

operate, but it appears to me that in every Act creating as this does, incheate claims to portions of the Crown Estate, it is desirable that the period of its operation should be limited and that all claims not preferred within that period should be barred, otherwise such claims to be kept back till, under altered circumstances, it would be as inconvenient to admit as it would be difficult to reject them. There would likewise seem to be some indistinctiveness with respect to applicants, the whole of whose original grants may have been otherwise disposed of.

4. As the Act now stands, such applicants, when their claims have been admitted, would be at liberty to select other Crown Lands to the extent of their payment 'at the original price bidden for the Lands by them originally purchased.' It might thus happen that the purchasers of ordinary or inferior Land at a low price might be in a position to obtain any valuable Lands in exchange, and consequently at a very inadequate price.

5. I have therefore to instruct you, as the local Legislature could not have contemplated such a result, to direct the attention of the Law Officers of your Government to the subject, in order to ascertain whether the objections to which I have adverted could not be obviated by regulations to be framed by the Lieutenant Governor in Council, and made known to the parties whose interests are affected by the provisions of the Act. In the event however of its not being found practicable to frame such regulations, it will be necessary that a further enactment to meet the case should be submitted to the Provincial Legislature.

I am, &c. GREY.
Lt. Governor Sir E. Head.

Downing Street, 10th October, 1849.
SIR,—Among the Acts left to their operation by the Order of Her Majesty in Council which is enclosed in my Despatch of this day's date, are two, numbered respectively 1888 and 1903, to facilitate the sale and improvement of Crown Lands, and to authorize the commutation of debts due to the Crown by settlers in certain cases for work on the public roads.

Although I have thought it right to advise Her Majesty to leave these Acts to their operation, I entertain great doubts whether the arrangement which allows the purchasers of land to commute the payment of their purchase money for labor in road making, will prove the most beneficial to the Province. I fear that under this arrangement there will be found much difficulty in getting the work on the roads economically and effectually performed.

It appears to me that it would have been better to have provided that the amount received for the sale of land should have been laid out in making the Roads by Contract, at the cheapest rate at which the work could be done. By this plan the settlers would be equally enabled to earn the means of payment for their land, while the public would have the advantage of more effective labor.

I have, &c. GREY.
Lt. Governor Sir E. Head.

IMMIGRATION AND PASSENGERS' ACT.
Downing Street, 10th May, 1849.

SIR,—I have the honor to state that I duly received your Despatch, No. 14, of the 3rd February last, and that I have considered with attention the Report which it contained from a Committee of your Executive Council upon the subject of Immigration, and the settlement of the Wild Lands.

2. The description which the Committee have furnished of each County, of the nature of its soil and produce, and its general features, is very interesting, and I cannot but receive with pleasure so favorable a description of the Province, by gentlemen possessed of such good means of information. With a view of giving it all practicable publicity, I have instructed the Commissioners of Emigration to include this document in the appendix to their forthcoming annual report.

3. At the same time there are some strong reasons for hoping that the Colony cannot have suffered that injury which the Committee apprehend to have occurred from ignorance and false impressions in this country. It must be remembered that only last year the Agent for Emigration found it necessary to report, that in the course of the twelve-month, at least five thousand persons, natives and residents, had left New Brunswick for the United States, many of them being capitalists, and nearly all possessing some money. It is plain therefore, that no impression was then prevailing in England which had prevented even a much greater number of persons from resorting to the Province than found that they

could eventually establish themselves there; and so far as regards the influx of persons of a humbler class, you are doubtless aware from the records of your Government, that the local authorities have repeatedly found it necessary to address requests to the Government of this Country, that Emigration to the Province should be checked.

4. I have perused with much care the Committee's account of what appears to them the principle defects in the present system of disposing of the Crown Lands. These are—

1st. The form in which the lots are laid out. These are said to be sometimes as much as seven miles deep and only thirty rods wide.

2nd. The sale of large blocks to land speculators, who obtain them not for improvement, but for re-sale; and

3rd. The want of a continuity of survey, by reason of which settlers are dispersed and divided.

5. I agree with the Committee, that any defects of this kind which may exist must be of an injurious tendency. In so far however as regards the first and third points adverted, viz: the shape of the lots and the want of a continuity of survey, it can only rest with the Executive Government of the Province, if satisfied of the prevalence of those evils to supply the remedy by an alteration of its present regulations and instructions.

6. The separation of the settlers, in consequence of the accumulation in private hands of large tracts, held, not for improvement, but for re-sale, is an evil which it is more difficult to deal with. One safeguard against it might be afforded by a much higher upset price, and I can quite believe that the price of land might be advantageously raised, notwithstanding the lower rate at which it might be bought elsewhere, provided that the purchase money were spent on roads and on other improvements which would make the land more valuable to the real settler, so that the increase of price to him would be nominal. But from the tenor of the opinions which have been often expressed from the Province, I am aware that no increase of price is likely to be deemed admissible there; and it must be admitted that such an increase would not remedy the evil which already exists, even though it should prevent its recurrence. The only measure which would attain both objects would be the imposition of a small tax on land, applicable to local purposes, such as exists in the Northern States of the Union, and in the Province of Canada. This measure if feasible, is one which can emanate only from the local Legislature but which it is competent to that authority to pass at any time, if judged by it to be requisite for the public interest.

