

Commissioners for the improvement of the Roads. Returns of all the roads laid out or altered by the Commissioners are made to the County Clerk, and by him entered in a book and accounts of the receipts and expenditure of all money, and also of the number of days labour performed, are annually laid before the Justices in their General Sessions.

By this method of laying out the "Statute Labour," as it is commonly called, it so happens that in certain districts where there is a dense population the roads are kept in good repair, while in other districts where the settlers are scattering, the statute labour is altogether insufficient. In order to supply this defect grants of money are made from the Provincial Treasury during the Legislative Session, in the following manner, viz:—a round sum, say £12,000, or any other sum that may be agreed on, according to the circumstances of the country, and set apart for the Bye Road service. This is divided into suitable sums and apportioned to the relative wants of the respective Counties. These divisions are then handed over to the Representatives of the different Counties, and by them again subdivided into smaller sums, to be applied for the improvement of such Bye Roads as require the same, where the Statute Labour of the inhabitants had been found inadequate. Commissioners are then appointed by His Excellency the Lieutenant Governor, for the purpose of expending on the Bye roads the sums so granted, and the Money is in all respects laid out, and accounted for, and the amount audited and reported on, in the same manner as money is expended and accounted for by Supervisors of Great Roads, as before described.

As lines of communication, the Bye Roads, in general, are by no means well planned. This, no doubt, arises in part from the want of skill in the Parish Commissioners, but more from the situation of the new settlers and settlements. The Commissioners are by law required from time to time to lay out roads for the accommodation of existing settlements and neighbourhoods, and the roads are therefore laid out from settlement to settlement, and sometimes from house to house, just as they happen to spring up in the wilderness.

A good deal of fault has been found with the whole road system in this Province, and much has been said and written against it as tending to extravagance, political corruption, and gross mismanagement of the public money. It is, notwithstanding, an indisputable fact, that the roads of New Brunswick, which fifteen years ago were every where a bye word and a reproach, are now in a better travelling condition than those of the adjoining Provinces, or the neighbouring States.

It would be impertinent in me to pretend either to criticise or to add to what Mr. Brown has so well said in regard to the public, or Great Roads of the Province; it gives a most useful exposition of their actual condition, and his observations and suggestions will, I am sure, be received with that consideration which his long experience and known firmness entitle them. But a glance at the Agricultural Maps attached to this Report, on which nearly all the existing Great Roads are laid down, will shew that there are large tracts of land marked 2, 3, and 4, and coloured bright red, blue, or bright yellow, into which no roads lead, and which are consequently at present wholly inaccessible to the settler. It must be for the interest of the Province, if it be considered desirable to facilitate the progress of settlement, and to give inducements to strangers to penetrate into the more promising parts of the interior, that roads should be opened up into these remote parts, especially where the land is believed to be easy of cultivation and fertile in corn.

I have myself observed the want of these roads in many parts of the Province through which I have passed, and I have regretted to see industrious men compelled to settle on inferior land, or less eligible situations, because the want of roads prevented access to more inviting fields of labour. It was interesting to remark, in visiting some of the more remote settlements, deep-cut into the woods, that is, to observe how the progress of clearing and of building along the road-side, follows, and keeps pace with the progress of the road itself.

I had made Notes during my tour of special localities where new roads seemed urgent to aid the clearing and culture of valuable lands, and these I intended to embody in the present report. Having learned, however, that the Surveyor General had directed his special attention to this means of opening up the better classes of wild lands, and through his Deputy Surveyors in the various Counties had collected numerous suggestions as to localities, directions, length, cost, &c., of various Great and Bye Roads which it would be useful to construct, I drew out a scheme of the following Table, and asked him to favour me by causing it to be filled up. This he has kindly done; and as presenting at one view all the information collected on this important subject by so many experienced men, it cannot fail to be of much use to the Province.

The length of new roads recommended in the above Table—are not of course equally valuable for agricultural purposes nor equally urgent—is 830 miles, at a cost of £54,000. They are supposed to lay open 2,300,000 acres of different qualities of land. To shew more clearly the kind of land into which each road penetrates, I have caused the quality to be in every case expressed in the sixth column of the Table, by the numbers 2, 3, 4, and 5, by which, as I have already explained, the different qualities of the land in the Province may be distinguished. I have also caused the proposed roads to be laid down in the Agricultural Map (No. 2) of a bright red colour, by which means it will not only convey at once to Your Excellency an idea of the propriety, value, and relative urgency of such roads, but will also enable you to judge how far the real wants of the Colony are met by those roads, and what others it might be desirable to construct besides, or in preference to them.

