

## [No. 5.]

Synopsis prepared by Honorable Mr. *Skead*, from Returns to Circular, from Counties of *Russell*, *Carleton*, *Renfrew*, *Ottawa* and *Pontiac*.

Mr. *Skead*, having examined the various replies to the circular issued by the chairman of the committee of 26th Sept., 1863, received from the Counties of *Russell*, *Carleton*, *Renfrew*, *Ottawa* and *Pontiac*, begs to submit the following synopsis, which he thinks it would be desirable to publish in the appendix to the report of the committee.

*William Edwards*, Esq., Justice of the Peace, Township of *Clarence*, in the County of *Russell*, says "that the County of *Russell*, consisting of the Townships of *Clarence*, *Cumberland*, *Cambridge* and *Russell*, is of a diversified character, with much indifferent "land interspersed with some very good land; but that there being an absence of hill, "mountain or stone, the whole, with few exceptions, is capable of being turned into fruitful "fields. Very little of the land now remains the property of the crown, but private lands "may be purchased at rates varying from \$2 to \$6 per acre for uncultivated, and from \$4 "to \$20 for partially improved lots. Proximity to the capital and to the great centre of "trade at *Montreal*, will enhance the price as soon as the country gets opened up with "roads. Agriculturists with small capital, tradesmen and farm laborers of steady habits, "would do well."

*Thos. Graham*, Esq., Reeve, and *John Dawson*, Esq., Deputy Reeve of the Township of *Nepean*, County of *Carleton*, says:—"There are now no crown lands in the township. "Farms averaging from one hundred to two hundred acres, with fifty to one hundred acres "cleared, could be purchased at from £5 to £10 per acre. The soil is generally a clay "loam, and will produce forty bushels of wheat to the acre, and other crops in proportion. "The roads are good, in some parts macadamized. Farm laborers are much wanted. "Two hundred immigrants would find employment within the township at \$6 to \$8 per "month, with board the first year, and their wages would increase as they became "acquainted with the work of the country. One hundred girls, capable of doing house- "work, would find employment at \$2 to \$2½ per month. The outside limits of this "township is about fifteen miles from the City of *Ottawa*, which is situated within the "township."

*John Scott*, Esq., Reeve of the Township of *Goulburn*, County of *Carleton*, says:—"A limited number of farm laborers and female servants would find employment at \$8 per "month for the former, and \$2½ per month for the latter—both with board. There are "no crown lands now in the township."

*Patrick M'Cauley*, Clerk of the Municipal Council of the Townships of *Sevastopol*, *Griffith* and *Matawatchan*, in the County of *Renfrew* (by order of the Council), says "that part of these townships are pretty fair land, but in parts somewhat hilly and rough. "They are partly settled, but there is still plenty of crown land for sale at from 3s. 6d. to "5s. per acre. Private lands, partially improved, may be purchased for about \$4 per "acre. The timber is partly pine and partly hard wood. The lumber trade affords an "excellent market for all kinds of farm produce. The poorest settlers in this locality are "better off than the common cottagers in any part of *Europe*, with prospect of still further "improvement."

*Thomas Whelan*, Esq., Reeve of the Township of *Admaston*, in the County of *Renfrew*, says:—"The best lands in the township are already taken up, the remaining "crown lands being inferior. Thinks a woollen factory would succeed well. There are "good sites to be obtained, and thinks it would be a good investment. A few country "weavers would find good employment. Farms of one hundred acres, with from sixteen "to eighteen acres cleared may be purchased at from £80 to £100. He came to the "country seventeen years ago without any capital, and is now able to give a property of "one hundred acres each to four sons, with stock and improvements, and better than that "for his daughters. A limited number of farm laborers, carpenters and blacksmiths "would find employment at fair wages in this locality."