

IMPORTS FOR THE YEAR 1842.—*Continued.*
SHIPS INWARDS.

PORT.	Great Britain.		British Colonies		United States.		Foreign States.		TOTAL.		
	No.	Tons.	No.	Tons.	No.	Tons.	No.	Tons.	No.	Tons.	Men.
Saint John and its Out-Ports.	275	107209	1,312	73,029	254	36,777	21	3,135	1,762	220150	12,643
Saint Andrews and its Out-Ports.	16	5,832	256	28,454	272	19,930	5	1,030	549	55,246	2,520
TOTAL,	291	113041	1,568	101483	526	56,707	26	4,165	2,311	275396	15,163
Total Imports in 1842, from 1st October 1841, to 30th September 1842,	291	113041	1,568	101483	526	56,707	26	4,165	2,311	275396	15,163
Total Imports in nine months of previous year from 1st January to 30th September 1841,	381	136799	1,257	81,893	398	46,859	42	10,652	2,078	276203	...

(Copy.)

[No. 114.] *Fredericton, N. B., 12th December, 1842.*

MY LORD,—Referring to my Despatch No. 113, of the 14th November, I have the honor to enclose to Your Lordship copy of the regulations passed by me in Council on the 1st instant, to give effect to the measures which are in progress for the settlement of the Crown Lands.

Previous to the adoption of the plan of laying out locations for the settlement of the people together, small allotments of land, usually a hundred acres, were applied for by individuals and the applicant was put into possession on paying a first instalment and defraying the expenses of a special survey.

In this manner numerous families have settled in the wilderness, who failing to pay the subsequent instalments, have received no Grants, while others to avoid the first expenses have taken possession of their lands without authority, and formed Settlements in situations where they might escape observation. The ill effects arising from the habits thus acquired, and the decline of the Revenue from the sale of lands necessitated a change, and by receiving applications from associated parties for the sale and survey of blocks of land laid out in locations, a general disposition has been evinced to form such associations, in which men of great respectability have taken a lead.

The expenses attending the surveys of land on this place, have been greatly reduced, and the funds of the Settlers formerly absorbed in defraying these charges, are now applicable to the improvement of their farms, or the purchase of additional land by redeeming the bonds on their credit purchases, which credit purchasers are limited to fifty acres.

I transmit also some extracts from a report of Dr. Gesner the Provincial Geologist, in which he has pointed out the situations of extensive tracts of valuable lands, which are open to settlement in all parts of the Province.

The upset price at which it has been usual of late to offer the Public Lands for sale, will readily admit of being raised to the average rate at which private lands are disposed of in the same situations, and if the Assembly should concur in the application of a part of the Land Revenue, to the opening of Roads which are essential to the occupation of the Country, capital may be expected to be invested in the purchase of Lands by which that Revenue will be considerably augmented. What proportion may admit of being so applied, I am unable at present to anticipate, but the application to such objects of the capital thus invested, and especially in connection with the new Settlements which are forming, will operate as a powerful incentive to the improvement of the Country; and if

the expenses of the Government could be otherwise provided for, and without drawing on this fund, I should consider such an application of it to be equally just and legitimate.

To whatever amount this Revenue may be increased, the circumstances of the Province altogether precludes the application of the principle of applying any part of it to the purpose of promoting the introduction even of such settlers as it is desirable to encourage, and the limited credit given to such settlers in the purchase of their first fifty-acre allotments, can hold out no inducement to emigrants who are destitute of the funds necessary to maintain themselves in the wilderness until their lands can be rendered productive for their support. Those who possess resources for their maintenance during the first year will apply their labour to the opening of such roads as are necessary to connect their locations with the sea coast, the rivers and principal highways, a neglect of which has so much retarded the settlement of the Country, and it is only after the work has been executed in a proper manner that a regulated remission would be made, in consideration of it, of a part of the purchase money for their lands. The circumstances which have led to so rapid a rise in the value of Wild Lands in Australia and New Zealand, as stated in the Land and Emigration Commissioners Report of the 30th July last, (pages 7 and 10) through the speculations of capitalists in England, do not apply in this Province, where the only capital now available for the purchase of lands is derived from the savings of the industrial classes, who in the present dearth of employment are unable to find employment.

The high prices however, ordinarily paid for land in favorable situations, especially of the alluvial lands along the banks of rivers called *intervale*, indicate that the introduction of capital would lead to a considerable and even to a rapid rise in the value of the Crown domains, there being still much land of superior quality at the disposal of the Government. The average price of lands as quoted in the Commissioners Report (page 11) of 2s. 5d. sterling per acre is merely nominal. This conventional rate was generally adopted under the Act commonly called the restraining Act, which expired in the last year, and the distresses of the Province since the lands have been sold at public auction have checked the competition which may be expected to arise and which I am desirous of encouraging.

I have, &c.

(Signed)

W. M. G. COLEBROOKE.

P. S. I enclose a Return of the parties forming the Settlements under the regulations I have alluded to.

(Signed)

W. M. G. C.

Right Honourable Lord STANLEY.