7. Besides pointing out the defects, which I have above examined, the Committee give their opinion in favor of a plan of settlement, suggested to them by Mr Beckwith of the Land Department, of which the principle features are, that land should be disposed of in small lots, and that the settler should only pay one-fourth of the price in money, contributing the remainder in labor on the roads. This is a scheme, which in various forms has often been suggested from New Brunswick, and which in some cases that will be within your knowledge, has been actually tried.

8. I need scarcely mention the objections of a general character to sales of land upon credit. They have been repeatedly urged in those treatises which have most authority on the subject of Colonization, and have been often produced in public documents. In Lord Stanley's Despatch of 3rd February, 1843, and in the previous papers therein referred to, he pointed out these objections as applicable to some plans which were then contemplated in New Brunswick, and he again referred to them in a later Despatch of the 28th September, 1844, upon certain new land regulations at that time devised by the Council. Nevertheless, Lord Stanley stated, that as they were recommended on such high authority he would not desire them to be cancelled, but would leave it with the Governor to act upon them, until experience should show whether or not they were advantageous to the Province.

9. I am not aware however, that any very distinct report was ever made by your Predecessor of the extent to which those rules were acted upon, or of the consequences which may have ensued. From his Despatch of the 27th April, 1847, I gathered that the Legislature objected to incurring any expense for the formation of such settlements. I can only state that the whole subject having been referred to the local authorities, I am not aware of the existence of any instructions from Home which would interfere with the trial of any experiment

which may be shown to the satisfaction of yourself and of the Legislature, if a vote of public money be required, to be advisable.

I am, &c. GREY.
Lt. Governor Sir E. Head.

February 19.

The Hon. Mr Rankin, by leave, presented a Petition from James A. Doak, of Blissfield, in the County of Northumberland, setting forth that his Interval Lands are subject to injury by reason of the Bridge recently built over the River Miramichi, and praying that a Grant may pass enabling him to erect a Wharf for the better protection thereof; which he read.

And upon the question, that the said Petition be received and referred to the Committee for taking into consideration the state of the Roads, and the sums required for the improvement thereof, the House divided—Yeas 9 Nays 17, whereupon it was decided in the negative.

February 21.

On motion of the Honorable Mr Rankin, Resolved, that the Petition of Patrick Delaney, Patrick Fitzgerald, Andrew McInnes, and others, of Chatham in the County of Northumberland, praying aid towards discharging a debt incurred in the erection of a Temperance Hall, and to enable them to complete the Building, which was presented to the House on the eight day of February inst., and ordered to lie on the table, be now referred to the Committee of Supply.

To the Commissioners of the Light Houses in the Gulf of St. Lawrence the sum of £85 to provide for the Salary of a Keeper for the year 1850, at the Light House on Point Escuminac.

Resolved, as the opinion of this Committee, that the present Revenue Act should be continued with certain alterations. Ordered, That the Report be accepted, and the Resolution reported by the Committee, adopted by the House.

On motion of the Honorable Mr Partelow, Resolved, that a Select Committee be appointed to prepare and submit to the House a Bill for raising a Revenue. Ordered That the Honorable Mr Partelow, Mr Brown, Mr Montgomery, Mr Ansley, Mr Steves, Mr R. D. Wilnot, and Mr McLeod do compose the said Committee.

February 23.

Read a third time as engrossed, A Bill for the purpose of winding up the affairs of the St. John Mechanics' Whale Fishing Company. Resolved, that the Bill do pass. Ordered, that Mr Ansley take the said Bill to the Council and desire their concurrence thereto.

A Message from the Legislative Council, informed the House that the Council had agreed to the Bill to establish Polling places in the County of Gloucester, without making any amendment thereto.

LEGISLATIVE SUMMARY.—On motion of Mr Taylor the House went into committee on a bill to abolish the Alien Tax. After considerable discussion, and several propositions having been made, such as reducing the amount of the tax from 30s. to 10s., leaving it discretionary with the Lieutenant Governor, &c., the bill was rejected.

On Saturday last the House of Assembly sat in Committee, and discussed for a while a Bill for giving further Provincial aid towards the St. Andrews and Woodstock Railway. The bill provides that the Province shall advance £30,000 as soon as 30 miles of the Railway is completed. Progress was reported, as the House required additional information.—The House then went into committee and passed a Bill making it felony for any one to steal lumber out of any River or Stream in the Province, or to have it in their possession with the marks cut out.—The House then went into committee on a Bill relating to the recovery of small debts, which was discussed and lost.

The Hon. Mr Partelow then presented the Treasurer's, Auditor General's, and Road accounts, and other public documents; also a draft of the Revenue Bill, and a Bill relating to the trade of the British North American possessions.—*Fredericton Amaranth, March 5*

From the Fredericton Royal Gazette.
MILITIA GENERAL ORDERS.
Fredericton, 19th Feb. 1850.

