

CROFTER COLONISATION.

R E P O R T

OF

HER MAJESTY'S COMMISSIONERS  
APPOINTED TO CARRY OUT A SCHEME

OF

COLONISATION IN THE DOMINION  
OF CANADA

OF

CROFTERS AND COTTARS FROM THE  
WESTERN HIGHLANDS AND ISLANDS OF  
SCOTLAND,

WITH APPENDIX AND MAP.

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Presented to both Houses of Parliament by Command of Her Majesty.

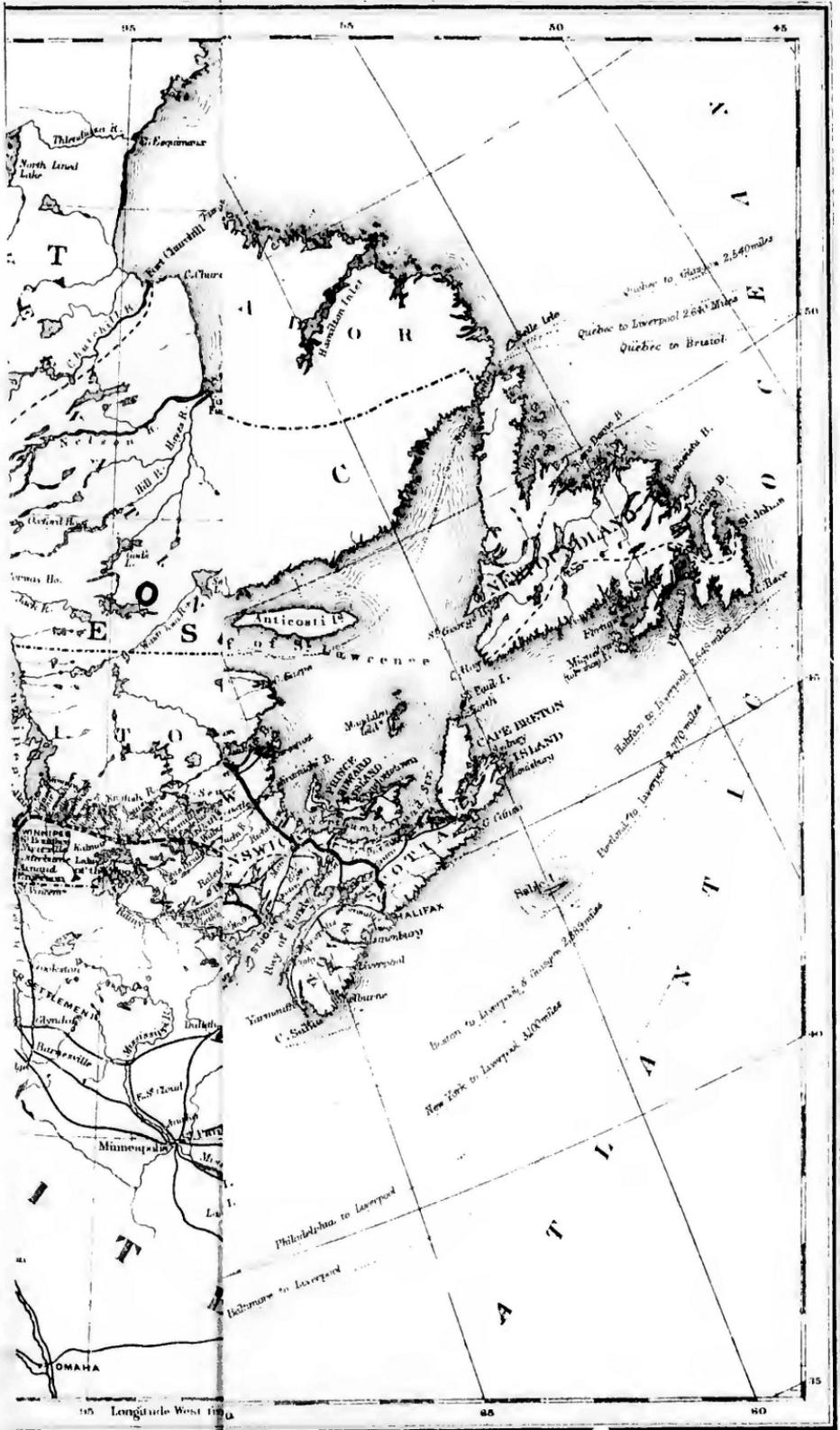
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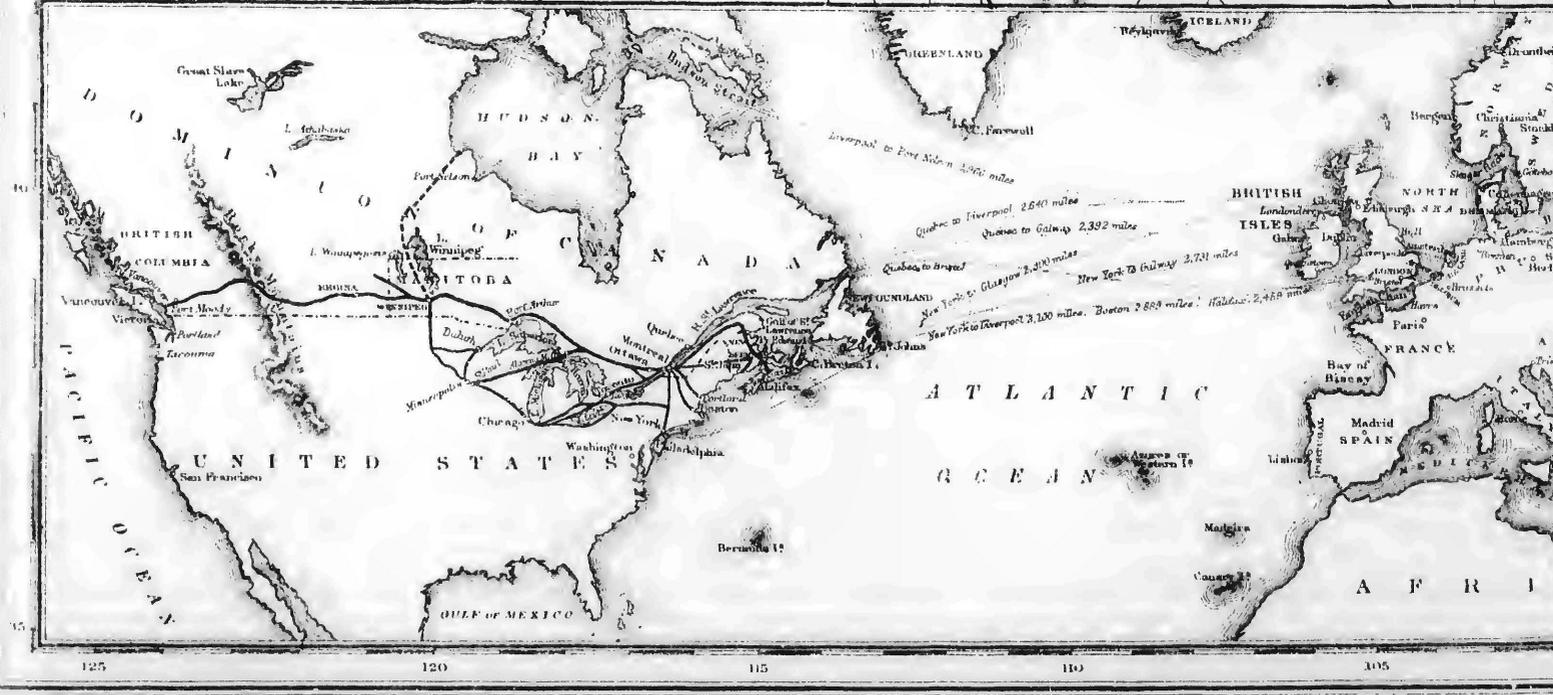
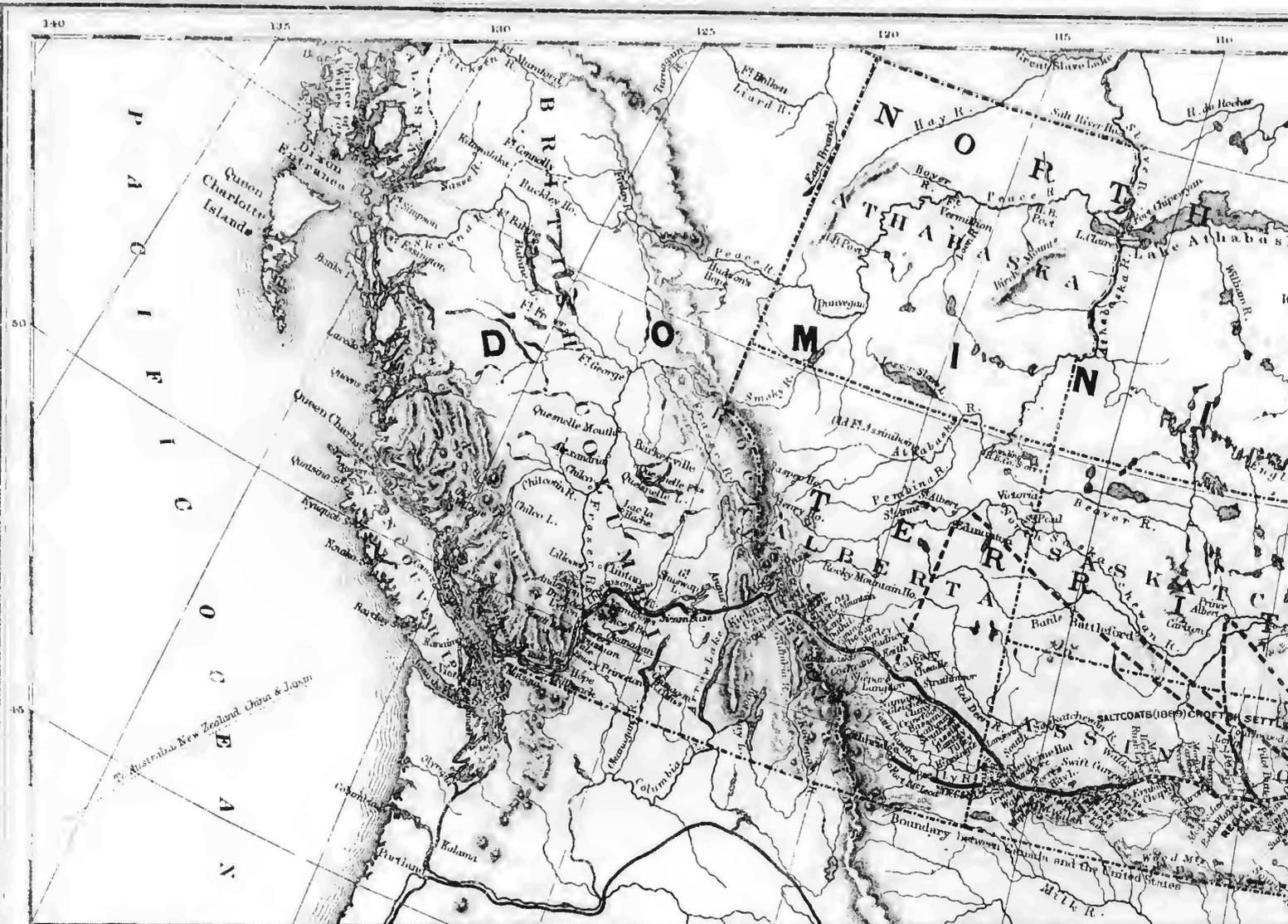


