

Mr. Donaldson resumes his old appointment at Londonderry as agent for the north of Ireland; Mr. E. J. Charleton has been appointed to the southern and eastern portion of that country, and Mr. A. H. Verret to western Europe.

With a desire to facilitate the discharge and enlarge the sphere of duties of the Emigrant Office of Lower Canada at Quebec, Mr. Drolet and Mr. Stafford have been nominated Assistant Emigrant Agents for Lower Canada.

Great care has been taken to impress upon the emigrant agents abroad, the importance of their mission, and the fact, that certain classes only of Emigrants are sought for, or desired by the Province. The following extract from the "Letter of Instructions," issued to them by the Minister of Agriculture, relates to this subject:

"In conveying information respecting this country, you will of course readily understand the necessity of great caution and entire truthfulness in any statement you make, in order that the Government may not be involved by representations in any respect fallacious, nor the emigrant, or public abroad be in any way misled. In addition to the authorised documents which you take with you, you will be supplied from this Department with such information bearing on the subject of your mission as you may, from time to time, apply for, or as it may be considered desirable to send you. These communications and your experience and long acquaintance with this country will enable you, at all times, to give such information as shall be really accurate, respecting our mines, forests, fisheries, agriculture, and the Colony generally.

"You will constantly bear in mind that a promiscuous immigration is neither desirable nor sought for: Canada, at present, does not, and for the coming year most probably, will not offer any large field for unskilled labor, since there are no large public works, nor railway extensions in progress. At the same time skilled agricultural labourers can always find ready employment, and female domestic servants are always sure of good wages and certain employment.

"The class of people to whom, especially, Canada offers a desirable home comprises those who on their arrival here are prepared to enter on the Public Lands as settlers.

"The Provincial Government, as you are aware, has recently opened new roads in Upper Canada and in Lower Canada, and has laid out for settlement and authorised free grants (not exceeding 100 acres in each case) of the lands through which these roads pass. These free grants are, however, more advantageous to those acquainted with the climate and country than to the poorest class of emigrants, and those just arrived in the country.

"You will ascertain at the Crown Lands Office the exact position of these free grants now available, and explain fully to persons seeking information the advantages and disadvantages attendant upon their settlement."

The exertions of Emigrant Agents must not, however, be confined to the vast fields of Europe, but it is advisable that they should also be directed to different localities in the United States where former inhabitants of Canada may be found in small communities. Preliminary action has already been taken in this matter by circulating amongst them, in their own language, accurate information as to the advantages which Canada offers to the industry, labour, perseverance, of the Colonists.

The task of collecting and disseminating information likely to be of use to intending emigrants, has been vigorously pursued by the Department. The circular to the Reeves of the townships of Upper Canada and to the Municipal authorities in the Lower Province, making enquiries relative to the number and classes of emigrants sought for in each different locality, and seeking information as to the prices at which "cleared" farms can be purchased or rented, &c., has been re-issued, and the result, compiled and published in a tabular form, circulated largely for the information of emigrants.

In addition to the above, another circular, enclosing a series of questions relative to the quantity and quality of land for sale, statistics and prospects of the settlers, how many are emigrants, &c., nationality, whether any improved farms are for sale or to be let, demand for labour, and general suggestions, has been issued by this Department to the various Crown Land Agents throughout the Province. The information contained in the answers received to these questions has been condensed and embodied in a pamphlet issued from the Emigration Office by Mr. Buchanan, and extensively circulated in the English, French and German languages.

COLONIZATION ROADS.

Upper Canada.—From the Reports for the past year of the resident agents on the free grant Road in Canada West, and which will be found in the Appendix, Nos. 1, 2, 3, 4, 5 and 6, the progress on these roads will be considered most encouraging and satisfactory. The number of families settled on these roads, the value of the season's produce, and the number of acres cleared, increase steadily year by year, and afford a true index of the prosperity of the settlements.

The annual Reports of Mr. Gibson, chief superintendent of roads for Canada West, and of Mr. Snow, superintendent of the Mississippi Road, with the usual approximate statements of the work done on the Roads in Canada West up to 31st December, 1861, and a statement of the total number of miles open to the same date accompany this report. (Vide Appendix No. 8.)

Lower Canada.—The management of the Lower Canada Colonization Roads has hitherto been undertaken by the Department of Crown Lands. Arrangements have, however, since the beginning of the month, been made, to transfer