

As there is an unprincipled clamour made against the Department cancelling sales in such cases, perhaps it might be well to adopt the system of giving the lot to any one that needed it; the proof to be made good before a court of law if disputed, so as to relieve the Department from the responsibility. Pardon my imperfect writing.

Yours, &c.

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Quebec.

(Signed) A. J. RUSSELL.

Précis by Dr. Lyons, M.P., of certain Reports, Acts of Parliament of the Dominion, and other Papers which accompanied the Canadian Forest Reports, in so far as they relate to Questions affecting Forests and Cognate Matters.

Law assented to 5th April 1869.

1. There shall continue to be, and be, a department for the management and sale of the public lands and forests, to be called "the Department of Crown Lands;" and the same shall be presided over by "the Commissioner of Crown Lands" for the time being.

The Lieutenant-Governor in Council may from time to time withdraw or withhold from sale and set apart the same to be held as "timber land" such portion or portions of the public lands as after the exploration and inspecting thereof by officers or agents specially charged with the performance of such service may be found to be valuable for its timber, but generally unfit for the purposes of colonisation, whether the same shall comprise whole townships, parts of townships, or tracts of unsurveyed land.

By clause 12 claims to Crown lands are barred, unless same has actually located or admitted a proof sufficient, in the opinion of the Commissioner of Crown Lands, furnished in support thereof before the passing on the 14th June 1853 of the Act 16th of Victoria, c. 159. The Lieutenant-Governor in Council may appropriate any public lands as free grants to actual settlers upon any public roads opened through the said lands in any new settlements, under such regulations as shall be made from time to time by Order in Council; but no such free grant shall exceed 100 acres. The term "public lands" shall be held to apply to lands heretofore designated or known as Crown lands and clergy lands, which designations for the purposes of administration shall still continue.

Department of Crown Lands, Quebec,
August 25, 1869.

1. The duties of agents shall comprise the sale and locating of all public lands offered for sale, the granting of licenses to cut timber thereon, or upon such lands as have been set apart for that purpose, the collection of arrears due, the settlement of conflicting claims, the inspecting of lands, the protection of the public lands within their respective agencies from trespassers and depredators; and such other duties not inconsistent with this Act, as the Commissioner of Crown Lands may from time to time think proper to assign them; and such duties shall be performed under the direction and in conformity with the instructions of the Commissioner. See 9th section, Act 32 Vict. c. 11. of Legislature of the Province of Quebec. Agents are directed to inspect and classify lands under the following heads:—

1st. Lots suitable for agricultural purposes, dividing them into three classes, good, average, inferior.

2nd. Lots valuable for the timber, but generally unfit for cultivation.

3rd. Lots not suitable for agriculture, and the timber only fit for minor purposes, as fuel for sugaries.

4th. Lots entirely unfit for agricultural purposes, and the timber of little or no value.

Woods and Forests.—The Act of Parliament under which the woods and forests of the Crown are organised is cap. 23, Consolidated Statutes of Canada.

The general timber regulations of 13th June 1866 are based on said Act and have the force of law. These regulations, since their promulgation, have been modified by