

NEW
BRUNSWICK.

not so disposed of, to be struck off to the emigration agent of the district, to be disposed of by him at private sale, in lots not exceeding 100, nor less than 50 acres. Not more than one lot is to be sold to one purchaser, nor more than three lots to any family; the purchase-money must be paid at once to the local deputy, on the production of whose receipt for the amount, the emigration agent will issue a location ticket to the purchaser. The purchaser must take possession within thirty days of the date of his "deposit receipt" (meaning, as it appears, the receipt for the whole purchase-money,) and must within a year clear five acres, build a house of specified dimensions, and reside in it three months. A family occupying more than one lot may, if they prefer it, reside on one lot only, but must make the requisite amount of clearing on each. At the end of a twelvemonth the emigration agent is to ascertain whether the conditions have been complied with. If they have, he will give a certificate to that effect, on which a grant of the land will be issued to the purchaser; if they have not, he will report that fact to the Surveyor-general.

4. These regulations are not to supersede or interfere with the existing regulations in any but the special tracts to be set apart for settlement.

5. If the Local Government see their way to the enforcement of regulations of this description, we are not aware of any reason for objecting to them. The risk is that, in the course of time, the conditions and restrictions may be gradually relaxed, and the lots become an object to land speculators. But the Local Government may easily prevent such a result, and it will be their interest to do so. The only addition which we would suggest to the regulations, would be to provide for the case of the death of a purchaser before the whole of his settlement duties had been performed. The letter of the regulations would extrude the family under such circumstances, which might involve great hardship. We have no doubt that the Local Government would supply this omission if their attention were called to it.

6. But whether the regulations are likely to promote any extensive emigration to New Brunswick is a point on which, as it appear to us, more question may arise. The Lieutenant-governor states that he attaches more importance to the dissemination throughout the United Kingdom of accurate information respecting the demand for labour and the rates of wages than to facilities for the acquisition of land. In this opinion we entirely concur; and we think, therefore, that the instructions issued to the emigration agents in the colony, and to Mr. Perley in this country, to ensure the publication of accurate reports of the demand for labour and the rate of wages, are likely to be valuable. There can be no question that the bulk of the emigrants who formerly left the United Kingdom for America were actuated, not by the expectation of becoming landowners at an early period or on easy terms, but by the desire to obtain continuous employment at ample wages. Had New Brunswick at that time been able to offer the same advantages as the United States and Canada, it would no doubt have received and retained its share of the emigration. Latterly the course of emigration has very much depended on the direction taken by the friends of emigrants who have preceded them and sent home money; and Canada and the United States now, therefore, possess an advantage which New Brunswick cannot for some years obtain. Nevertheless, if the public works, which we understand to be contemplated in that Province, offer fair wages and continuous employment, there can be no reasonable doubt that a sufficient number of emigrants will be attracted to it. We shall, of course, give every information and assistance in our power to Mr. Perley in carrying out the mission which has been entrusted to him.

7. In conclusion, we have only to call attention to the fact that the House of Assembly, in their resolutions, expressed a wish that the expense incurred in the encouragement of immigration should be defrayed from the surplus civil list fund; and that Mr. Manners Sutton proposes in consequence that a sum of 2,000 l. should be appropriated out of that fund to the service. On this part of the subject it would be beyond our province to offer any opinion.

Herman Merivale, Esq.,
&c. &c. &c.

We have, &c.
(signed) T. W. C. Murdoch,
C. Alexander Wood.