



ROYAL GAZETTE.

[SUPPLEMENT.]

FREDERICTON, NEW BRUNSWICK, SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 26, 1842.

PAPERS ON EMIGRATION.

IN CONTINUATION.

[For Despatches No. 1 to 9, see Supplement to the Royal Gazette, August 20, 1842, pages 158 to 162.]

Extracts of Despatches from Lieutenant Governor Sir William M. G. Colebrooke to Lord Stanley.

(10)

[No. 85.] *Fredericton, N. B. 12th September, 1842.*

MY LORD,—Referring to my Despatch, No. 53, dated the 14th May last,* I have the honor to enclose copy of a letter which I have received from Mr. L. A. Wilmot, explanatory of the condition of the settlement which was formed under his superintendence during the last winter, and which, considering the pressure upon all classes throughout the year, may be regarded as favorable to their prospects.

The assistance received by the settlers has been in an advance of money for opening a road to the settlement, which was executed early in the season, and they are now proposing to erect a School House for the benefit of their children.

From the distress still prevailing among the Mechanics in Saint John, a number of them who are without employment, and who possess some means, have organized themselves with the object of forming a settlement upon the same plan, their co-operation being found to facilitate the labour of a first settlement, and being accustomed to the use of the axe, they have great advantages over the Emigrants, who from their poverty and inexperience are unable to maintain themselves in the wilderness or labour in it with the same effect, and where unable to obtain employment they are in great distress.

Some English farmers who had emigrated to Rhode Island, have recently settled in the Province, encouraged by those who came here in the spring, and they have found no difficulty in purchasing improved farms.

The settlement of this class is calculated to improve the Agriculture of the Province, and their anxiety to settle in situations where they can obtain the means of education for their children, attests the advantages which the Colonies derive from receiving an improved class of settlers, whose attachment to the institutions of their country is not less strongly evinced by their voluntary removal hither after a two years residence in the United States. The present circumstances of the Province being favorable to the views of this class of settlers, I am induced to state these particulars for your Lordship's information.

I am glad to be able to report that the crops are abundant in the present season, and that more land has been cultivated than in any preceding year.

I have, &c.

(Signed)

W. M. G. COLEBROOKE.

(11)

[No. 89.] *Fredericton, N. B. 27th September, 1842.*

During my recent visit to the City, a deputation of the most respectable Mechanics waited on me, to represent, that having no prospect of employment, they desired to settle in the Country, and all who have the means of maintaining themselves in the wilderness during the winter, have been encouraged to do so. They have selected blocks of land some miles distant from the City, which I have caused to be laid out, and they have associated themselves in parties under the direction of gentlemen whom I have appointed to superintend the new settlements. I enclose copies of two Petitions, and the impulse having been thus given, I entertain no doubt that their example will be followed by others. Provision will be made for the establishment of Schools in these settlements, and when employment again offers in Saint John, they will be prepared to take advantage of it either by letting or selling their farms. By the exer-

tions of these skilful men, locations may be cleared during the winter in some cases, and disposed of at a profit to Agricultural settlers emigrating with capital, who would find it advantageous to purchase their improvements. It is probable however that experience will have taught the mechanics of Saint John the advantage of possessing lands which may afford them the means of support when unemployed, and contribute to their resources at other times; and if the habits they acquire should lead the mechanics and the labouring classes ordinarily to derive a part of their subsistence from the cultivation of allotments in the environs of the City, it would improve their condition, prevent pauperism in seasons of distress, and facilitate a reduction of wages without a diminution of comforts. The advantage, though important to the employer in a new country, where wages are ordinarily high, is of even greater consideration to the labourers themselves. It has been justly remarked that 'no man can be accounted poor who has any thing growing for himself under the sun,' a truth which has been strongly impressed on the people of this Province by the events of the last year. The failure of public and private credit, the consequent suspension of employment and the reduction of the country to a condition of barter has led all classes to look to agriculture as the only available resource, and the lands which have been broken up and planted for subsistence in the winter, having yielded abundant crops, others have been encouraged to come forward, who are preparing land for cultivation in the next year.

The parties formed in Saint John, including as they do, men of different trades, will be able to interchange the products of their labour and industry, and thereby possess many advantages over the unskilful settlers who for the most part emigrate to these Provinces, and who would find the advantage of settling amongst them, whereby many of the inconveniences attending a settlement in the wilderness would be obviated.

I have, &c.

(Signed)

W. M. G. COLEBROOKE.

(12)

[No. 97.] *Fredericton, N. B. 14th October, 1842.*

MY LORD,—On my return on the 12th instant, from a tour through the northern Districts of the Province, I had the honor to receive Your Lordship's Despatch No. 98, of the 15th September, in acknowledgment of mine on the subject of Emigration.

As my Despatches of the 12th and 27th September, Nos. 85 and 89, related to the progress which has since been made in the settlement of Provincial Mechanics and others who had been thrown out of employment, and of British Emigrants who had arrived with means of self support, I shall proceed to communicate to Your Lordship such observations as have occurred to me in my progress through the Districts I have lately visited.

In the summer of 1841, I made an extensive circuit through the southern Counties, and in my Despatch No. 37, of the 15th July, 1841, I stated the result of my observations on the capabilities of the Province.

At that time the distress which subsequently occurred to discourage its enterprise and to impair its resources had not been developed, and although anticipating from the financial situation of the Province, as reported in my previous Despatch of the 21st June, No. 38, that difficulties were likely to arise, I had hopes that in the adoption of a sounder system the embarrassments which have since occurred might have been averted.

Your Lordship is aware that these hopes were disappointed, and I have since been anxious to complete the circuits which have enabled me practically to appreciate the effects upon the Country of the pressure which ensued, and which Your Lordship has justly referred to the various occurrences which conspired for a time to paralyze the industry and enterprise of the people.

The Counties of Gloucester and Restigouche, although partially settled soon after the separation of the Province from Nova Scotia,

* See Supplement, August 10, page 160.