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1890.

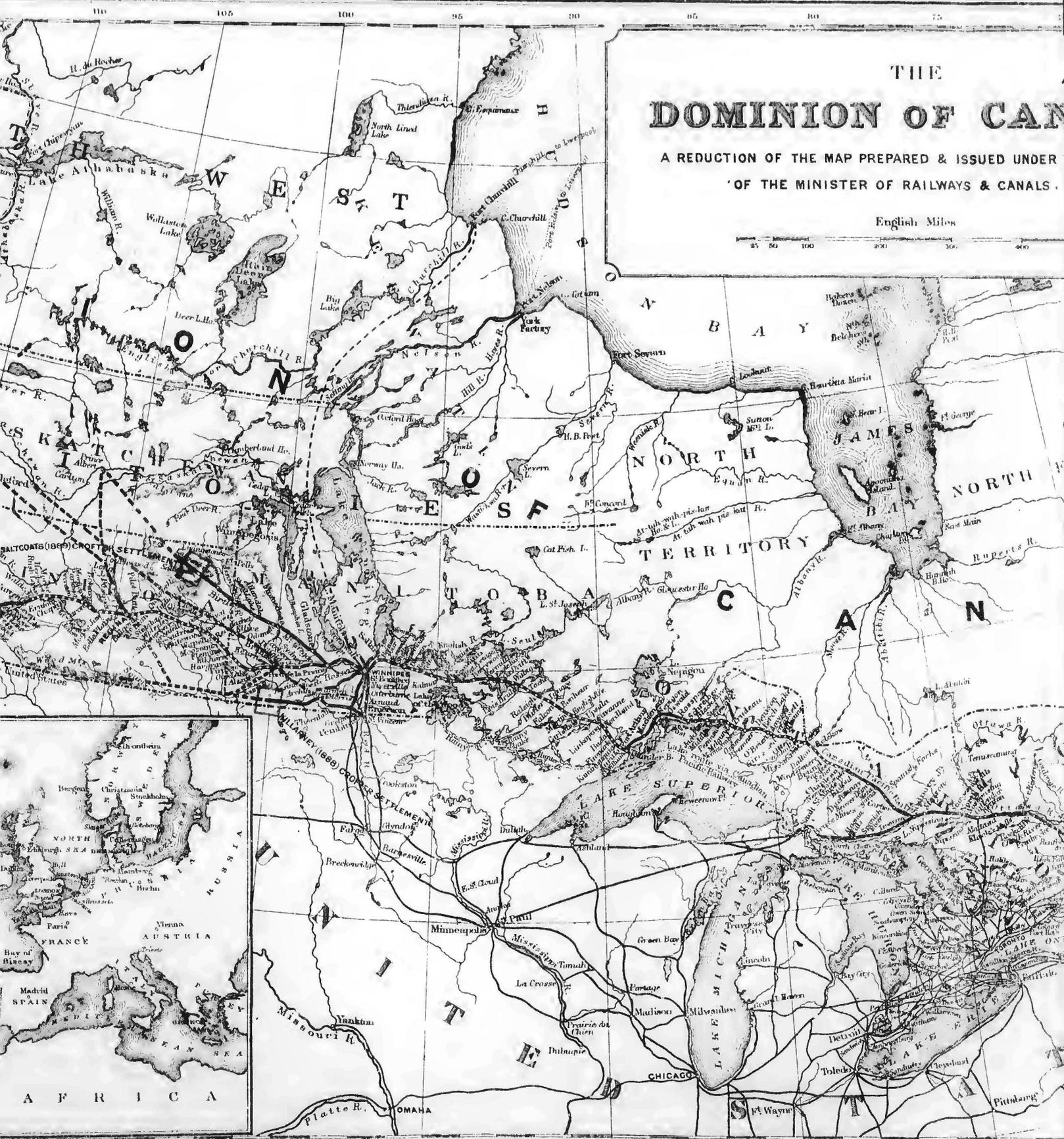
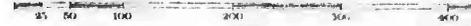




# THE DOMINION OF CANADA

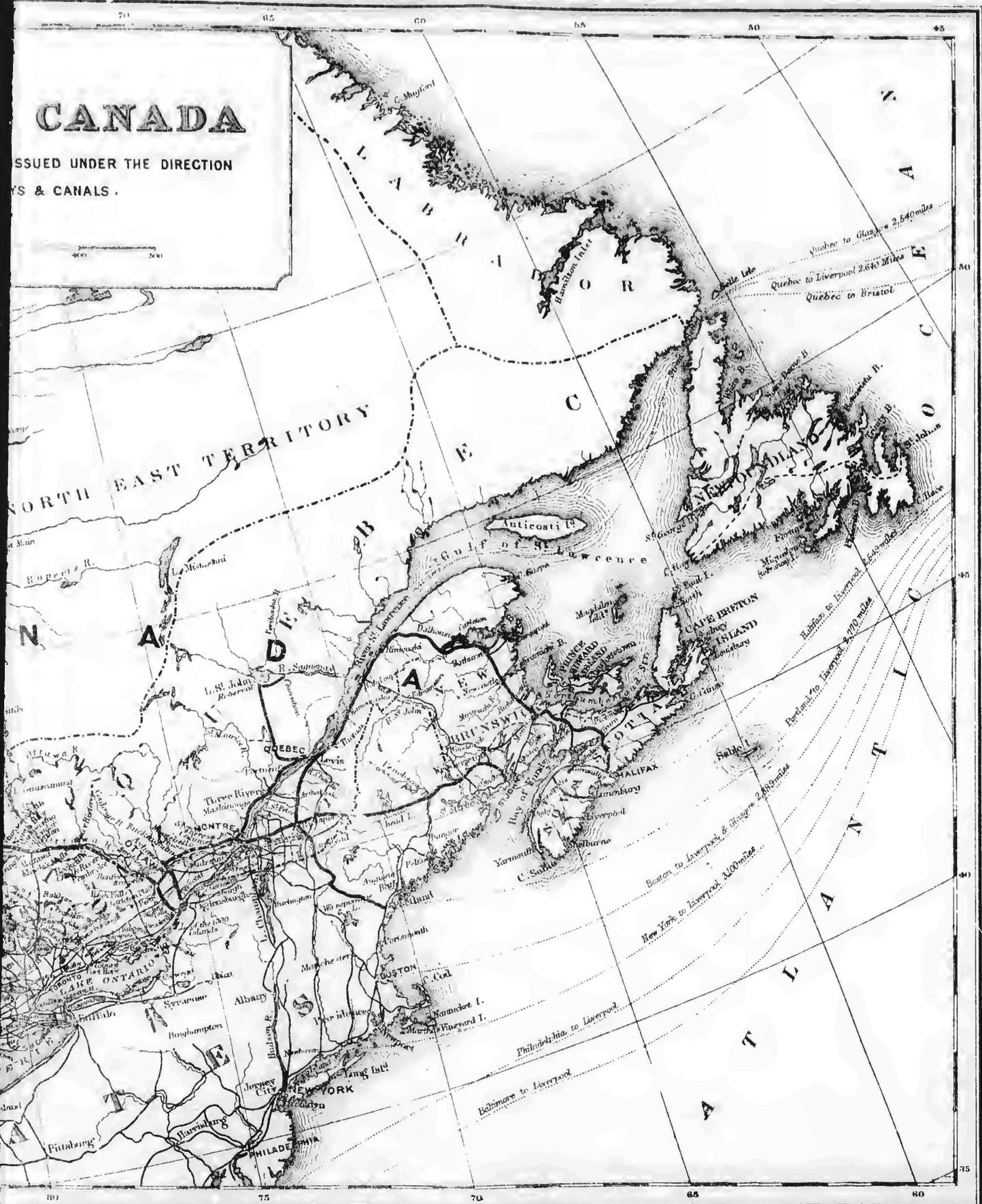
A REDUCTION OF THE MAP PREPARED & ISSUED UNDER  
'OF THE MINISTER OF RAILWAYS & CANALS.

