

SECOND REPORT

OF THE

COLONISATION BOARD.

TO THE QUEEN'S MOST EXCELLENT MAJESTY.

MAY IT PLEASE YOUR MAJESTY,

WE, the undersigned Commissioners, appointed under Your Majesty's Sign Manual, for the purpose of carrying out a scheme of Colonisation in the Dominion of Canada, of Crofters and Cottars from the Western Highlands and Islands of Scotland, desire humbly to submit to your Majesty the following Report :—

Reports have recently been received from the agent of the Board in Canada, as to the condition of the Crofter settlements at Killarney, in Manitoba, and at Saltcoats, in the North-West Territories. The former was established in the summer of 1888, and the latter in the spring of 1889.

Statements are appended summarising the position of the families at the end of September, giving the number of acres under cultivation in wheat, oats, and potatoes, the number of tons of hay cut in 1890, and the area that has been prepared for next year. The returns also enumerate the live stock and implements in their possession, and the fencing that has been erected.

Killarney Settlement.

The following table refers to the Killarney settlement :—

—	Acres.	Estimated Average Yield (Bushels).	Estimated Total Crop (Bushels).
Wheat - - -	1,346 $\frac{3}{4}$	22 $\frac{1}{2}$	30,302
Oats - - -	74	39	2,886
Potatoes - - -	9 $\frac{1}{4}$	—	2,160

Of the foregoing the heads of the families had 1,121 $\frac{1}{2}$ acres under wheat, 64 under oats, and 9 $\frac{1}{4}$ under potatoes. The young men in the settlement who have taken up the 160 acres of land, to which such persons of 18 years and upwards are entitled under the Canadian land regulations, are also making considerable progress; they had 225 $\frac{1}{4}$ acres under wheat, and 10 acres under oats. In addition 518 tons of hay were secured by the settlers for winter feed for their stock, and for sale. With regard to the live stock, in addition to that supplied on their arrival in the country, and its natural increase, certain of the families have acquired 24 oxen, 25 cows, and 1 horse, of which 20 oxen and 6 cows must be credited to the younger members. 2,289 acres have been prepared for 1891, an average of over 76 acres per family.

It is generally considered that this settlement is in a satisfactory condition, and that its success is assured. The settlers appear to have overcome the difficulties and trials more or less associated with settlement in a new country, and with entire change of surroundings and of work. We have no hesitation in saying that they will, before long, be equal to any settlers in the country. Most of the men who have been able to leave their farms, as well as the younger members of the families, have obtained employment at good wages; and this, in conjunction with the produce of their farms, has enabled them to attain the position they now occupy.