I cannot conclude this chapter without recommending to Your Excellency, and to the Houses of the Legislature, not only a continuance of the enlightened care hitherto bestowed on the Great Roads, but a special consideration also of all roads which purpose to open up the better lands of the Province to the agricultural settler. Mr.

See Appendix.

Baillie, in a communication with which he furnished me observes—"that if the Executive Government were authorised to expend a certain sum annually, in aid of some of the suggested lines of road, very satisfactory results would follow." I do not presume to give an opinion as to how the requisite steps ought to be taken or means appropriated, I may however be permitted to repeat what I have already observed at the beginning of this Chapter, that in all Countries the roads are the most important agents in developing the natural agricultural resources, but that they are also an index of the zeal of those who govern, in behalf of this fundamental interest of a state, and of their wisdom in encouraging the use of the means most likely to promote it.

(To be Continued.)

COMMUNICATIONS.

[FOR THE CARLETON SENTINEL.]

MR. EDITOR.—Will you please to copy into your paper for the information of all whom it may concern, the proclamation of the Governor and Council of the Island and Colony of Malta, which declares the Roman Catholic Church to be the dominant religion of Malta, and that all other Churches are simply tolerated. He is the same Governor who refused a landing to the Italian refugees when driven from Rome by the French, and for which he was applauded by the British Government. If such Proclamation, &c., is thus issued and acted upon in Malta, why not in Canada? and if in Canada, why not in New Brunswick? and if in New Brunswick, why withhold it in Ireland? and if in Ireland, why not in England? and if in England, why not try to enforce it as formerly in Scotland, at the point of the bayonet, or fire and faggot? while echo from the dark intriguing caverns of Jesuitism answers why not, why not? Perhaps it was in anticipation of it that letters patent, or otherwise, were issued by the Roman Catholic Bishop for a young gentleman who passed through this place lately to Madawaska, to be from thence sent as a member to serve in General Assembly, although perhaps hardly any in that County ever saw or heard tell of him. Yet that argues nothing in comparison to the Fiat of their Diocesan. It was said he (the young gentleman) was liberal in exhibiting his written authority to become a member for the County of Albert, as he passed through here. I make no further comments on the matter, let each think for himself; your copying the notice of the before-mentioned Proclamation into your paper, will oblige, no doubt, all who hail its advent in these colonies, as well as all who would wish to be apprised of it, should it take place here, as well as

Your obedient Servant,

A SUBSCRIBER.

Woodstock, June 12th, 1850.

MALTA.—The Malta journals are filled with accounts of the sensation created in that island by the decree of the "Governor and Council," declaring the Roman Catholic Church to be the dominant religion of Malta, and that all other churches were simply tolerated. We have given already the protest of the Bishop of Gibraltar, who resides at Malta. But the Bishop is not the only party who has moved in the matter. Petitions from native Protestants, British residents, members of the Free Church of Scotland, and other Christians, have been addressed to Earl Grey, beseeching her Majesty to annul the decree of Mr. More O'Ferrall. Meanwhile the Jesuits have taken another step in advance. On the last Sabbath of March intimation was made in the Roman Catholic Churches of Malta, that for the future no marriages would be permitted between Catholics and Protestants, except under the solemn promise that the children to be born thereof should be brought up in the Roman Catholic faith. The Protestant Bishop had met this by an intimation in the Cathedral Church to the effect that no banns would be published, or Marriage celebrated between parties of different creeds, provided either party had sworn in the court of the Roman Catholic Bishop to bring up their children in the Roman Catholic faith. It is clear that Government has no alternative but to recall Mr. O'Ferrall, or give up the colony of Malta.

THE CARLETON SENTINEL.

WOODSTOCK, JUNE 18, 1850.