English Miles



# CANADA

ISSUED UNDER THE DIRECTION  
OF THE  
NAVY & CANALS.



## ROYAL WARRANT APPOINTING THE COLONISATION BOARD.

## VICTORIA, R.

VICTORIA, by the Grace of God of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Ireland Queen, Defender of the Faith,

To Our right trusty and entirely beloved Cousin and Councillor Schomberg Henry, Marquis of Lothian, Knight of Our Most Ancient and Most Noble Order of the Thistle, Our Secretary for Scotland (or Our Secretary for Scotland for the time being);

Our trusty and well-beloved Sir Charles Tupper, Baronet, Knight Grand Cross of Our Most Distinguished Order of Saint Michael and Saint George, Companion of Our Most Honourable Order of the Bath, High Commissioner in London for Our Dominion of Canada (or the High Commissioner in London for Our Dominion of Canada for the time being);

Our trusty and well-beloved Sir James King, Baronet, Lord Provost of Our City of Glasgow (or the Lord Provost of Our City of Glasgow for the time being); and

Our trusty and well-beloved Thomas Skinner, Esquire, one of the Directors of the North-West Land Company of Canada; Greeting!

Whereas a fund has been raised for the purpose of carrying out a scheme for the colonisation in Our Dominion of Canada of crofters and cottars from the Western Highlands and Islands of Scotland; And whereas it is expedient to establish a Board of Commissioners for the promotion of the said colonisation scheme, and the administration of the said fund:

Now know ye, that We, reposing great trust and confidence in your fidelity, discretion, and integrity, have constituted and appointed, and by these presents do constitute and appoint you the said Schomberg Henry, Marquis of Lothian (or Our Secretary for Scotland for the time being), you the said Sir Charles Tupper (or the High Commissioner in London for Our Dominion of Canada for the time being), you the said Sir James King (or the Lord Provost of Our city of Glasgow for the time being) and you the said Thomas Skinner, to be Our Commissioners for the purposes aforesaid.

And for the better enabling you to carry out the purposes of this Our Commission, We do hereby authorise and empower you by means of your agents or otherwise howsoever, in such manner as you shall deem most expedient from time to time,

- (1.) To proceed in the selection of families from the said districts, and their settlement in the Dominion of Canada;
- (2.) To provide from the funds at your disposal such advances to the settlers as may be necessary, and to undertake the collection of instalments of capital and interest in repayment of the same;
- (3.) To take and hold mortgages on the lands, and liens on the chattels of the said settlers and to proceed in the recovery of debts;

And generally to do all such things and take all such proceedings, as may be requisite and necessary to enable you to carry out the purposes of this Our Commission.

And We do further by these presents authorise and empower you Our said Commissioners to obtain such clerical or other assistance, and to appoint such agents or other officers as you may from time to time deem requisite and necessary, upon such terms as regards remuneration as may be sanctioned by the Lords Commissioners of Our Treasury.

And Our further will and pleasure is that you Our said Commissioners when and so often as need or occasion shall require, so long as this Our Commission shall continue in force, do report to Us in writing under your hands and seals all and every your several proceedings had by virtue of these presents.

And lastly We do by these presents ordain that this Our Commission shall continue in full force and virtue, and that you Our said Commissioners, or any three of you, shall and may from time to time, at any place or places, proceed in the execution thereof and of every matter and thing therein contained, although the same be not continued from time to time by adjournment.

Given at Our Court at *Saint James's*, the twenty-fourth day of *December*, one thousand eight hundred and eighty-eight, in the fifty-second year of Our reign.

By Her Majesty's Command.  
*Lothian.*

*Note.*—On Sir James King's retirement from the office of Lord Provost of Glasgow, and *ex officio* Commissioner, he was by Royal Warrant, dated 3rd March 1890, appointed an additional member of the Board.

# R E P O R T

OF THE

## COLONISATION BOARD.

TO THE QUEEN'S MOST EXCELLENT MAJESTY.

MAY IT PLEASE YOUR MAJESTY,

WE, the undersigned Commissioners, appointed under Your Majesty's Sign Manual, dated December 24th 1888, for the purpose of carrying out a scheme of Colonisation in the Dominion of Canada of Crofters and Cottars from the Western Highlands and Islands of Scotland, desire humbly to submit to Your Majesty the following Report:—

The first meeting of the Colonisation Board was held on February 7th, 1889. We appointed Mr. J. G. Colmer, C.M.G., our interim secretary, and authorised the engagement of Mr. J. Grant Mackay, who was recommended to us by the Hon. Edgar Dewdney, the minister of the Interior, of Canada, to act as agent of the Board for a period of three months. The appointment of the agent and the terms of his remuneration were subsequently approved by the Treasury.

Previous to the constitution of the Board thirty families had been selected and sent to Canada under the terms of the Crofter and Cottar Colonisation scheme in the early part of 1888, eighteen families from Lewis having sailed from Glasgow in the S.S. "Corean" on the 17th May, and twelve from Harris in the S.S. "Buenos Ayren" on the 2nd June. The number of persons in the thirty families was 183.

