

that river, which does not, on this part of its course, extend beyond the township of Bowman. The township of Bigelow, above it, being inferior and further up the high range between these rivers, comes close to the latter, in a form too rugged for settlement.

This road is essential for access to the Norwegian and German settlement now forming in Bowman. If the encouragement of such immigrants is desirable, it would seem especially so that a road of some kind should be afforded the first settlers of that class in the part of the Province, who, from their ignorance of the English and French languages, suffer much greater inconvenience in commencing than other settlers.

As this road cannot be carried very far with advantage, an expenditure upon it of \$300 a mile, may probably be considered sufficient, which would render an appropriation of \$1,800 for it desirable. But as the sum of \$500 advanced for provisions for the destitute Norwegian and German settlers in Bowman, and for which I hold their notes, payable in labor, if so required, is chargeable to the road, but possibly may not all be recoverable, it would seem desirable that the appropriation should not be less than \$5,000.

The Rivière aux Lièvres affords a water communication from above the falls at Buckingham village to the township of Bowman, but in ascending there are several portages besides rapids, where it is necessary to tow or pole up. A road up the valley of the Rivière aux Lièvre is very desirable, alike for the purpose of settlement and for the traffic of the lumber trade. The road on either side is passable for a cart but a few miles above the village of Buckingham. I am not able to give an opinion how such a road should be carried. Where the Rivière aux Lièvre traverses the ridge of the Laurentides, at and near the High Falls, there is much rough land, and unfavorable country above that, which would require much examination to enable one to judge.

Much of the township of Villeneuve is bad land and mountainous. The township of Wells, above it, is better, with much good flat land extending up the Rivière des Sourds.

From where the Kiamaca joins the aux Lièvres, that is, about eighty-five miles directly northward from its mouth, the country, as elsewhere on the north side of the Ottawa, and at that distance from it, changes from high rugged hills to a much lower undulating surface, and is much more arable. The good lands on the upper course of the aux Lièvres will most probably be settled in connection with the Gatineau.

The lower part of the valley of the aux Lièvres, excepting near its mouth, seems much less suitable for settlement than the country east of it, drained by the Lower Blanche and the Petite Nation, which is altogether on a lower level.

I would suggest that a line of colonization road should be surveyed and opened, diverging from the road from the steamboat landing at the village of Thurso to the river Ste. Seque, and passing up through the township of Derry East, on the east side of the Blanche, where it would intersect much good land, and northward through the township of Lathbury, which is reported to be favorable for settlement.

I am not in possession of sufficient information to enable me to say how far this line of road might with advantage be carried. But the land to be opened for settlement by this line being so near the Ottawa, and connecting with so accessible a part of it, so near its mouth and to the port of Montreal, would seem to render the survey of such a road line, after careful exploration, and the opening of it for settlement, very desirable.

It is equally desirable that a line of colonization road should be explored and opened from the west end of lake Blanche in rear of Lochaber northward, nearly along the line between the townships of Derry East and Derry West, where there are vacant, good lands, superior in quality to those already settled to the southwest. This line may be carried along the east or west side of the Blanche, as further examinations might dictate, and thence up along the line between Villeneuve and Lathbury, or thereabouts, into the rear of the township of Wells, where the land is well suited for settlement. This road would give access to the valley of the Rivière des Sourds, where there are extensive fields of arable land, reported to be good, down which a branch road might probably be carried with advantage to the Rivière aux Lièvres.

The townships of Derry are described as containing a good deal of good land, hilly but not stony, and of a deep fertile soil. Beyond the 4th range of Derry West no lands were taken up last fall, nor in Derry East except where a few squatters were settling up the Blanche.

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