

Colonies as a refuge for the destitute was most unfavorable to their advancement. The resort to this practice as a means of relieving the pressure of numbers in over populous districts was obviously delusive, while the employment of the least efficient members of society in the most arduous of all enterprises, could not fail to re-act unfavorably in the Parent Country in its future relations with the Colonies.

The organization of parties, who after due inquiry should form Settlements upon waste lands, has been proved by experience to afford many advantages to Settlers where the lands acquired by them are not too extensive.

By this arrangement their co-operative industry becomes more effective and their labor is rendered available in the prosecution of undertakings which depend on the application of capital.

As the subsistence of Settlers while engaged in reclaiming new lands must either be derived from their own resources or from employment in useful works, and as the absorption of their private funds must prevent them from improving their farms, a Plan of Settlement by which those funds may be reserved to them, and they may be induced to afford their labor on reasonable terms, is alike favorable to their own views and to the public improvement.

The plan for requiring payment for their allotments has already so entirely failed as to have led to an extensive occupation of lands in this Province without title; and in limiting their purchase to 50 acres and requiring the payment of interest only as a virtual rent for their occupancies, I have had in view to remedy this evil.

The improvement of their farms tends to augment the security for their bonds, which so long as the interest is paid and the lands are improved, there can be no inducement to enforce against them.

As the advances made for the opening of Roads, &c. their recovery must of course depend on the vigilance of the officers intrusted with the execution of such works; and the observance of a pledge of temperance, although it could not be a principle by which the Government could be guided in holding out employment, is nevertheless proved to be very effectual in economising their resources and promoting the fulfilment of their engagements.

I enclose to Your Lordship a Report which was made to me by Mr. Wilmot, of the progress of the Settlement which he superintended during the Winter, from which Your Lordship will perceive, that so far from any loss having been sustained, the work for which advances were made was fully executed before the termination of the season.

As in the present state of the Public Finances no prospect can be held out of promoting the settlement of the Province on this plan, it is unnecessary to pursue the subject further; but I beg leave to observe, that if the acquisition of wilderness lands is to be open only to persons who have the means of paying for them, the settlement of the Province will be retarded, and the lands as at present will continue to be extensively occupied without title, a system leading to improvident and lawless habits.

I have, &c.

(Signed) W. M. G. COLEBROOKE.

Enclosure to No. 35.

Fredericton, 24th January, 1842.

MAY IT PLEASE YOUR EXCELLENCY,—I have the honor to inform Your Excellency, that in virtue of my appointment as Commissioner of the new Settlement on the Saint Andrews Road, I have had the whole extent of the Road through the said Settlement grubbed to the width of 16 feet; the total length is 913 rods.

Mr. Jouett has examined the Road and informs me that the work is well done; one third of the price is to be reserved till the work is examined in the Spring.

There is now one party clearing on their Lots, another will proceed on the 1st of February, and the remainder on the 1st of March next.

Thirty nine Settlers are now ready to purchase and improve their Lots, and I am happy to inform Your Excellency that the men are all in high spirits, and are one and all disposed to exert themselves to the utmost in the cultivation of their lands. The men are prepared to enter into the necessary bonds for the performance of Road Work during the next Summer to the amount advanced.

I have, &c.

(Signed) L. A. WILMOT,  
Commissioner.

Executive,

To L. A. Wilmot, Dr.

To amount of supplies advanced to road party,	£27 10 4½
“ ditto advanced party now clearing on their Lots,	14 7 7
“ ditto now due road party, reserving one third until the road is examined in the Spring,	33 6 11½
	£75 4 11

Fredericton, 24th January, 1842.

Cr.

By amount of Warrant, letter F.	50 4 11
	£25 4 11

(Signed) L. A. WILMOT,  
Commissioner.

L. A. Wilmot, Esqr.

To grubbing 913 rods of road @ 2s.	To new Settlers, Dr.
Less, one third until the road is examined in the Spring,	£91 6 0
	30 8 8
	£60 17 4

By amount paid for supplies,	Cr.	27 10 4½
		£33 6 11½

Extract of a Letter dated 29th March.

I was out last week and I was delighted to find the men making such progress. Fine large comfortable Camps and several extensive clearances have been made.

Very truly yours,

(Signed)

A. READE, Esquire, &c. &c. &c.

L. A. WILMOT.

(No. 53.)

Extract of a Despatch from Lieutenant Governor Sir W. M. G. Colebrooke to Lord Stanley, dated

Fredericton, N. B., 14th May, 1842.

MY LORD,—I have the honor to enclose to Your Lordship a copy of a Report which has been made to me by the Emigrant Agent at Saint John.

Although the employment of Emigrant Laborers on Public Roads will be afforded only to a limited extent in the present season, I have endeavored to render it available to them by instructing the Supervisors and Commissioners of Roads to prosecute the repairs of the main Roads without delay, which have been deferred to the inconvenience of travellers until later in the season to enable the farmers to engage in it after the completion of their farm work, a practice which has been much complained of.

The public disturbances which have recently occurred in Rhode Island, have induced some substantial English Emigrants to come to this Province.

The Land and Emigration Commissioners in their observations referred to in my Despatch No. 46, dated 30th April, have remarked that instead of encouraging British subjects who have emigrated to the United States to settle in these Provinces, it would be preferable to hold out encouragement to the Emigrants who arrive annually at Saint John and the Out Ports. It may be observed, that during the last year, the utmost encouragement was given by me to these Emigrants, who are almost exclusively from Ireland, and of the poorest class, and the exertions of the Emigrant Societies were directed to this object.

When I visited Saint John, Saint Andrews and Miramichi, in the last year, I used every argument, and held out every inducement to them to settle in the country after the employment in these Ports had ceased, which usually terminates with the departure of the Spring ships. They were however for the most part decided to join their friends in the United States, by whose advice they had Emigrated, their object in coming to these Ports having been to obtain temporary employment at high wages, and to proceed afterwards to the United States, without being subject to the Emigrant Tax in those Ports, either by embarking in the Steamers from Saint John to Boston, or by crossing the Saint Croix at Saint Andrews or Saint Stephens.

The Emigrant Societies have been thus engaged in promoting Emigration from England and Scotland, and have applied that certain Tracts of Land may be reserved for Emigrant parties who are expected to arrive during the summer. It is probable that the Irish labourers, who form the great majority of Emigrants to Canada, will find effective employment in the Public Works now carrying on in that Province, and their improved habits of temperance are favorable to their success.

The purchase of Farms by Emigrants who arrive with capital, promotes the settlement of the wilderness; as the old Colonists who sell their Farms speculate on the occupation of new Lands, and are very efficient in the work of clearing and reclaiming them, though less able to introduce improved tillage with which the English farmers are conversant. The means of abridging labour in husbandry should be attended to in new countries, and the improved management of land, so as to obtain from it the greatest amount and variety of produce. The County Agricultural Societies are zealous in promoting these objects, which may be practically advanced by the formation of Emigrant Settlements composed of small Farmers, Mechanics and Labourers, who have been trained to the management of land on the Belgian system, and where the allotment system has obtained.\* It would not be necessary that such settlements should be formed on Wilderness Lands only, as eligible farms of sufficient extent, with farm buildings, well adapted, are to be purchased on reasonable terms; but there are also some excellent tracts of unreclaimed land in favorable situations throughout the Province; and I would be glad to promote such settlements on the Indian Reserves, which would hold out a beneficial example to that

\* Extracts from the Journals, &c. of Societies in England for promoting these Settlements will be published.—ED.