WHEN we first took upon ourselves the Editorial management of this Paper, we stated, that as ours was the only press in the County, we would not become the supporter of any party or person in the coming Election, but should allow the opposing Candidates to carry on the contest in their own way, without any interference or assistance from us; we stated that ours should be an impartial Journal, so far as a proper and courteous discussion either of principles or measures might be so considered, reserving to ourselves the enjoyment of our own opinion, which should not be unnecessarily urged and insisted upon. In accordance with these statements we have carefully refrained from giving an opinion for, or against any of those gentlemen who were expected to come forward as Candidates. We have endeavoured in our feeble way, to point out some of the evils under which we are, and have been suffering; we stated that changes were necessary and sought to be accomplished in our Colonial Policy, and that great care and judgement must be exercised in the choice of the "Popular Branch," that no sense of pecuniary obligation, or of prospective profit should be allowed to influence the Electors in the choice of their Representative; in short, we have endeavoured to do our duty fairly and impartially, without fear, favour or affection, and as this the last time we will

have an opportunity of addressing the Freeholders of the County of Carleton, before the Election, we must be permitted again to urge upon them the necessity of a careful and impartial investigation into the merits and qualifications of the respective Candidates. The ball is now at their feet and if properly played will turn to their advantage. We would not for one moment presume to dictate to the people of Carleton as to who they should elect as their Representatives. But we should consider ourselves remiss in our duty, had we neglected to lay before them some of the wrongs perpetrated by our Rulers, and the dangers to which they are, in our opinion, exposed. We have, on several occasions called their attention to the evil doings of our present corrupt and selfish Government; and we now ask them in all candour and sincerity, what sort of a Government they would wish to have in this Province? will they lend their aid to support the present unholy coalition, or will they send men to the House pledged to oppose them? and who will not for the sake of gain, cringe and bow down to, or be influenced by the cunning and intrigue of any party?

The Protestants of Carleton are not now to learn that the Bishop and Priests of Rome are using every exertion to gain the ascendancy in this Province! they are not now to learn that our Government is at present under the controul of Catholic influence, and that throughout the Province the Catholics by order of their Bishop and Priests are united as one man, determined to elect only such Representatives as will be under their controul. We find them united in Carleton by an order from their Priest at the Alter! The Bishop sends a young man from Frederickton and orders his flock in Victoria to elect him! he names the men for whom they must vote, in York, in Saint John, and in other Counties in the Province. The Freeman their organ recommends the same course and advises union. He boasts of having successfully opposed Mr. R. D. Wilnot's election to the Mayoralty, and threatens to keep both him and Mr. Ansley from the House; the latter because he offended Catholics by speaking warmly in favour of the Orange bill. If then Catholics are to be united! If they support none but members of their own church, or men who are pledged to favour their cause! surely Protestants of every name and denomination should unite also and oppose their influence. If Catholics wish to enjoy the rights and privileges of British Subjects in this Province, let them act in concert with Protestants to obtain them; but let them not unite in abody and arrogantly demand separate and distinct laws for themselves and exclusive privileges; this cannot be submitted to in a Protestant Country and by a Protestant Community.

NOMINATION DAY.

Saturday last being the day appointed by the High Sheriff for the nomination of Candidates in this County, an immense crowd of persons were gathered together at the Court House at an early hour, and shortly after ten o'clock, the High Sheriff having opened the Court, Asa Upton, Esq., Nominated Charles Perley, Esq., which was seconded by Mr. Thomas Atkinson.

MR. PERLEY said he had served the County four years as a Representative, and it was for his friends to say whether he had served them faithfully or not. A great many false reports had been circulated respecting him, but he was too well known in the County to be injured by any of them; he was a farmer, and had been one all his life, and if returned he would use all his influence for the benefit of the Farmers. He was opposed to Free Trade—it might do for England but would not answer here; he was in favour of moderate Protection—but was decidedly opposed to high salaries.

JAMES R. TUPPER was nominated by Mr. George Good, seconded by Messrs. Charles Emery and Joseph Harvey. Mr. Harvey said Mr. Tupper was a British subject, and interested in the Agriculture of the County; he was first a merchant, then a Stage Proprietor, which latter business he still followed and prosecuted with energy and credit. He was not an aspiring character, having been offered office several times which he had refused; he had kept up the price of Oats in the County, thereby benefiting the Farmer—he would doubtless make a good member.

MR. TUPPER said—in accordance with arrangements made some time ago, he now came forward as a Candidate for the Suffrages of the Freeholders of Carleton. He had but little to say—he was in favour of a party Government, he believed our present Government a corrupt one, and would like to see a pure and upright Legislature; he would encourage Manufactures and Agriculture, and was in favour of a high protective duty—said the necessities of life should be cheap, and heavy duties on luxuries; the money granted for Schools at present benefited the rich but not the poor; the system was bad, the rich should be made to school the poor by a tax on property, the School Master should be elevated in society, and should rank next to the Minister. He was no office seeker—offices had been offered him but he had declined accepting