

make any progress. After all, therefore, they were obliged to work for wages until they could make a few savings, and could learn a little of the way of farming in Canada. But now land is not disposed of except by sale. The produce of the sales, although the price is very moderate, is likely to become a considerable fund, which can be turned to the benefit of the colonies, and therefore of the emigrants; while yet no hardship is inflicted on the poor emigrant, who will work for wages just as he did before, and may after a while acquire land, if land be his object, by the savings which the high wages in these colonies enable him speedily to make.

These are the reasons why Government does not think it necessary to give away land in a country where, by the lowness of its price, the plentifulness of work, and the high rates of wages, an industrious man can earn enough in a few seasons to become a freeholder by means of his own acquisition.

The land which is for sale will be open to public competition, and of course, therefore, its price must depend upon the offers that may be made; but it will generally not be sold for less than from 4s. to 5s. per acre; and in situations where roads have been made, or the ground has been partially cleared, the common prices lately have been 7s. 6d., 10s. and 15s. Further particulars will be best learned upon the spot, where every endeavour will be made to meet the different circumstances and views of different purchasers.

## Enclosure, No. 2.

Sir,

War Office, 31 July 1834.

HAVING laid before the Secretary at War your letter of the 12th instant, notifying that the practice of making gratuitous grants of land in the colonies has been discontinued, I have received his directions to state that the Pension Regulations so entirely restrict the continuance of grants of land to discharged soldiers during the pleasure and according to the discretion of the Government, that no other measure would appear necessary on the part of this office than to transmit a circular letter to the general officers commanding in the colonies, communicating the decision of the Secretary of State on the subject, and this will accordingly be done.

I have to add, that for the reasons stated in your letter, the Secretary at War entirely concurs in the expediency of Mr. Secretary Spring Rice's decision on the subject.

R. W. Hay, Esq.  
&c. &c. &c.

I have, &c.  
(signed) L. Sullivan.

## Enclosure, No. 3.

Sir,

Office of Ordnance, 30 July 1834.

2.

HAVING laid before the Master-general and Board your letter of the 21st ult., adverting to their communications of 5th January and 18th March 1829, relative to the propriety of holding out the reward of discharge and a grant of land on the Rideau Canal to deserving men of the Royal Sappers and Miners employed on that service, on the completion of the work, and signifying Mr. Secretary Spring Rice's wish to be informed whether any persons are still employed on the Rideau Canal who could become claimants for land under the arrangement alluded to, I am directed to transmit herewith, for Mr. Spring Rice's information, a list of men, late of the 7th and 15th companies of Royal Sappers and Miners, disbanded at the Rideau Canal in December 1831, and at other periods, who, under the arrangement in question, have claims to allotments of land in Canada; but no Return has been made to the Board of the individuals who have or intend to avail themselves of the grants.

The Master-general and Board, at the same time, request you will submit to Mr. Spring Rice the enclosed copy of a letter from Lieutenant-colonel By upon this subject; and under the circumstances therein stated, and with a view of bringing the business to a conclusion, they have deemed it advisable to order notice to be given to the men, that if they do not claim their lots within twelve months from the date of notice, they will forfeit their claim to the grant alluded to.

R. W. Hay, Esq.  
&c. &c. &c.

I have, &c.  
(signed) G. Butler, for the Secretary.

Sir,

Sherfold Park, 7 July 1834.

I HAVE the honour of returning the papers received with your communication of the 5th instant relative to the Royal Sappers and Miners discharged on the Rideau Canal, and most respectfully beg to state that I am of opinion *the whole* of the non-commissioned officers and men of the 7th and 15th companies of Sappers and Miners who served on the Rideau Canal are entitled to a grant of 100 acres of land each, when their services in the Royal Corps are dispensed with; as the grant was held out to them to check desertion, which, I am happy to report, it certainly did; but many of the two companies would not take their discharge, fearing they would thereby forfeit their claim to a pension, and returned to England.