

ice houses, to preserve it in summer. It is probable that this branch of trade will be largely and profitably extended.

In the Eastern Townships the Government owns 920,200 acres of wild land, which it offers at from 50 to 60 cents per acre. Valuable lands are also owned by the British-American Land Company and private proprietors. In places these are held at higher prices than the Government lands, price being, to a great extent, governed by locality and contiguity to towns and villages, and facilities of communication. The average price per acre may be set down at \$1 (4s. 1½d. stg.)

The Eastern Townships constitute one of the most inviting portions of the Province for the settler. They are situated on the south of the St. Lawrence, and enjoy a milder climate than Quebec; also somewhat milder than Montreal. This portion of the country, in its general features, is hilly, and is well watered with rivers, brooks and lakes, affording considerable hydraulic power. Hard wood is everywhere to be met, and, after "clearing, a fertile soil is found, in general friable enough, but in all cases well adapted for the cultivation of cereals and green crops. One of the chief causes of the rapid success which crowns the settler in the Eastern Townships, is that from these high lands, during the first year, he may reap a crop; even the ashes of the trees, burnt to effect a clearing, help, to a great extent, to defray the expenses attendant on doing so." In many parts of the Eastern Townships the farmers have grown wealthy; the roads are generally good, and there are many beautiful towns and villages; the inhabitants, for the most part, are English speaking; farming is carried on in a high state of perfection; and some of the farmers (notably Mr. Cochrane, of Compton) possess not only the best stock in the country, but in the world. The very best specimens that Great Britain has produced have been imported, without reference to expense; and improved.

On the south shore of the Lower St. Lawrence there is still an important tract of good land for settlement, affording favourable conditions. The Government have 1,423,200 acres, divided into farm lots, for sale at the price of 30 cents (1s. 2½d. stg.) per acre. The whole of the south shore, from Quebec to the eastern extremity of Rimouski, for a breadth of ten or fifteen miles, is very fertile, and, for the most part, old and well settled by a French Canadian population. Behind this strip of land comes a chain of high lands unfit for settlement; but behind this chain, and stretching all the way to the U. S. boundary, there is another fertile valley of a length of 200 miles, and from 15 to 40 miles broad. To facilitate the opening of this tract the Government have traced a road of 209 miles long through the centre, called the Taché Road. This is intersected with cross roads connecting with the St. Lawrence settlements. Besides these colonization roads there are the two great military roads, the Metapediatic and the Temiscouata; the former 110 miles in length, connecting the St. Lawrence and the Baie des Chaleurs, and the latter 70 miles in length from Riviere du Loup to New Brunswick.

The character of the timber on the Taché Road is hard wood, which indicates good land, The Government offers free grants along this road. It is believed that when settlement along the line of road is effected, it will soon extend, without any outside stimulus, into the Valley.

All this region has excellent exterior communication by steamboat on the river, and the Grand Trunk to Riviere du Loup, to be continued eastward by the Intercolonial extending to New Brunswick and Nova Scotia.

Five townships have just been surveyed in the Metapediatic Valley, along the line of the Intercolonial Railroad. According to the report of the surveyors the soil is well adapted for cultivation. It is expected that settlers will very soon enter.

The last of the colonization tracts which it is at present our purpose to notice, are those in the district of Gaspé. This is an immense area of 8,613 miles in superficies, forming as it were, a tongue of land east of the Metapediatic Road, and bounded by the River and Gulf of St. Lawrence and the Baie des Chaleurs. It is in great part rocky and unfit for cultivation, but many portions are highly fertile, and we believe it will ere long become the home of many thousands of human beings. Its fishing grounds are said to be the most advantageous in the Dominion. Both sea-weed and fish afford valuable manures for the farmer, and fishing and farming, M. Le Bouthillier, of Percé, has given it in evidence, before a Committee of the Legislative Assembly at Quebec, may be very advantageously prosecuted together. The land bordering on the Baie des Chaleurs, is almost all under cultivation, and at points clearings have been made, which extend many miles into the interior. The Intercolonial Railway will run across the County of Bonaventure, and the works connected with it have already attracted a great number of persons. The Government offers for sale 491,000 acres of land in Gaspé. These are well worthy of the consideration of the settler.

The following is a tabular statement of the Public Lands, in the Province of Quebec,