

REPORT

ON

Colonization Roads in Lower Canada,

FOR THE YEAR 1861.

OFFICE OF THE INSPECTOR OF AGENCIES,
St. Hyacinthe, 1st March, 1862.

To the Hon. P. M. VANKOUGHNET,
Commissioner of Crown Lands,
&c., &c., &c., Quebec.

SIR,—In beginning this Report, I beg leave to pay a tribute of respect to the memory of the late Thomas Boutillier, Inspector of Crown Land Agencies for Lower Canada, whose loss we have to deplore. I feel it a duty incumbent upon me to refer to the eminent services rendered by this lamented gentleman to the cause of Colonization.

The efforts of that honorable man were constantly directed towards the settlement of the children of the home-population upon their native soil. I owe it to his memory to bear witness that it was in the fulfilment of his arduous duties that he contracted the disease that carried him to the grave, and deprived the cause of Colonization of one of its ablest supporters.

Temporarily charged with the superintendence of Colonization Roads in Lower Canada, I have the honor to submit to you the following Report, respecting the work done upon them in the year 1861.

The extent of road opened in 1861, under the direction of this office, amounts to 176 miles and 6 $\frac{1}{2}$ arpents.

Of this, 9 $\frac{1}{2}$ miles and 27 $\frac{1}{2}$ arpents, besides 15 miles and 22 $\frac{1}{2}$ arpents previously opened, have been completed, thus giving a total of 110 miles and 22 arpents of highway completed in 1861.

Bridges have been built having an aggregate length of 5438 feet, besides 7 miles and 10 arpents of crossway.

Besides the above mentioned works, fifteen miles and 12 arpents of old road have been repaired.

The sum disbursed for these several works in 1861 was \$42,733 06.

The cost of the roads, including the bridges and crossway, less the various sums expended for the repairs of old roads, and the balance remaining in the hands of the Conductors of works, has, upon an average, amounted to about \$212 a mile.

If we consider the work done under the direction of this office since its first establishment, we shall find that the extent of road opened since 1854, is as follows:—

| | |
|--------------|--------------------------|
| In 1854..... | 342 $\frac{1}{2}$ miles. |
| 1855..... | 242 “ |
| 1856..... | 179 “ |
| 1857..... | 276 $\frac{1}{2}$ “ |
| 1858..... | 110 $\frac{1}{2}$ “ |
| 1859..... | 133 $\frac{1}{2}$ “ |
| 1860..... | 174 $\frac{1}{2}$ “ |
| 1861..... | 176 $\frac{1}{2}$ “ |

1634 $\frac{1}{2}$ miles, or
844 $\frac{1}{2}$ leagues.