

IMMIGRATION AND COLONIZATION.

WE have before us the first report of the Standing Committee on Immigration and Colonization. The report points out the limitation of the action of the Committee by the Act of Confederation, which vests the public lands, mines and minerals, in each Province, in the local Government of that Province; and it also draws attention to the fact that there can be no successful effort made to attract immigrants to Canada without combined action between the General and Provincial Governments.

The Committee state that the system which has been in existence for furthering and aiding immigration to Canada, has not been productive of satisfactory results, and that, in their opinion, it is not adapted to be so under the law which has placed the public lands under the control of the Provincial Legislatures. For the present, and before any general and concurrent action can be agreed upon by the general and local governments, the Committee recommend that such care and assistance be extended to emigrants arriving sea-ward as may be necessary, but they also recommend a discontinuance of the agency at Wolverhampton, England, and so far as practicable, the reduction of the staff at the Quebec, Toronto, and other agencies in this country, with a view to the early re-organization of these agencies. They suggest the making accessible through British territory so much of the lands in the fertile valleys of the Saskatchewan and its tributaries as may be fitted for agricultural purposes, and the offering of them for sale on terms attractive to immigrants. Referring to the construction of the Intercolonial Railway, and the quantity of land hitherto inaccessible which will be available for settlement, they urge on the Government of the Dominion the necessity of co-operating with the Provincial Governments through whose territory the road is to pass, in the adoption of a well considered and liberal policy with regard to settlement.

Appended to the report are supplies from the Commissioners of Crown Lands of each of the Provinces to queries of the Committee, with regard to the terms on which wild lands can be obtained by settlers, the quantity and character of such lands, &c. In Ontario free grants of over one hundred acres, free for twenty years after issue of patent from seizure for debt, can be obtained under the provisions of the Act passed at the last Session for actual settlement and cultivation, and locatees are allowed to purchase an additional hundred acres at fifty cents an acre, cash. Of these lands, there are 8,213,600 acres surveyed, of which 340,800 acres in the District of Muskoka and Parry Sound are now open for settlement, and which contain a greater proportion of good land than the rest of the territory and are more accessible.

In Quebec the sales of public lands are made under the Act passed by the Legislature of the late Province of Canada, but by a recent Act of the Local Legislature, such lands are exempted from seizure for debt for ten years after the issue of patents to settlers. These lands are situated in a large number of different counties, lying both north and south of the St. Lawrence, the price varying from 30c. to 60c. per acre, except where sold under a special valuation; the quality of the soil and the nature of the surface of the country in which they are varying also very greatly, embracing hilly and even mountainous territories, as well as wooded and level land more suitable for farming. On the south shore of the river there are several Colonization Roads, viz., the Tache Road, the Metapedia Road, the Mailloux Road, the Elgin Road, and the Temiscouata Road, on which free grants of land are made on certain conditions.

In New Brunswick an Act has recently been passed, authorizing the selection of eligible portions of the vacant Crown Lands, the making of public roads to and through them, and their survey in one hundred acre lots laid off on both sides of these roads. Bona fide settlers obtain grants of these lots on certain conditions, including the payment of twenty dollars as a sort of road tax, consecutive residence for three years, &c. The quantity of land surveyed and available for settlement under this Act is 188,000 acres. These tracts have been specially selected as being well adapted for cultivation, the soil generally good, well watered, and covered with hardwood. They are also easy of access from the existing settlements.

In Nova Scotia a tract of 5,000 acres was surveyed in 1865 into lots of 100 and 150 acres for the accommodation of intending settlers, the purchase price being \$44 per 100 acres, on which a credit of three years is given. The soil is reported to be of good quality, very well

covered with wood, and the greater portion fit for cultivation. Surveys have also been made elsewhere, but the Commissioner of Crown Lands informs the Committee that he does not know of any instance in which the Immigration Agent has induced parties to take up any of the lots for the purpose of improvement and settlement.

Manufactures in Australia are gathering strength, A woollen company which has gone recently into operation has now nearly 5,000 yards of cloth made, comprising the kinds called "tweeds," "moltons," "diagonals," "stripes," "hair lines," &c. These cloths have not yet been sent into the market, as the company intend to accumulate 5,000 yards, for the production of which a premium of £1,500 was offered by the government some time since, and claim the money, before they appeal to the cloth consuming public for support. The finished products of the factory are of many different patterns, serviceable and lasting, as they consist wholly of good sound wool. With its its present resources, the mill will turn out, when at full work, about 1,500 yards of cloth a week, and consume 1,320 lbs of washed, or 2 880 lbs of greasy wool.

THE NEW GOVERNMENT OF MANITOBA.

OUR readers will recollect that some months ago, the settlers, about 400 in number, of Manitoba, Red River Territory, elected Mr. Thomas Spence to the position of Governor and President of Council. The colony appears to be prospering under its new Government, according to latest accounts. The following proclamation shows the Governor is taking measures to obtain means of carrying on his Government. The tax however is not heavy:—

Government and Council of Manitoba.

PUBLIC NOTICE TO TRADERS, MERCHANTS AND OTHERS.—Notice is hereby given that after this date all Merchandise, Liquor, &c., imported into this Colony, will be subject to an import duty of Four Pounds per cent. Further that no liquor, on which duty is paid, will be allowed to be broached, or sold, within ten miles of the Church of St. Mary, Laprairie, without license. Traders and others passing through this Colony, and going beyond the jurisdiction (that is on the North beyond Manitoba House or on the West crossing the Little Saskatchewan) for trading purposes, are required to make a sworn declaration of such before the Custom House Officer at Laprairie, and report contents. Merchants and others are therefore hereby requested, in order to save unnecessary inconvenience, to furnish their agents or traders with a regular "Manifest" or "Packing Account," duly signed as correct, and if for duty the amount of duties must accompany the same.

