

Stephenson, Brunell, Macaulay, McLean, Muskoka, Draper, McDougall, Foley, Cardiff, Chandos, Monmouth, Anstruther, Anson, Hindon, Minden, Stanhope, Dungannon, Carlow, Monteagle, Herschel, Wicklow, Mayo, Grattan, Wilberforce, South Algoma, Hagarty, Richards, Sherwood, Alice, Fraser, Petewawa, McKay, Buchanan, Wylie, Rolph, Head, Clarendon, Palmerston, Miller, Korah, Prince, Park and Aweres, in all forty-one townships, comprising from 60 to 80 thousand acres each.

"Parties wishing to settle on the Free Grants in the Muskoka and Parry Sound territory, may proceed by either of the following routes:—

"1st. From Toronto to Barrie or Bell Ewart by the Northern Railway; from thence to the River Severn by steamer: from the River Severn to Gravenhurst, on Lake Muskoka, by stage; from Gravenhurst to Bracebridge, by steamer or by the Muskoka Road, and from Bracebridge to the respective townships by the Muskoka, Paterson, and Parry Sound Roads. In winter, the communication with Bracebridge and Parry Sound is by stage from Barrie. A company is now formed to construct a railway to connect with the Northern, from Barrie to the Muskoka District. The office of C. W. Lount, Esq., Crown Lands Agent for the townships of Watt, Stephenson, Brunell, Macaulay, McLean, Muskoka, and Draper, is at Bracebridge, in the township of Macaulay.

"2nd. To Collingwood from Toronto by the Northern Railway; from Collingwood to Parry Sound by steamer, once a week, every Saturday morning, and from Parry Sound to the respective townships by the Great Northern, Parry Sound, and Nipissing Colonization Roads. A stage runs from Parry Sound to Lake Rosseau, connecting with the steamer.

"The office of John D. Beatty, Esq., Crown Lands Agent for the townships of McDougall, Foley, Humphrey and Cardwell, is at Parry Sound.

"The other four townships of Cardiff, Chandos, Monmouth and Anstruther are reached by way of Peterborough, to which place there is railway communication from the town of Port Hope. From thence, there is a good colonization road to the northern portion of the Free Grant townships. The office of W. Armstrong, Esq., Crown Land Agent for the townships of Cardiff, Chandos, Monmouth and Anstruther, is at Cardiff, in the township of Cardiff.

"It is the intention of the Government to lay off other townships for Free Grant purposes as fast as they may be required in the course of settlement and improvement. Indeed, the probability is that most of the wild lands, as yet unsurveyed between the Ottawa River and the Georgian Bay, will be thus disposed of.

"The Free Grant Lands are open for settlement under the authority of the Free Grant and Homestead Act, which became law Feb. 25th, 1868.

"The following additional lands have recently been opened for settlement under the Free Grant and Homestead Act. The Agent's name is given in each case:—

"The townships of Alice, Fraser, Petewawa, McKay, Buchanan, Wylie, Rolph, and Head, in the County of Renfrew. Applications for location are to be made to James P. Moffatt, Crown Lands Agent, at the Town of Pembroke, in said county.

"The townships of Grattan, Wilberforce, and South Algoma, in the County of Renfrew, and Hagarty, Richards and Sherwood, in the District of Nipissing. Applications for location are to be made to Samuel G. Lynn, Esquire, Crown Lands Agent, at the Village of Eganville, in the said county.

"The townships of Dungannon, Carlow, Monteagle, Herschel, Wicklow and Mayo, in the County of Hastings. Applications for location are to be made to John Robinson Tait, Esq., of York River.

"The townships of Anson and Hindon, in the County of Victoria, and certain lands in the Townships of Minden and Stanhope, in the County of Peterborough. Applications for locations are to be made to Joseph Graham, Esquire, Crown Lands Agent at Bobcageon.

"The following is a brief summary of this Act, as recently amended:—

FREE GRANTS AND HOMESTEADS.

"Cap. 8—Provides for Free Grants and Homesteads. It authorizes the Lieutenant-Governor in Council to appropriate certain lands as free grants to actual settlers, under regulations to be made for that purpose; but such grants are confined to the lands in the Algoma and Nipissing Districts, and the lands between the Ottawa River and Georgian Bay, to the west of a line drawn from a point opposite the south-east angle of the township of Palmerston, north-westerly along the western boundary line of other townships to the Ottawa River, and north of the northern boundaries of Oso, Olden, Kennebec, Kalador, Elzevir, Eadoc, Marmora, Belmont, Dummer, Smith, Ennismore, Somerville, Laxton, Carden, Rome, and the River Severn. No such grant is to be made to a person under 18, or for more than 200 acres. The patent shall not issue for 5 years after location, nor until the locatee has cleared and cultivated 15 acres and built a house thereon fit for habitation, has resided continuously on the lot, clearing at least 2 acres per annum; absence of six months during each year is, however, allowed. Failure to perform settlement duties forfeits the location. * * * * On the death of the locatee, the land vests in his widow during her widowhood, unless she prefers to accept her dower in it. The land cannot be alienated or mortgaged until the patent issues, nor within 20 years of the location, without consent of the wife, if living. Nor will it at any time be liable to be sold under execution for any debt contracted before or during the 20 years after the patent issues, except for a mortgage or pledge given during that time. It may be sold for taxes.

"In order to make a successful settlement upon a free grant, the settler should have at least from £40 to £50 after reaching his location. But it would be an act of wisdom in all such persons, on their arrival in the country to deposit their money in a Savings Bank, where it will draw from 4 to 5 per cent. interest, and go out for a year as agricultural labourers. The experience thus acquired will far more than compensate for the time lost. The settlers are always willing to help new comers. A house, such as is required under the act, could be erected by contract for about £5 stg.; but with the assistance the settler would certainly receive from his neighbours, it might be erected for even less than that. Should it be desired to clear the land by hired labour or by contract, in order to bring it more rapidly into cultivation, the cost would be about £3 stg. per acre. The best season of the year to go on to a