

"These works will require a further outlay of £1400.

"Our Court House is finished, and the place now looks like an old settlement.

"The value of landed property is increasing day by day; in the country parts, farms with ordinary buildings upon them and small clearings, sell for \$8 to \$10 per acre. Vacant lots near the settlements with nothing but the front road and *découvert* with brush fencing, sell at from \$1 50 to \$6 00 per acre according to the locality in which they are situated, and the quality of the soil. Purchasers generally pay $\frac{1}{2}$ to $\frac{1}{4}$ cash, the balance remaining on credit.

"The parishes of St. Alphonse and Notre Dame de Laterrière have decided upon constructing handsome stone churches.

"The School Commissioners of Chicoutimi are now building a fine Academy, 60 feet by 40, two stories high. The Municipality intend, I believe, to build a City Hall for its own use and that of the Mechanics' Institute. The latter institution already possesses a fine library. It is even proposed to incorporate the Town of Chicoutimi, and to establish Gas Works and Water Works, but my opinion is that the population is not yet sufficiently large to guarantee this expenditure. The Municipalities of Grande Baie and Bagotville have constructed wharves to facilitate the steamboat traffic. The two wharves are two miles distant from each other. It would have been better, perhaps, to have constructed but one wharf. A spirit of local antagonism, however, prevented a combination of both villages to effect the desired object.

"At Bagotville, Mr. Vallière of Quebec, has built a large hotel, with 50 or 60 bedrooms. The house is well kept by a Mr. Lord.

"Tourists are beginning to appreciate our Lake and the wild scenery of the Saguenay, and had it not been for the unfortunate rebellion in the United States, Mr. Lord would have had the good fortune last summer of seeing his hotel filled with tourists.

"I have been informed that some parties intend building hotels at Grande Baie and Chicoutimi.

"Having given you above, all the information I consider interesting regarding the County of Chicoutimi, I will now speak of the County of Saguenay.

"The crops have been generally good, but I am informed that they have been inferior to those of the County of Chicoutimi.

"A large number of young settlers from the parishes of Malbaie and St. Agnès have taken up lots on the road which leads to the Township of Albert Edward, situated between Tadousac and the Rivière St. Marguerite, and I should not be surprised if this Township were fully settled in the course of a few years. I trust that a sufficient appropriation will be granted next year, to enable us to complete the Prince's Road throughout its entire length. You are perhaps not aware that His Royal Highness the Prince of Wales placed his foot on Canadian soil for the first time at St. Marguerite.

"A house is now being built at Tadousac for the reception of a priest, who is shortly to take up his residence there. The old church built by the Jesuits is still standing, and is sufficient for the requirements of the locality. It is intended to establish at Tadousac next year, a rendezvous for sea-bathing during the summer season, and in order to receive visitors a large hotel and a number of cottages will be constructed. I hope the fine scenery of the locality, the sea-baths, fishing, and its esteemed mineral waters will render it a fashionable resort for families desirous of seeking pleasure and health. This circumstance will materially add to the importance of the place, and will serve as an encouragement to settlers to take up the good lands in the vicinity. The winter road from Tadousac to Bergeronnes is now open throughout its entire length. It gives access to a number of fine lots of land which have been settled by a large number of settlers. I hope that next summer the road may be partly adapted to summer travel.

"From Escoumains to Bergeronnes, the road has been rendered practicable for wheeled vehicles by the Department of Public Works. I hope it will be continued next season.

"The road from Black River to the mouth of the Saguenay had been partly opened as a summer road this year, but the amount appropriated was so small, that but little work has been done. Nevertheless, the work already done has given an impulse to colonization, and here and there we find settlers who have established themselves on good lots, with their families, trusting to Providence and good health.