

Deputy Snell's Report.

NEW BRUNSWICK.

Sir,

Grand Lake, Queen's, 9 December 1848.

I HAVE the honour to acknowledge the receipt of your circular of the 16th ultimo, desiring me to furnish you with information on the following heads:—1st. The different settlements which might be connected by roads, passing through good land.—2d. The length of road necessary for that road.—3d. The quality of the land, and the probable expense of making the connexions.—4th. The number and extent of the bridges which will be necessary, and the probable cost of construction. Further wishing me to state any other good tract of land which I think, if surveyed, would soon be occupied.

In obedience to your instructions, I would recommend that the Grand Lake and New Canaan be connected by a road leading from the Upper Settlement of Cumberland Bay to the Forks of Canaan. The length of road to pass through good land, would be about 16 miles, and the expense of making about 1,200 £, there being no bridges of any consideration on this proposed line.

I would also recommend that the Gaspereaux Settlement and Salmon Creek be connected by a line of road commencing near the upper Gaspereaux Mills, and crossing the North Branch of Salmon Creek, the distance being about six miles; the expense of connecting, including bridges, would be about 500 £, and the land is of a superior quality.

I would recommend that the Gaspereaux and Cain's River be connected by a line crossing the Gaspereaux about 12 miles from the mouth, which would pass through good land, forming a convenient and extensive settlement; I think the distance would be about 20 miles; the cost of connexion would not exceed 100 £ per mile, including the bridges.

I would particularly recommend that the Salmon River and Richibucto be connected by a line crossing the Big Forks Stream, about 10 miles from the mouth, thence running a little to the eastward and crossing the Little Forks. From my knowledge of this tract of land, I am aware that a line might be explored, passing through large tracts of excellent land; but as this proposed road has been recently explored by Mr. Beckwith, I consider it unnecessary to make any further remarks.

I would recommend that the front land on the south-east side of Salmon River to the mouth of the Little Forks be surveyed for settlement; this land would soon be occupied, and a survey would prevent squatters from improving on land so irregularly.

There is also an excellent tract of land situate between Salmon River and Coal Creek, extending up stream about 20 miles, which, I think, if surveyed, would soon be occupied, and also prevent squatters from settling irregularly, as they now are.

Having recommended the above tracts of land to be surveyed for settlement, without any regard to my own personal interest, I beg leave to remark, that I am highly pleased with the idea of having the present pernicious system of surveying superseded by a more beneficial one, yet I despair of ever seeing the county settled under the present system of disposing of the Crown lands. I would recommend that labour performed in opening the roads, and clearing a certain quantity of the wilderness lands, be a sufficient remuneration (under proper system) to entitle the hardy and industrious settler to a grant of a certain quantity of land.

I am, &c.

(signed) Robert Snell, Deputy.

Honourable Thomas Baillie, Surveyor-general,
&c. &c. &c.

KENT COUNTY.—Deputy Douglass's Report.

Sir,

Buctouche, 7 December 1848.

IN answer to your circular of the 16th of November last, I beg leave to inform you, that in the district in which I reside, I know of no settlement that is not connected either to the Buctouche or the Cocagne by roads already made, but they are of a very inferior quality.

There is at present no inducement for young men to enter on agricultural pursuits, on account of roads not being opened through good lands. They say a mere line will not entice us to enter into the forest to take up land, but if roads were once opened so that we could immediately improve it, we would take pleasure in purchasing.

There are several good tracts of land, through which, if roads were opened, would in a short time be taken up, and would, no doubt, make extensive settlements.

I am not much acquainted with the vacant Crown land lying between the Cocagne and Buctouche Rivers. All the information I can give you respecting it, I have received from men who have travelled those woods in search of lumber.

There are four sites for roads to which I would call your attention (the accompanying plan will elucidate more clearly).

1st. On the south side of the Cocagne River, from S. Cornea's Grant to J. Griffin's Grant in Irish Town.

2d. On the northern side of the same river, commencing at the rear of R. M'Lelland's Grant, and running a direct course till it meets with the M'Lauchlan Road, at the same distance from the river.

3d. To commence at the St. Anthony's Settlement, and running parallel to the last mentioned line, so that two ranges of lots may be contained between.