

Report of Mr. Surveyor Francis Tetu, on the survey of the lands on the Arago Road :

"In those parts of the townships of Lessard and Beaubien, which I have surveyed, there are many tracks of stony soil to be met with, but this will not be an obstacle to the settlement of nearly the whole of these lots, the soil of which is, in general, well adapted for colonization. The prevailing kinds of timber in these two townships are cedar, fir, white birch, alder and balsam : there is little pine of large size in the immediate neighborhood of the road line, but a proof of the existence of timber for building purposes in the township of Lessard is, that in the month of November last a shanty road was established for the cutting of saw-logs which are transported to the Bras d'Apic. All the Arago tract is fit for cultivation ; the kinds of timber found there are balsam, white birch, black birch, and, in still greater quantities, maple. In effect, in the last named township alone the number of sugaries worked during the last winter was more than sixty.

"The Arago road-line is already of great utility as a snow-shoe road for those who are making sugar in these townships."

Report on the exploratory survey for a line of road from Gaspé Basin to Port Daniel, in the district of Gaspé, by Mr. P. L. S. Blaiklock ;

"Although my explanations have failed to attain the object contemplated in my instructions, namely to open up the country for settlement in rear of the surveyed lands in this part of the country, yet a good line for a road could be traced which, passing through the back ranges of the townships of York, Douglas, Mal Bay and Percé, would reach the seaboard near the seigniory of Grand River and would open up an extensive and valuable track of unoccupied Crown land for settlement. This route would shorten the distance to the Bay des Chaleurs by about thirteen miles, and would be from thirty-two to thirty-three miles in length ; it would at the same time avoid the danger and frequent delays caused by crossing the Barachois of Malbay and Douglstown, where, after a heavy storm the sea breaks with great violence over the bars of the mouths of these rivers, and the ice running in the spring causes frequent delays in the transit of the mails and passengers.

"Besides this line, many other shorter branch roads could be opened with advantage, and would greatly facilitate the settlement in this part of the country. For instance a road opened up the River St. John to connect with the village of Douglstown, would open two ranges nearly all across the township of York, of excellent land for settlement, also by continuing the road up the Barachois of Mal Bay and thence along the river, would greatly facilitate the settlement of the fine rich track of land bordering this stream. The York and Dartmouth rivers could likewise be opened up in like manner, in the valleys of both of which rivers considerable tracts of valuable land, well adapted to agriculture, exist. In fact if ever the interior lands are settled, it will be by the progressive settlements of these streams.

"In closing this report I cannot but remark the rapid improvement that has taken place in the agricultural pursuits in this country within the few years I have been observant of it, as well in the increasing quantities both of cereals as well as root crops that are now raised, as also in the improved system of cultivation

"The granting of patents and opening of the Crown Lands for sale, has likewise given an increased impetus to agriculture, inasmuch as the occupants have already, or are about to obtain titles for the property they occupy, and be secured in their possessions, which, for years heretofore they have not been. It will also enable persons wishing to invest capital in landed property in the country to do so with far greater security than heretofore."

Exploratory surveys for a road from La Tuque, on the St. Maurice to Lake St. John, Saguenay, by Mr. P. L. S. Blaiklock :—

"The country lying between the River St. Maurice and the Lake St. John is an elevated, broken and rocky trough, in which numerous of their tributaries take their rise ; the surface is broken up into wave-like mountains, not generally of high elevation, but precipitous, without connection or regularity. There are few regular ranges of hills or extensive vallies, and the whole is clothed with a dense but stunted growth of mixed timber, consisting, chiefly of black and gray spruce, fir and white birch, together with a very few