

For a simple and self-acting system that would completely remove the obstruction to settlement caused by parties taking up lands for the speculative purpose of wringing high prices out of actual settlers afterwards, I beg to refer you to my report on the St. Maurice Territory, transmitted in March, 1859, containing practical suggestions as to the sale and settlement of the waste lands of the Province, and the better adjustment of the rights of settlers and lumberers, exhibiting a system whereby lands could be sold to actual settlers at a merely nominal price without any loss of revenue therefrom to the Crown.

I have the honor to be, respectfully,

Sir,

Your very obedient servant,

A. J. RUSSELL.

SPECIFICATION

Of the manner in which the Colonization Road from the Pagan Falls, Gatineau, to the River Coulonge, is to be made.

1. It is to be made on the site of it traced in the field, excepting where otherwise pointed out by the Superintendent, or person in charge. It is to be cleared to the width of 24 feet.
2. It is to be formed to the width of 16 feet; all roots, stumps, and stones are to be grubbed out 10 feet in width in the centre, which is to be solidly levelled up, and in dry ground evenly crowned with hard earth to the height of 6 inches in the centre, above the sides of the road. All roots, stumps, vegetable matter, stones, and timber, and other rubbish to be thrown 4 feet back from the edge of the (16 feet) road. All stumps in the sides of the road, that is 3 feet on each side of the grubbing, to be cut down even with the surface of the road when made. No crowning to be done till all the grubbing has been performed and inspected.
3. In moist or loamy ground, as pointed out by the Superintendent or person in charge, the centre of the road is to be crowned to the height of 18 inches above the sides, which are to be formed into continuous water-tables, so as to take off all the water. They may be crooked outside of the 16 feet to avoid stumps or other obstacles. Or where required by the person in charge, a ditch 3 feet wide and 2 feet deep, is to be sunk along the upper side, outside of the 16 feet, in addition to the crowning mentioned in the second clause; the earth from the ditch to be used in evenly crowning the centre, excepting where it is black earth or vegetable matter, which is not to be used in crowning.
4. Culverts, with sufficient discharge drains, are to be made in all hollows where water may at any time pass, or where pointed out by the Superintendent; the water-ways to be at least 15 inches wide, and 10 inches high, in the clear under—greater if required. They are to be made of cedar if it can be had, otherwise of black ash or pine flatted; to be covered by four cross pieces dovetailed into, and securely pinned to the side pieces. The top of the covering to be lower than the road, and well secured by pieces pinned across the ends.
5. Such small bridges as may be required, are to be built of the same description of timber as the culverts throughout; the covering to be of the same dimensions, resting on four stringers, 1 foot in least diameter, supported by, and securely pinned to substantial side-logs, of a height sufficient to give free passage for the water at highest flood; or on abutments of round logs of the same description of timber, laid in tiers of four each way, 10 inches in least diameter, slightly notched upon each other, and securely pinned at the corners. Larger bridges to be built in the same manner and of the same dimensions and descriptions of timber excepting that the stringers for water-ways of 20 feet are to be not less 9 inches broad by 14 deep or round cedar peeled not less than 13 inches thick may be

* NOTE.—Economy is effected by making the crowning only six inches on very dry ground (which merely provides ground levelling) when the nature of the ground and other circumstances admit of such being marked and provided for in contracting, or where work is done by a skillful overseer and a select party which, in difficult ground, is the best way of obtaining the best result from limited funds.