His Excellency the Lieutenant Governor has been pleased to make the following Promotions, &c:—
1st Battalion Gloucester Militia.

TO BE CAPTAINS.—Lieut. J. Doucet, vice Capt. A. McNeil, resigned, Feb. 19 1850. Lieut. C. M'Manus, vice Capt. R. Carman, left the Province, 20th do.—Capt. J. Paul, from the Restigouche Militia, vice Capt. W. Boyd, left the Province, 21st do. Ensign J. Morrison, vice Capt. P. J. Demaresq, left the District, 22d do.

TO BE LIEUTENANTS.—Ensign T. H. Carman, vice M'Manus, promoted, Feb. 19. Ensign J. Miller, jun., vice Lieut. J. Baird, left the Province 20th do. J. T. Carter, Gent., vice Doucet, promoted 21st do. Ensign C. J. Wolhaupter, from

2d Battalion Northumberland Militia 23d do.

TO BE ENSIGNS.—J. McKenna, Gent., vice Carman, promoted, Feb. 19. George Smith, Gent., vice W. Stevens, left the County, 20th do. H. J. Lea, Gent., vice W. Pallen, who has not attended General inspection since his appointment, 21st do. J. O'Brien, Gent., vice J. Morrison, promoted, 22d do. Joseph Morrison, Gent., W. F. P. Wheaton, left the County, 23d do.

TO BE PAYMASTER.—Matthew Carruthers, with rank of Lieutenant, vice A. Anderson, deceased, Feb. 19.

By Command.
GEO. SHORR, A. G. M.

AUCTION.

To be Sold by PUBLIC AUCTION, on MONDAY, the 1st day of April next, at 11 o'clock, A. M., in front of the Store of JOHN FERRIS, Esquire, in Douglastown:—

THE FARM

Fronting on Miramichi River, in the Parish of Newcastle, known as the

'Judge Home Place,' owned and lately occupied by Mr JOHN HALEY.

The Farm has a front of 48 rods, and extends back the usual distance. The Land at rear of the Highway will be offered in 4 lots each having a front of 12 rods on the Highway. The Land in front of the Highway will be divided into 2 lots, each having a front on the River and Highway of 24 rods.

One of the best BALLAST BERTHS on the River is in front of the upper lot, and a considerable portion of the Land has been under cultivation. The whole of the lower lot has been many years under cultivation; it has a GOOD FISHERY in front, and there is an excellent DWELLING HOUSE and a good BARN on the premises.

Immediate possession will be given. Terms—10 per cent. down; 15 per cent on the 1st of June next, and the remainder by equal parts in 1, 2, and 3 years, from 15th June next.

For terms and further particulars, apply to John Porter, Esq., Douglastown; Mr Haley at Beaubair's Island, or to the Subscriber.
WM. SALTER, Auctioneer.
Newcastle, March 11, 1850.

NOTICE.

A Meeting of the Board of the Northumberland Agricultural Society will take place at Weatherall's Hotel, Newcastle, on the morning of THURSDAY, the 14th instant, at 10 o'clock. A full and punctual attendance is desirable. By Order of the President.

JAMES CALE, Secretary.
March 9, 1850.

Notice!

The partnership heretofore existing between the subscribers at Shippegon, in the County of Gloucester, under the name and style of "MOORE & HARDING," is this day dissolved by mutual consent. All persons indebted to the said Firm will please make immediate payment of their respective debts to John Harding, one of the subscribers, who is authorized to discharge the same; and all persons having any legal claims against the said Firm, will please render the same to the said John H. Harding by whom they will be settled. Dated 19th February, 1850.

WM. E. MOORE,
JOHN H. HARDING.

TO LET,

FOR ONE OR MORE YEARS.
A Good DWELLING HOUSE, containing 12 apartments well finished, a large Barn attached, lately occupied by Subscriber. If required, he would fit up Barn as a SHOP, and have it in readiness the first of May.

Also, a STORE on Pebody's Wharf, capable of holding 1500 Barrels. All will be together, or the Dwelling House separate, as required. For further particulars apply to JOHN NOONAN.

Chatham, March 6, 1850.

TO LET,

The PRIVILEGE of CUTTING the hay and ensilaving the SOIL on Sheldrake Island together with the benefit of all the MANURE now there, for this year. Unless disposed of by the 1st of April next, at 4 o'clock, it to be then sold to the highest bidder, at the residence of Alexander Goodfellow.

Apply to
Alex. Goodfellow,
Richard Hutchison,
Donald McDonald, } Commissionaires.
Newcastle, March 7, 1850.

SCOTT'S

SOAP AND CANDLES.

ON CONSIGNMENT,
From the Manufactory of MR A. SCOTT,
JOHN, N. B.

20 boxes MOULD CANDLES,
10 " DIPS,
50 " Common SOAP,
15 " No. 1 Pale Yellow,
10 " No. 2, Do.

The above articles only require a trial to ensure a ready sale.

WM. J. FRANK
February 19, 1850.