

"Round the Escoumains Mills where the 'Pères Oblats' have established their principal missions, a fine village is being formed, and a pretty church has been built.

"Towards the east as far as Mille Vaches, in the County of Portneuf, and towards the west as far as Grandes Bergeronnes, we find farms the occupants of which come to the church and mills at Escoumains. There is no doubt that before many years, agricultural interests and the fisheries will be the means of increasing considerably the population of the County of Saguenay.

"The School Law is in full operation in that neighborhood, and Post offices are established at Tadousac, Escoumains, and Portneuf. In the Townships of Saguenay and Callières we find families that are well established, and the lands are rapidly taken up in the neighborhood of these settlements. Four or five families from Les Eboulemens have settled on the shores of the Little River Saguenay.

"There is a fine tract of land lying in a valley which extends to the Township of St. Jean. If a road were built between St. Jean and Little Saguenay, a distance of 5 miles, considerable establishments would soon be formed in that valley.

"I cannot conclude without making the remark, that it is absolutely necessary that the Government should, during the ensuing session, ask for a considerable appropriation for the purposes of colonization. And it is particularly important that this should be done in order to encourage the return of a large number of our compatriots who have been tempted to leave this country to obtain employment in the United States. We should procure for them the means of reaching our unoccupied lands, and should support their families by employing them in opening up Colonization Roads. A desirable change in the system of constructing these roads would be to commence the work early in the season, say about 1st June, because it can be better executed during the dry season and long days than in the fall. This year the work was scarcely commenced before the 1st September, a season too far advanced to make profitable use of the money appropriated."

COUNTY OF CHARLEVOIX.

Settrington and De Sales Road.

Conductor—Rev. M. CLOVIS GAGNON.

Appropriation of 1861	-	-	-	-	-	\$300 00
Amount paid	-	-	-	-	-	300 00

This Road, which commences in the first range at Settrington, is intended to terminate at the St. Urbain Road.

In that portion of the road already opened, 5 miles and 2 arpents were completed this year, also one arpent of corduroy work. There still remains to be completed a distance of 5 miles and 5 arpents now grubbed eight feet in width, and through which a cart can pass.

Mr. Gagnon has informed this Office that colonization has progressed so rapidly that there are no lots for sale in the Townships of Settrington and De Sales, and that the greater portion of the lots located are partly cleared.

A large number of settlers intend establishing themselves to the north-east of Rivière du Gouffre, although the lots are not yet surveyed. Grain of every description has been sown in this district without suffering from frost or insect. Three miles of this road are verbalized. It is estimated that a sum of \$800 would be required to complete it.

COUNTY OF MONTMORENCY.

Bridges over the Rivers Desroches and Lombrette.

Amount appropriated for First Bridge in 1859	-	\$374 43
Do. do. Second do. 1859	-	150 00
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		\$524 43
Amount paid	-	524 43