After deducting the cost of transit, &c. from Stornoway to Glasgow, and from Glasgow to Winnipeg, the average balance per family available for expenditure and maintenance in Canada, out of the £20, a lyabce, was, in the case of the Lewis families, 68*l.* 10*s.*, and of the Harris families, 62*l.* 10*s.* Owing to the smallness of the balances remaining to the credit of many of the crofters, it was found desirable to advance a further 72*l.*, sufficient security being obtained, in order to provide them with the stock, implements, &c., absolutely necessary to enable them to commence their farming operations.

The settlers went out rather late in the year, and as they did not obtain the full benefit of the summer months, their crops were very small. It became necessary to help them with provisions during a portion of the first winter, and to provide them with seed grain during the spring of 1889, for which purposes a further advance of 100*l.* had to be made. Altogether, therefore, the thirty families have had 1,720*l.* loaned to them, or, on an average, about 157*l.* 6*s.* 8*d.* per family.

The land upon which these families are settled is situated at Killarney in Southern Manitoba. Besides the fertility of the soil and the other advantages of the district, the value of the land is much increased by the fact that the surrounding country is settled by a good class of farmers. The mortgages on the land and chattels, taken from the heads of families and from the younger members of the families who have entered for homesteads were in the first place made out in the name of the Canada North-West Land Company, who acted in the matter for the Secretary for Scotland, the Colonisation Board not being constituted at the time. These mortgages have now been transferred to our Board.

The season of 1889 was not a favourable one in any part of North America, and the crops at Killarney suffered in the same way as those of many other districts. Most of the families secured, however, a sufficient amount of grain for their winter requirements; and it is satisfactory to notice that nearly all of them have from 30 to 50 acres of land ready for crop during the season of 1890. Seed grain has been supplied to them by the Government of Manitoba, and if the season is favourable, their crops will place them in a comfortable position, and, with ordinary good fortune, their success will be assured.

Forty families were selected in the autumn of 1888 for emigration to Canada in 1889, and it was resolved that this number should be increased to 50. Forty-nine families, consisting of 282 persons, sailed from Lewis, Harris, and North Uist on April 1st, embarking on board the S.S. "Scandinavian," at Glasgow, on April 3rd.

The total cost of the conveyance of the party to Glasgow was 16*l.* 15*s.*, or nearly 3*l.* 9*s.* per family; and from Glasgow to Saltecoats, in Canada, 1,560*l.* 12*s.* 6*d.*, or nearly 31*l.* 17*s.* per family. The balance available for expenditure in Canada was 4,150*l.* 12*s.* 6*d.*, equal to 84*l.* 14*s.* per family. The highest amount at the disposal of any one family after deducting these expenses was 104*l.* 4*s.* 6*d.*, and the lowest, 71*l.* 11*s.*

Arrangements were made for the location of the families on land adjacent to Saltecoats, a station on the Manitoba and North-Western Railway, about 261 miles from Winnipeg. On the arrival of the families in Manitoba, they received a cordial welcome from the settlers in the district, and from the officials of the Manitoba and North-Western Railway Company and the Commercial Colonisation Company, our agent being also on the spot.

Various difficulties are reported to have been experienced in the settlement of the families on the lands selected for them, and much valuable time was lost in the early part of the season, not only in getting the houses erected, but in the preparation of the land for such crops as settlers are usually able to obtain in the year of their arrival.

As already mentioned, the season of 1889 was exceptionally disappointing, owing to a small summer rainfall, which added to the difficulties that are invariably encountered by inexperienced settlers; and in almost every case the families were found not to have sufficient clothing to carry them through the winter, and arrangements had to be made to meet this deficiency.

In addition to the 120*l.* per family originally advanced to the settlers at Saltecoats, amounting in all to 5,880*l.*, a further sum of 1,400*l.* had to be transmitted, making the total advances 7,280*l.*, or about 14*l.* 12*s.* per family. Security is being taken for the money advanced to the various settlers in the shape of mortgages upon their holdings, as provided by the Dominion Lands Act, and also upon the stock and implements possessed by the various families.

At the termination of Mr. Grant Mackay's engagement, as agent, it was considered desirable to make another appointment, and Mr. G. B. Borradaile, who has had several years experience in the country, was selected for the post. Mr. Borradaile will reside at Saltecoats for the present, and his time will be divided between the settlements near that place and at Killarney.

It was thought desirable that the interim-secretary should visit Canada and personally inspect the settlements at Killarney and Saltecoats, for the purpose of making a detailed report upon the condition and prospects of the Crofters. We also requested him to make any suggestions to the Board which might occur to him in the light of the experience thus gained. Mr. Colmer accordingly proceeded to Canada last Autumn, and we annex a copy of his report, with appendices.

Reports were published in the course of the winter that distress and destitution prevailed in the settlements, but inquiry has shown that these statements were without foundation, and letters have since been published, both in Canada and in Scotland, from reliable sources, to that effect.

According to recent advices from Killarney and Saltecoats, the seed placed at the disposal of the settlers has been sown, and those members of the families who can be spared will therefore be able to get employment on the railways that are in course of construction, and in any other ways that may offer. The settlement at Saltecoats is said to be generally in a satisfactory

condition, and about 30 of the heads of the families have already gone away to work.

We trust, however, now, that they are fairly settled in their new homes, that the Crofters will, not only for the sake of their own families, but of their relatives and friends in the crofting districts of Scotland who may desire to follow in their footsteps, learn to have greater self-reliance and to husband all the resources they can, in order to insure the ultimate success of this scheme by the repayment of the advances made to them by the State. It is too early to say much as to the progress of the settlers at Saltecoats, but they have been supplied with seed grain by the Government of the Dominion, and there is every reason to believe that in their second year they will make as much progress as the settlers at Killarney.

We would desire to point out that, while circumstances, over which we had little or no control, have caused the cost of transport and settlement to exceed what was at first contemplated, and have retarded, to some extent, the progress of the settlers, there is no reasonable doubt that with the experience that has been gained, future efforts of a similar character might be made less expensive, and more immediately reproductive; and we are hopeful, therefore, that our experience may be of some use to the Select Committee now engaged in inquiring into the general question of colonisation, especially in the event of any further movement of the kind being recommended.

In conclusion, the Board have the pleasure of tendering their thanks to the Honourable Edgar Dewdney, the Minister of the Interior of Canada, and to Mr. H. H. Smith, the Dominion Lands Commissioner at Winnipeg, for their assistance, and also of acknowledging the services rendered by Mr. W. B. Searth, of the Canada North-West Land Company, and Mr. A. F. Eden, of the Manitoba and North-Western Railway Company, and desire to add the expression of their sense of the zeal and ability with which Mr. Colmer has discharged the duties entrusted to him.