By Order.

J. FINLAY WRAY,
Clerk of Council and Custom House Officer.
LAPRAIRIE, March 1st, 1868.

Gambling in Cereals.

The recent gambling operations in wheat in Chicago and Milwaukee, in which merchants of the latter city, by their superior acuteness, came out ahead of the Chicago schemers, making a considerable margin by the operations, was no doubt, the "last straw" which drew the following from the recent Convention of North-Western millers at Chicago:—

"Resolved, That we deprecate all gambling operations in wheat and flour, all corners and efforts at cornering, as unjust to the manufacturer by disturbing the value of the commodity, and as oppressive to the labouring man, who is compelled to bear the burden of the high prices of the staff of life, and that such conspiracies are against the interests of the poor and labouring man are deserving of universal reprimand."

Oswego.

This port has profited more perhaps than any other of the Lake ports, out of the canal trade with Canada, and from the following from the *Times*, is making efforts, by harbour improvements, to increase the accommodations for trade, and consequently enlarge the profits:—

"We have not failed to call attention to measures actually contemplated, or talked of, to improve or increase our harbour facilities, for we firmly believe that in a very few years the want of sufficient harbor room at this port will be one of the greatest drawbacks to the business of the city. Our Canadian trade, as we have recently shown, is 'just doubling right up.' The Niagara Ship Canal is but a question of time; the Welland Railway is pouring a wealth of commerce upon us; the Ontario and Huron Canal is by no means a chimera, but every day's agitation of the project makes the probabilities of its construction greater. All these measures will turn a torrent of commerce upon Lake Ontario, and the part of it secured by Oswego will be in proportion to our means of accommodating it."

ROYAL CANADIAN BANK.

THE annual general meeting of the Stockholders of the Royal Canadian Bank was held at its banking house on Monday, the 6th of July, in accordance with the Act of Incorporation.

The general statement of the Bank for the past year having been submitted by the Cashier, the President read the following report:—

Third Annual Report of the Directors of the Royal Canadian Bank.

The Directors of the Royal Canadian Bank have much pleasure in presenting to the Shareholders the Third Annual Report.

The balance at the credit of Reserve Fund at last annual meeting was \$ 40,000.00
The net profits of the year, after deducting working expenses have been 144 773.63

Making \$ 184,773.63
From which deduct two dividends, of four per cent. each, for the year just ended 76,507.23

Balance at credit of the fund \$ 108,266.40

The subscribed capital at the last annual meeting was \$1,452,150.00
The present subscribed capital is 1,554,656.00

Showing an increase of \$ 102,506.00

The paid up capital at last annual meeting was \$ 806,627.00
The present paid up capital is 1,071,260.00

Showing an increase of \$ 264,633.00

The circulation at the last annual meeting was \$ 916,658.00
The present circulation is 1,095,452.00

Showing an increase of \$ 178,794.00

The deposits at the last annual meeting were \$ 994,608.14
The present deposits are 1,398,050.60

Increase \$ 403,442.46

The Directors congratulate the Shareholders of the Bank on the satisfactory results of the last year's business, and for further information as to the affairs of the Bank, refer to the accompanying schedule.

During the past year, notwithstanding numerous applications, agencies have been opened only at Chatham, Kergus and Galt, making twenty-three agencies now in full operation and under control.

Since the last annual meeting this Bank, in common with other Banks in the Province of Ontario, passed through a severe monetary crisis; the effect of which was to prove to the public, under very trying circumstances, the ability of the Bank to meet all the demands upon it, and to strengthen that confidence which it merits.

The Royal Canadian Bank is now the recognized Bank of the Government of Ontario, and by means of its agencies is in a position to afford very great facilities for the transaction of the business of the Government, without at all neglecting the interests or abridging the rights of the ordinary business community.

The Directors, as on previous occasions, bear willing testimony to the great attention both of the President and Cashier to the interests of the Bank, and to the efficiency of the various officers connected with the Bank of Toronto and at the several agencies.

LIABILITIES.

Circulation \$1,095,452.00
Deposits not bearing interest \$585,573.84
Deposits bearing interest 812,476.76

Unclaimed dividends 1,398,050.60
Dividends payable 2nd July 5 341.49
Due to other banks 41,396.87
Reserved interest 19,069.83
Suspense account 12,801.90
Reserve Fund 25,572.26
Profit and loss 108,266.40
6,519.22

\$2,712,960.67
Capital paid up 1,071,260.00
\$3,784,220.67

ASSETS.

Specie and Provincial Notes \$ 466,684.83
Government Securities 139,068.66
Furniture, &c. 19,066.77
Due by other banks 260,339.02
Notes and bills of other banks 111,879.07
Notes and bills discounted, and other debts 2,787,705.72

\$3,784,220.67

The Scrutineers reported the following gentlemen elected to compose the Board of Directors for the present year:—Hon. Donald McDonald, W. Barber, Esq., M.P., James Metcalfe, Esq., M.P., R. A. Harrison, Esq., M.P., Alex. Manning, Esq., A. M. Smith, Esq., and James Crombie, Esq.

At a meeting of the Directors subsequently held, Jas. Metcalfe, Esq., M.P., was elected President, and Hon. Donald McDonald, Vice-President.

T. WOODSIDE,
Cashier.

TORONTO, July 7th, 1868.