that there will be no-one who will think it worthwhile building or otherwise investing in this piece of land. This issue is particularly important where the squatter is in occupation of leasehold land, as the actual position of the squatter vis-a-vis the landlord of the property has never been clear. The Report provides a solution to this problem by recommending that the squatter should obtain a transfer of the same interest as the dispossessed owner/occupier had. This type of transfer is known as a 'parliamentary conveyance.'