

NOVA SCOTIA.—Continued.

The books of the Province do not shew the cost of the Province Building, Government House, Lunatic Asylum, and Penitentiary, nor do any means exist for estimating their value.

Government usually contributes towards building the wharves and piers required along the coast, and advances money for the purpose. The "navigation securities" taken on such occasions, are simply security that the money will be properly spent, not bonds from which any pecuniary return is expected. The only bond taken is, that the land on which the wharves, &c., are built, is made over to the Government.

The Government have for the past year or two been cutting a canal at St. Peters, leading into the Bras d'Or. It is designed to accommodate vessels of from 15 feet to 22 feet 6 inches beam; estimated cost, \$170,000; amount spent, \$11,941.

The Government have built most of the roads in the Province, but they are not regarded as an asset, nor can their cost or value be stated.

The Province owns a steamer, the "Druid," and a schooner, the "Daring;" the former a vessel of some 700 tons, once a blockade runner, the latter a craft of about 70 tons. They are used for the protection of the Fisheries, and for Light-house service.

PRINCE EDWARD ISLAND.

The Public Works of Prince Edward Island are: eight light-houses, (another in course of erection), a Barracks, and a Market House. Value of the whole, \$60,000.

NEWFOUNDLAND.

The Public Works of Newfoundland are: five Court-Houses and Gaols, a Lunatic Asylum, a Post Office, Custom House, an Hospital, a Poor Asylum, some sewerage, a few roads and bridges, and sixteen lighthouses.

PUBLIC LANDS.

CANADA.

At the end of 1865 50,321,837 acres of Public Lands had been surveyed in Canada, of which 24,756,159 were in Upper, and 25,565,678 in Lower Canada. At the same date there had been disposed of by sale or free grant 40,577,697 acres, leaving about 10,000,000 of surveyed acres open for sale and settlement; but surveys still proceed at the rate of about 500,000 acres annually, so that there is still plenty of room and opportunity for all who prefer holding from the Crown to buying from private owners.

A great deal of controversy has been engaged in as to the value of the lands still in the possession of the Crown. The truth seems to be that while the best arable lands in the basins of the chief rivers are already occupied, there is still available an immense area which, if rougher in surface than the peninsula of Canada West, will yet yield fair returns to farming industry, and that the mineral riches which exist in great abundance in these tracts, render them quite as valuable as the fine agricultural tracts which fell to the lot of the backwoodsmen of a generation now passing away.

The Public Lands of Canada are divided into Crown lands, School lands, Clergy lands, and Indian lands. The proceeds of the sale of Crown Lands go into the general revenue; those from the others to special funds created for the support of Schools, Clergy or Indians, and endowed by the Legislature or by the Crown with grants from the Public domain.

They are sold by Agents resident in various districts, for prices ranging from 20 cents per acre upwards; and the list of Crown Land Agents in another part of this *Year Book* shews the number of acres they have for sale, and the exact price at which they can be bought. In some few cases,—chiefly where lots are supposed to contain minerals,—special application has to be made to the Crown Lands Department direct for the right to purchase them, and they are then usually sold at public auction.

In some parts of Canada,—on leading lines of road, which it is desirable on public grounds should be settled with rapidity,—free grants of land are made. This is considered an inducement to poor emigrants from Europe, and in fact several settlements have thus been formed where settlers destitute of means have, within a few years, made themselves comfortable homes, and are now prosperous farmers.

The following statistics relate to all the lands of the Province, whether Crown, School or Clergy lands, and show the progress of surveys and settlement for the past three years:—

	Acres surveyed to December 31st.			Acres disposed of by sale and free grant, to December 31st.		
	1863.	1864.	1865.	1863.	1864.	1865.
Upper Canada.....	24,237,197	24,629,714	24,756,159	20,853,971	21,026,204	21,488,342
Lower Canada.....	24,353,390	25,197,207	25,565,678	13,477,220	13,897,261	17,089,335
Total.....	40,084,587	40,826,921	50,321,837	30,331,191	30,023,465	38,577,677

The Commissioner of Crown Lands has the management of the fisheries and the mineral lands of the Province. For information respecting the latter, consult the appropriate heading.

NEW BRUNSWICK.

The Crown Lands of New Brunswick have never been relied on as a source of revenue, and no systematic efforts have ever been made to dispose of them with rapidity. In 1863 about 7,551,909 acres had been granted, leaving 9,795,451 acres vacant, of which 6,714,198 acres are adapted for cultivation. About 200,000 acres are surveyed, and laid off in lots of 100 acres each.

Government lands are disposed of by auction, at an upset price of 60 cents per acre: 25 per cent is required to be paid down, and the balance in three equal annual instalments. Where the whole of