All which we humbly submit to Your Majesty's gracious consideration.

(Signed)	LOTHIAN.
"	CHARLES TUPPER.
"	JOHN MUIR.
"	JAMES KING.
"	THOMAS SKINNER.

# REPORT

TO THE

## COLONISATION BOARD

BY

MR. J. G. COLMER, C.M.G.,  
INTERIM SECRETARY

RESPECTING THE

### Position and Prospects of the Crofters who emigrated to Canada in 1888 and 1889.

MY LORD AND GENTLEMEN,

London, February 24th, 1890.

I HAVE the honour to report that, during the late autumn, I visited the settlements at Killarney, Manitoba, and at Saltecoats, in the North-West Territories, organised under the terms of the Crofter and Cottar Colonisation Scheme, which is being administered by the Colonisation Board.

Continuation  
of Colonisa-  
tion Board.

It will be remembered that the Board did not come into existence until the 26th December 1888, and that its first meeting was held on the 7th February 1889.

Killarney  
Settlement  
(1888).

The 20 families settled at Killarney were selected under the direction of the Secretary for Scotland early in 1888, and sailed in two parties from Glasgow on May 17th and June 2nd of that year.

Saltecoat-  
Settlement  
(1889).

Forty families were selected in the autumn of 1888, to proceed to Canada in 1889. A number of these families subsequently, for various reasons, withdrew their applications, and, after the second meeting of the Board, on March 15th, others were selected to fill their places, as well as a few additional families. In all, 49 families sailed from Glasgow on April 3rd, and are now settled at Saltecoats.

Killarney  
Settlement.

Killarney is the name of a station on the south-western branch of the Canadian Pacific Railway, 164 miles from Winnipeg, and is the centre of one of the best farming districts in the province of Manitoba.

Railway  
Settlements.

The settlement is within easy reach of the railway in question, and other fine agricultural lands are in course of construction. These will provide additional facilities for marketing the produce of the farms, and also add to the value of the land.

Land settled  
upon.

The land upon which the families are settled belonged to the Canada North-West Land Company, and, apart from the fertility of the soil and the other advantages of the district, its value is much increased by the fact that the neighbouring country is well settled by a good class of farmers.

It may be mentioned that the land was placed at the disposal of the crofters on the understanding that other lands would be given to the Land Company by the Government, in exchange. I understand this has been done within the last few months.

Reception of  
families in  
Manitoba.

When the families arrived in Manitoba, they were received by the representative of the Canada North-West Land Company, who were good enough to lend their aid, not only in connexion with the selection of the land, but in making the many arrangements necessary for the erection of houses, the purchase of lumber, stock, implements, provisions, &c., for the purpose of enabling them to get to work upon their farms as early as possible.

The families arrived in the country too late in the year to permit of their getting much crop from their land in the first season.	Late arrival of families.
Then, again, they did not, for some cause or another, succeed as well as was expected with the potatoes they planted. It was largely owing to these reasons that additional help had to be given to enable them to get over the first winter—a contingency not contemplated in the preparation of the scheme.	Winter maintenance.
I visited all the families, excepting two. The houses appeared to be warm and comfortable.	Houses.
During the late season the crops suffered by the drought which prevailed all over the continent of North America; but, in the majority of cases, a sufficient quantity of grain was secured to provide the families with flour during the winter.	Partial failure of crops, 1889.
In almost every instance they have succeeded in obtaining a pig or two, as well as some chickens, which, with the produce of their cows, and flour, will probably enable them to get through the winter without assistance from the Board.	Second winter's maintenance.
One of the settlers, John Fraser (aged 52), died during the autumn of 1888. The mortgage the Board holds upon his homestead will be registered, and the patent will not issue to any member of his family, or to anyone else, until the amount of the advance made to the deceased has been repaid. The land taken up by Fraser is of exceptional value, owing to its contiguity to a new railway now under construction.	Deaths in settlement.
Another death occurred in the colony in the same year, viz., Colin Mackenzie (aged 60), the father of John Mackenzie. Colin Mackenzie accompanied his son, and took up a quarter section, or 160 acres of land, giving security upon it to the extent of \$250, representing a portion of the amount advanced to his son beyond the stipulated \$600. His land will be dealt with in the same way as in the case before mentioned.	
I heard of no complaints of an important nature from any of the settlers. The only source of anxiety appeared to be as to the provision of seed-grain in the coming spring.	Complaints.
It was exceedingly gratifying to me to notice the considerable area which the families had, in almost every instance, ploughed and back-sown ready for crop this year. On an average they have from 30 to 50 acres so prepared.	Land ready for cultivation.
If they are able to procure seed-grain, and the coming season is at all favourable, their crops will place them in a very comfortable position, and, with ordinary good fortune, their success should be assured. I took the opportunity of explaining to the settlers the difficulties in the way of the Board providing them with seed-grain, that they had already received an advance much in excess of that promised, and that they were in the same position as ordinary settlers (who had experienced like difficulties in regard to their crops), and must make their own arrangements for seed-grain as their neighbours would have to do.	Seed-grain.
An opportunity, however, offered of my bringing the case to the notice of the Manitoba Government, and I wrote a note to the Premier on the subject. It is not yet certain whether any assistance will be forthcoming from this source, but as other settlers, it is said, will require aid, there is a possibility that something may be done. <sup>22</sup>	Measures taken for seed-grain.
Their live stock is increasing, and should prove a source of income if proper attention is paid to it.	Live stock increasing.
In a few cases, the younger people, who have been earning wages by employment they have secured elsewhere, have invested the money in the purchase of additional live stock, and in paying the heads of the families for preparation of their homesteads.	Additional stock purchased.
The improvements that have been effected on the various farms, and an idea of the present position of the families, are recorded in the memorandum enclosed herewith. (Appendix A.)	Improvements on farms.
I was glad to find that many families were doing well, and others fairly. The percentage of cases where the progress had not been altogether satisfactory was very small.	Progress of settlement.

\* I have since heard that the Manitoba Government has been good enough to arrange to supply the families with the seed-grain they require.

