

Ecole Normale
Maurice-L. Duplessis

ments had the effect of concentrating the possession of the public domain in the hands of a few individuals and to give rise to the great evil of landlordism and absenteeism which have so greatly hampered the spread of colonization. This evil was still further increased by sales at low figures, by means of which some speculators obtained possession of another portion of the public lands. During the investigation by Commissioner Buller in 1838 under instructions from Lord Durham, it was ascertained that 105 individuals or families owned at that time 1,404,500 acres outside of the seigniories, or an average of over 13,376 acres per individual or family. The following is the list produced by John Hastings Kerr, one of the witnesses examined :

1 Thomas Dunn Estate, about.....	52,000	acres
2 Frobisher Estate.....	57,000	"
3 Heirs J. Wurtell, purchase.....	49,000	"
4 Colonel Penderleath.....	42,000	"
5 McGill Estate.....	38,000	"
6 Estate Richardson, purchase.....	37,000	"
7 Hon. M. Bell, purchase.....	39,000	"
8 Philemon Wright.....	35,000	"
9 Estate of Judge Ogden.....	30,000	"
10 Sir John Caldwell, about.....	35,000	"
11 Charles Ogden, purchase.....	25,000	"
12 Louis Massue, purchase.....	40,000	"
13 Hart families, purchase.....	40,000	"
14 Forsyth & Hatt, purchase.....	40,000	"
15 William Vondelvelden, purchase.....	25,000	"
16 Estate of G. Glumeg.....	10,000	"
17 Webb and others, purchase.....	28,000	"
18 F. and M. Defoy.....	14,000	"
19 Bagnes Estate.....	2,000	"
20 Estate William Holmes, purchase.....	14,000	"
21 Baby family.....	10,000	"
22 Lindsay family.....	10,000	"
23 Colonel Heriot.....	12,000	"
24 D. R. Stewart, purchase.....	14,000	"
25 R. Taylor, purchase.....	17,000	"
26 Estate Clarke.....	12,000	"
27 Scott family.....	11,000	"