

should be changed. "The land for settlement should be selected by skilled persons familiar with the quality and productiveness of the soil. Rich alluvial soils. Fertile valleys of sufficient extent along the river bottoms should be selected for agriculture. Hills, mountains, rocky country or land unfit for agriculture should be withdrawn from sale and reserved for forest land. Continuous settlement should be the guiding principle of our Colonization department. The Ontario Government inspects the land thoroughly before settlement. Land under license not fit for settlement is not sold to settlers. The proper system to pursue is to select places fit for the establishment of a township where there is good land. Make a first-class colonization road under Government supervision and sell the lots continuously along each side of the road. So soon as all the lots are taken open up a parallel range and adhere to the system of continuous and concentrated settlement.

Concentrate the intending settlers upon these lands, and when a township is settled survey a new one. This system if adopted would enable the Government to spend the colonization money to advantage in making good roads and bridges so indispensable to the prosperity and success of the settler. The settlers being nearer together would have the advantage of the assistance of neighbours. The Parish Church and village school so indispensable would be established and supported with less difficulty, and a strong and prosperous settlement would result. The number of lots granted to one person should be limited to one.

We embody here a letter of the Rev. Father Lacasse, O. M. S., on the subject, addressed to the Hon. G. A. Nantel the 9th of October, 1896 :—

"Il y a une quinzaine d'années, un grand nombre de ceux qui voulaient enrayer le courant d'émigration sont venus avec les meilleures intentions du monde conseiller aux pères de famille d'aller acheter d'immenses lots de terre dans la forêt