- Money advanced.** In addition to the 120*l.* originally advanced to each of the 30 families, 720*l.* was lent to them on the security of additional homesteads. A further sum, about 400*l.*, had to be expended, during the first winter, to help them with provisions, and with seed-grain in the following spring (for which security was also taken), making a total advance of 1,720*l.*, or, on an average, 157*l. 6s. 6d.* per family.
- Transfer of securities to the Board.** As the families were sent to Canada before the constitution of the Board, the mortgages on the land, and the chattel mortgages, had to be taken in the name of the Canada North-West Land Company. I arranged in Manitoba for the securities to be transferred to the Colonisation Board, and this is in course of being done. It will probably necessitate an expenditure of about 40*l.* This transfer necessarily involves a considerable amount of legal work, as will be readily understood, but I thought it better that it should be done. The amount named is considered to be an exceedingly favourable one in the circumstances. The charge includes not only the legal expenses, but the cost of registering the various documents, which are about 70 in number.
- Advance by Canada North-West Land Company.** In addition to the advances made by the Board, the Canada North-West Land Company expended several hundreds of dollars of its own money, in connexion with the families, for which it is, by arrangement with the Board, taking security.
- Salteoats Settlement (1889).** Salteoats is situated on the Manitoba and North-Western Railway, about 205 miles from Portage la Prairie, or 261 miles from Winnipeg.
- Suitability of district.** The district is not so populous as that in the neighbourhood of Killarney, as it has only been recently opened up, but the soil is said to be good, and there is an abundance of wood and water, which makes it especially valuable for settlement.
- Arrival of party.** After a somewhat tedious journey, the 49 families arrived at Salteoats about April 24th. They were received by the agent of the Board (appointed after its first meeting), who had the advantage of the co-operation and assistance of the officials of the railway company.
- Delay in settling party on land.** From one cause and another, considerable difficulty was experienced in getting the families settled upon their land. Some would not take the homesteads allotted to them, and selected other locations. In some instances they wanted to go back again to the rejected lands, which had in the meantime, in more than one case, been taken up by another family.
- Consequence of delay.** Consequently much valuable time was lost, not only in getting the houses erected, but in the preparation of the land for such a crop as it is possible for a settler to obtain in the first year.
- Some unable to go out to work.** The backward state of their preparations for the winter, and for this year's work, made it difficult for them to take up the employment they could have obtained in the neighbourhood, as early as they might have done, in connexion with the extension of the Manitoba and North-Western Railway. This is to be regretted, as it would have placed them in possession of money, not only to help them through the winter, but to provide additional clothing for their families.
- Improvements in farms.** I visited each of the families, and a copy of my notes will be found annexed. (Appendix B.)
- Progress of settlement.** It is too early to say much as to the progress of these settlers, but there is every reason to believe that, in their second year in the country, they will make as much progress as those at Killarney.
- Families badly supplied with clothing & necessaries taken.** It was very evident that the families were poorly supplied with clothing, and that it would be necessary to assist them in this respect during the winter. I therefore requested Mr. Borradale, the agent of the Board, to obtain what was absolutely necessary in the meantime, to guard against any possible contingencies; and also took steps privately to secure a collection of clothing in Winnipeg. I am glad to say that through the kindness of Mr. Search, the Land Commissioner of the Canada North-West Land Company, and Mr. Eden, the Land Commissioner of the Manitoba and North-Western Railway Company, and a number of ladies and gentlemen in Winnipeg, a good supply was obtained, which obviated the necessity of spending, for this purpose, as would otherwise have been imperative, a considerable portion of the small funds remaining at the disposal of the Board.

Rather late in the season, and during my visit, a few of the heads of the families, and some of the young men at home, were induced to go to work upon the railway—a contract for some extra earthwork having been arranged especially for the purpose of giving them employment—but with a few exceptions, they did not earn as much money as they might have done.

Outside work done by Crofters.

Two families have left the settlement and gone, one to Killarney and the other to Wapella. Steps have been taken, however, to get proper security for the small amounts—principally passage money—advanced to them.

Families gone away.

Alexander McDonald (aged 40) died shortly after his arrival in Canada. His wife is carrying on the farm, with the assistance of the neighbours, and will assume the responsibility of the mortgage given by her husband.

Deaths in settlement.

Another death took place in the settlement on January 17, 1890—Donald McKay (aged 37)—heart disease being the cause. His wife will carry on the farm and take over the mortgage.

Certain circumstances prevailed in 1889 of an exceptional nature which were calculated to add to the difficulties invariably experienced in the first year by inexperienced settlers.

Exceptional season, 1889.

The season was an unusually dry one, and for this reason, in conjunction with their lack of knowledge of agricultural work as carried on in Canada, the families did not secure any return from the oats and potatoes they sowed, and had to be assisted during the present winter.

Drought.

Hay was very scarce, and the settlers had to go many miles to get a sufficient quantity of winter feed for their stock. In ordinary years they would have been able to procure sufficient at their own doors.

Scarcity of hay.

The difficulty of procuring water was also much increased, and their wells had to be sunk to a greater depth than usual. Most of them, however, have a good supply of water, and the depth of the wells will be an advantage, ensuring a good supply even in the driest of seasons.

Scarcity of water.

Several complaints were made to me, but they were more or less of an unimportant nature, relating to the quality of the provisions, to the cattle supplied to them, to the prices charged, and other similar matters.

Complaints.

I inquired carefully into the whole of the complaints, and after the fullest consideration, gave the agent of the Board such instructions as I deemed necessary for their settlement, in a manner satisfactory to the crofters, where the circumstances seemed to justify it.

Action.

Seed-grain will have to be supplied to the settlers at Saltcoats in the coming spring,\* and, although the area they will have ready for crop is small, I am hopeful, if the season turns out well, that they will have enough grain to carry them through the winter, and for seeding the largely increased area which it is to be hoped they will, like their Killarney neighbours, have prepared for the season of 1891.

Seed-grain.

In addition to the £20/ per family originally advanced to the settlers at Saltcoats, amounting in all to 5,880/., a further sum of 1,400/., has been transmitted, making the total advances 7,280/., or about 148/ 12s. per family.

Money advanced.

