

12,262
6,000
8,300
7,600
1,400
12,961
26,153
6,200
11,632
3,400
11,700
4,800
13,701
17,500
23,100
17,569
24,004
5,000
5,000
13,650
13,161
8,949
26,810
9,200
4,100
10,950
10,400
9,800

19,100
11,880
8,300
21,406
13,546
13,110

48,062

although while without the grantees taking the slightest trouble to fulfill the conditions of settlement which were nevertheless in force.

These excessive grants virtually closed the public domain to colonization. As the large proprietors did not even wish to open roads through their properties, it was impossible to pass through them to take up lands situated in rear, and *bona fide* settlers were unable to obtain land without passing through the Caudine Forks of the large proprietors. The Legislative Assembly took up the matter and upon its representations, the Imperial Parliament, in 1825, passed the act 6, Geo. IV, chap. 59 ss. 10 and 11, establishing a court to ascertain whether the conditions of settlement attached to each grant had been fulfilled and if they had not been to declare the grant forfeited in favor of the Crown. As the majority of those who were likely to be dealt with by this court were the most influential in the Province, they found means to nullify this measure of reform; two or three cases submitted to this court of *escheats* at Sherbrooke were dismissed for informalities in the proceedings and every thing remained in *statu quo*. We may add that the statute establishing this court has never been repealed and is still in force in the Province. The system of township leaders and associates commenced to fall into desuetude about 1806 and, from that date, almost all the large grants were made in each case in the name of one individual or of a single family. Thus, in 1810, the Ellice family obtained a grant of 25,592 acres in Godmanchester and another of 3,819 acres in Hinchinbrooke. In 1815, the Governor, Lord Drummond, granted to Hon. John Richardson 29,800 acres in Grantham and 11,050 acres to Hon. Thos. Dunn, in Stukeley.

These violations of the instructions of the Imperial Government which sequestered the best part of the public domain in favour of a few speculators, were encouraged by the Imperial Government itself. Thus, of his own accord the Duke of Portland gave 48,062 acres to the Governor Sir Robert Shore Milnes and 12,000 acres to each of the members of the Executive Council constituting the Land Commission which had given all the extravagant and scandalous concessions up to that date.

LOCATION TICKETS OR OCCUPATION PERMITS

This system was introduced in 1818 to counteract a little the abuses in the alienation of the public domain. From that date, grants were made by means of location tickets, permitting the grantee to occupy the land

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