

It is not merely by the application of industry and skill, in the cultivation of lands already under improvement, that we must seek to procure a portion of bread, and of the other chief means of subsistence fully adequate to our consumption. In several of our counties it is requisite, that the forests should be more extensively cleared, and that an addition should be made to the number of those who are occupied in husbandry. To those who have long been resident in the Province, and have been able to inform themselves of its affairs, and the measures pursued during some former administrations of its government, it must be obvious, that the principal cause has been the fatal practice which prevailed during those periods, of granting or allotting very extensive tracts of land to a few individuals. Some of these have never even been within the Province, while others who were present when they obtained them, soon after departed, and have never returned. Of all, indeed, who are either absent or here, very few, comparatively, have done anything towards settling or improving the large and valuable tracts they received. Some of these tracts were granted through the direct authority and command of the government of the parent state, but by far the greater number of them were made over in one form or other, by the presiding authority here.

It has, moreover, been particularly unfortunate and injurious, that it is in that quarter of the Province, to which immigration has chiefly been directed, and in which the greatest proportion of fertile and valuable land is found, that the greatest quantity of it is held in the manner described."