

The report of the Crown Lands Commissioner just published also contains similar information.

Last Session the Legislature passed an Act for the encouragement of Colonization Railways, granting on certain conditions, an annual subsidy to seven different companies incorporated for that purpose; and also an Act for the encouragement and formation of Colonization Societies.

These Societies may also act as Immigration Societies. Their objects are defined as follows:

“1. To aid in promoting the establishment of settlers on Crown lands, to attract emigrants from other countries and to restore to this Province such of its inhabitants as have emigrated;

2. To open, with the leave of the Government, and to aid the Government and Municipalities in opening roads through wild lands of the Crown, or leading thereto;

3. To direct settlers or emigrants towards the localities which the Commissioner of Crown Lands shall, as hereinafter provided, have assigned to and reserved for them;

4. To provide settlers with seed grain, provisions and implements suitable for the clearing and cultivation of land;

5. To aid the department of Agriculture and the department of Crown Lands to diffuse knowledge and information of a nature to extend colonization;

6. To promote colonization and assist settlers, by all means and proceedings which they shall deem desirable to adopt, in conformity with regulations to be approved by the Lieutenant-Governor in Council.

The Government grants assistance to the societies, by according to them a grant equal to their subscriptions up to three hundred dollars, and equal to one half the subscriptions over that amount, up to a further sum of three hundred dollars. As many as three societies may be formed, in each electoral division, but the total amount to be expended by the Government for these societies in each county is not to exceed six hundred dollars.

These societies have, moreover, the right of acquiring property, by bequest or otherwise and of receiving contributions from municipalities and from corporations of all descriptions; they are themselves incorporated for this purpose.

The department of Agriculture and Colonization watches over the organization and working of these societies; and there is every ground for hope, that a certain number of them will take an active part in promoting immigration.

Over and above the grants to these societies, townships, or parts of townships, will be reserved for the establishment of settlers, whom they may send thither; and such settlers will have the preference over all others, whether immigrants or natives of the country, upon the ordinary conditions of the sale and concession of Crown Lands, and to each society a *free* grant will be made of one lot for every ten lots upon which its settlers shall have established themselves.

Other societies for Colonization and Immigration, in addition to the three allowed for each electoral division, may be formed, and they are vested with all the powers of the other societies, but they receive no grant from the Government.

To promote Colonization and Immigration, the Department of Agriculture and Colonization is at present causing to be prepared two pamphlets, one of which will be entitled, “The Settler’s Guide”, and will be intended for native settlers, and distributed in all parts of the Province; the other will be distributed in foreign countries; both will be accompanied with maps.

The Government has under consideration the establishment of agencies in the British Isles and on the continent of Europe, but has not as yet decided whether it will or will not rest satisfied with availing itself of the services of the agents already appointed by the Federal Government.

The Government has obtained from the Legislature, a vote of twelve thousand dollars for purposes connected with Immigration, for the eighteen months to which the budget of the last Session extends.

In addition to the ordinary grants for the exploration of Crown Lands and for surveys, the Legislature at its last Session voted a sum of forty-five thousand dollars for explorations, having for their object the ascertaining and causing to be perfectly known, all the resources of the uncultivated territory of the Province.