

NORTHUMBERLAND.

Deputy JAMES DAVIDSON's Report.

Miramichi, December 4, 1848.

SIR,—I have the honor to acknowledge the receipt of your Circular of the 16th ultimo, requiring me to furnish you with information as to good tracts of Land for settlement, &c. There is an excellent tract of Land in rear of the granted Lands from Burnt Church to Neguac, extending back towards Stymist's Mill Stream, and easterly to the granted Land on the west side of Tabusintack River. There is also a good tract of Land on the north side of Little Tracadie River, above the head of the tide, extending upwards, and back towards Pocmouche River. There is also an extensive tract of good Land between Pocmouche River and the south branch of Caraquet River, extending from the upper Settlement on Caraquet River, I think, to the Bathurst Road; and if a Road were opened from the upper Settlement on the south Branch of Caraquet to the Bathurst Road, about eleven miles south of Bathurst, it would pass through a fine tract of Hardwood Land. The whole distance would be about twenty four miles, and I am not aware of any Bridges, except small ones, that would be required in the whole distance.

* * *

I have, &c.

(Signed)

JAS. DAVIDSON,
Dy. Surveyor.

Honorable Thomas Baillie, Sur. Gen., &c. &c. &c.

Deputy C. J. PETERS' Report.

Chatham, 13th December, 1848.

SIR,—In reply to your Circular of the 16th ultimo, I beg to state that I agree with you in the importance of attention being paid to Agriculture in the present depressed state of business of all kinds in this Province. I also agree that the system of each person being allowed to select his Land without reference to any general plan or system by which the country at large would be benefited, and cause the Roads to be laid out to the best advantage, both as to the best ground for making them, and also going through the best country for settlement, and at the same time fronting as many lots as possible on said Roads, instead of having to make Roads as at present in many cases where there are but three or four settlers, which takes more money out of the Public Chest than the purchase of the Land brings in to it.

There can be no doubt that by opening connecting Roads passing from one Settlement to another, and also through good Land for Settlement, you add to the prosperity of the country, and induce people to go back and settle, knowing that they have or may depend on having a good Road to their places.

The best way in my opinion this could be done, would be to explore and mark out the best lines of Road that can be found from one Settlement to another (as was the case last year, from Dixon's Ferry to Curry's, at Bartibog, where the whole of the good Land that was vacant was immediately applied for, to front on the Road) and through some of the best tracts for settlement that might be approved of, and after making a Plan of said Road, the Deputy to mark out on the Plan his idea of the most approved way of laying out the lots, to be submitted to the office for approval there, in case of application for Land, or the Government should wish to lay the whole in lots agreeable to that plan, or to any alteration they may think proper to make, this would remedy the present evil, and enable you to have the lots laid off as regular as the nature of the Land would permit; there are large tracts in this as in all other Counties that it would be