

the County of Charlevoix, the land in both these Townships has all been taken up, and for the most part cleared.

On the St. Maurice, the parishes of St. Stephen and Shawenagan, opened in 1849, and St. Flore, opened in 1856, now have a population of 3376 souls.

If the St. Maurice Road should be opened next summer as far as the River Matawin, and if the Government should make free grants of land upon that road, it is Mr. Dubord's opinion that there will certainly be, next autumn, an uninterrupted line of settlements along the whole road from Les Piles to the River Matawin.

In the County of St. Maurice, Mr. Magnan says that the colonists have settled upon lands three miles in advance of the spot where the works under his direction were stopped.

In the county of Maskinongé, traces of iron mines have been found on the new Bark River (*rivière aux écorces*) road. The population of these localities has doubled since 1857.

The progress of colonization has been very rapid in the Township of Joliette. Six years ago there was not a single settler there; at the present time, it has a population of 360 souls. The population of the north-east part of Brandon has increased by 1000 during the last few years.

In the County of Ottawa, the Wakefield and Portland Road runs through the finest land for agricultural purposes in Lower Canada. The north-eastern part of Wakefield has been nearly all sold by the local agent within the space of a twelvemonth. Indications of copper, lead, and iron mines are to be found in the vicinity of this road, and more than 400 families have settled in these Townships within the last two years.

In the Township of Matapédia, in the County of Bonaventure, a settlement of upwards of 100 families has been made, which is in a prosperous condition.

The population of the Township of Viger, in the County of Temiscouata, which in 1851 only amounted to 40 souls, was found in 1861 to reach 1000 or 1100.

In the County of l'Islet, young men crowd towards the Townships, and on the Elgin and Taché Roads the demand for land greatly exceeds the quantity remaining to be disposed of.

In the County of Dorchester, along the Etchemin road, the work of opening which was commenced in September last, all the lots, except five or six, have been taken as far as the River Etchemin.

In Cranbourne, lands which a few years ago were sold for a *glass of liquor*, have fetched \$1,550.

In Hereford and Auckland, in the County of Compton, colonization has progressed rapidly. The settlers, having at their head two priests, as devoted as they are energetic,—the Reverend Messrs. Durocher and Champeaux,—lost no time in taking the land, and though only 5½ miles of road have been opened, 254 lots have been purchased there.

I could multiply examples, but I fancy these will suffice to shew how necessary it is that the Roads in the Townships should be opened.

The census of last year testifies to the extraordinary increase of the population in counties where colonization roads have been opened. In the Eastern Townships, the increase of the population of different origins since 1851 has been 57½ per cent, and the French Canadian population alone has increased 114 per cent. In the County of Saguenay the increase has been 196 per cent.

What will it be ten years hence, now that the impulse has begun to shew itself, and settlers are bending their steps in crowds to the new land?

The efforts which the Government is making to favor the colonization of our wild lands will, it is to be hoped, be crowned with success, and the sending of agents to Europe will largely contribute to bring the resources of this country under the notice of the population of those countries.

A new band of brethren has come to make part of the Canadian population, and the numerous subscriptions that have been made throughout the country for the unfortunate Acadians bear witness to the deep sympathy entertained for them, and how popular among us is their emigration to our soil.

The attention paid by us to emigration from other countries must not, however, be allowed to interfere with our remembrance of our unhappy countrymen in the United States. It would be truly a benefit to them and their country to favor their return by obtaining for them the means of settling, on their return, upon vacant Crown Lands; for