

and to account for the same, and he is also a Member of the Auxiliary Land Board established in 1822, for the preliminary examination of all Petitions for Grants of the Waste Lands of the Crown.—The Emoluments of the office are, a salary of £200 Sterling per annum, and a Fee of 6s. 8d. per 1000 Acres on all Grants of Waste Lands of the Crown in Free and Common Socage, and £1 3 4, for 100 feet front on Grants of Water lots or Town lots.

Q.—Are there any Dockets made in the said office before, upon, or after the Granting of Lands in the said Province?

A.—Dockets are made in that office as above stated after the Letters Patent Granting Lands as before mentioned, are signed by the Governor.

Q.—Are there any Reports made by you, from time to time, and at what times of the proceedings had in your said office, to any Board or Boards, or any other Public authorities, either within this Province or in Great Britain, in relation to or concerning the Granting of Lands?

A.—No reports of the nature stated in this question are now made, except when errors are found in Letters Patent, in which cases I return the Patent to the Secretary of the Province, with a statement of the circumstance and if the error is a material one I decline auditing the Patent—Reports or Copies of the Entries or Dockets appear to have been made formerly to the Secretary or the Lords Commissioners of His Majesty's Treasury, but I do not find by the Books that this has been done since 1800.—The practice originated I believe from the circumstance that in former times, in this, as in most of the Colonies, *quit rents* were either exacted or made payable on Grants of Lands for the purpose of raising a revenue, and the situation of Auditor of Land Patents became in some respects connected with and subordinate to that of Auditor General of the Plantations.

---

*Joseph Bouchette, Esquire*, Surveyor General of Lower-Canada, appeared before your Committee.

Q. Could a road be advantageously carried from any part on the south shore of the St. Lawrence to Fredericton in New-Brunswick, and what would be the most advantageous point of departure.

A. No doubt a shorter route of Communication between Quebec and Fredericton may be ultimately effected by opening a