I was not able to get the liens and chattel mortgages taken before leaving Manitoba. One or two legal questions were raised, but the legal adviser to the Board happened to be away, and I could not see him. Mr. H. H. Smith, the Dominion Lands Commissioner, however, promised to see Mr. Stewart Tupper on his return, and stated that, as soon as the questions were disposed of, he would send out one of the land agents to Saltcoats specially, in order that the securities might be taken at the earliest possible opportunity.

Liens and chattel mortgages.

After the Board was constituted, at its first meeting, in February 1889, an agent was appointed, the approval of the Treasury being subsequently given, for a period of three months, to look after its interests, to prepare for the crofters, and to give them the benefit of his advice and counsel.

Appointment of agent, temporarily.

Mr. Grant Mackay was the gentleman nominated. At the end of his temporary engagement, however, it was considered advisable to replace him by a younger man, and, on the suggestion of Sir Charles Tupper, Mr. G. B. Borradaile was appointed, Treasury sanction having been obtained.

New appointment.

\* The Dominion Government has arranged to supply the Saltcoats settlement with seed-grain.

New agent.	Mr. Borradaile has had considerable experience in different parts of the country, in the Dominion Lands Department, and in other ways, and was highly recommended to Sir Charles Tupper as being in every way suited and qualified for the position. Mr. Borradaile's salary is \$1,000 per annum, with a small allowance for the keep of a horse, the purchase of which was sanctioned by the Board, and approved by the Treasury.
Residence of agent.	The agent will reside in Saulteats for the present, and his time will be divided between the settlements near that place and at Killarney.
Duties.	His duties will consist in looking after the interests of the Board; in giving the crofters as much supervision as may be necessary, and such counsel as his experience may suggest from time to time; and in collecting the instalments of the loans from the crofters as they become due.
Accounts of Board	Mr. Borradaile will keep the accounts of the Board in Manitoba and the North-West, and will also transmit periodical reports as to the position and progress of the two settlements.
Expenses in Canada	The annual expense connected with the representation of the Board will be comparatively small, consisting of the agent's salary, contribution towards office rent, stationery, postages, and horse feed.
No expenses in Great Britain	No expenses have been incurred in Great Britain, excepting the salary and traveling expenses of the gentleman (Mr. Malcolm McNeil) who selected the families for emigration.
Balance of funds on hand	There was a balance of over \$2,000 at the credit of the Board in the middle of November last. There was still \$900 remaining on the 4th instant. From \$200 to \$300 of this amount may be required to provide oxen for those families who are without these animals at the present time, owing to deaths, and to the oxen, in some cases, having been returned as unfit for work.
Extra funds	This leaves a balance which may, perhaps, be sufficient to carry the families on to the end of March. As, however, they will not be able to gather any crop until July or August, and as the possibility of their being able to get credit is doubtful, it is desirable that the Board should have at its disposal a reserve fund to help the families with provisions if the necessity for doing so should arise.
Some of the Crofters	Unless this is done, difficulties may be experienced and complaints made, which it is desirable should be avoided if possible. Arrangements have already been made with the view of securing work for such members of the families as can be spared in the spring, and I received, on February 7th, the following telegram from Mr. E. T. Galt, the manager of the North-West Coal and Navigation Company, whose line is to be extended in the course of the present season:—"Will help you about crofters as soon as construction commences."* There is every indication of a good demand for labor in the country this year.
Mr. Borradaile	Mr. Borradaile understands the necessity of utilising every opportunity that may offer in the different parts of the country, to enable such members of the families as can be spared to get outside work and to earn wages.
Before visiting Killarney and Saulteats	Before visiting Killarney and Saulteats, I discussed the working of the scheme fully with the Hon. Edgar Dewdney, the Minister of the Interior of Canada. Mr. Dewdney was fully impressed with the importance of the experiment which is now under trial, and expressed his readiness to co-operate in every possible way with the Board in bringing it to a successful issue.
Interview with the Minister of Justice	I also discussed, when in Ottawa, with the proper authorities, various questions that had arisen with regard to the liens and chattel mortgages, and disposed of them in a satisfactory way.
Interview with Mr. H. H. Smith	While in Winnipeg I had several conversations with Mr. H. H. Smith, the Commissioner of Dominion Lands, with regard to the settlements. Mr. Smith rendered me every assistance in connexion with my inquiries, and was also of much service to me in dealing with the various difficulties that arose.
Families selected	Owing to the industrial conditions prevailing in the districts from which they came, the heads of the families sent out, had, in most of the cases, been essentially fishermen, and had but an imperfect knowledge of agriculture, or of the care of stock.

\* Taken from the following telegram, February 21st:—"Taking 42 crofters now; more in a few days."

In these respects, however, they are improving, and will, no doubt, in time, become capable agriculturists. They have the advantage of the example of the practical farmers settled in their neighbourhood.

If any further extension of the scheme is contemplated, the basis upon which the families have been selected will require to be re-considered.

Selection of families in future.

As far as possible, the families selected should consist of the father and mother (not to exceed from 40 to 50 years of age), and four or five children, of whom, at least, two should be over 14, capable of aiding their parents by work on the homestead, and by securing outside employment. Their wages, in such cases, would be available for the joint use of the family, for provisions and clothes, in obtaining extra stock, and in many other ways.

Strength of families.

It must be obvious that an arrangement of this kind would largely help the success of any colonisation scheme.

The experience that has been gained in connexion with the experiments has been most valuable, and has shown clearly in what manner the scheme requires to be amended in order to increase its elements of success.

Experience obtained.

The selection of the families has already been referred to. In this connexion, it may be mentioned that no families should be accepted which have not a sufficient supply of clothing to carry them through the first winter. This is an important matter, in view of the climate, and considerable expense will be saved if the precaution mentioned is taken.

Families selected to have sufficient clothing.

It may be possible in the future to make arrangements for the direct conveyance of the families from the parts of the United Kingdom from which they might be taken to Canada. This would not only be convenient, but effect a saving in expenses.

Direct conveyance to Canada in future.

The families should start not later than the middle of March.

I discussed the question of the selection of the land for any future emigrants with some of the best authorities in the country. There seemed to be a consensus of opinion as the result of experience in favour of the reservation of suitable land the year before the departure of the assisted families and of the preparation of a few acres on each homestead to enable them immediately on their arrival, to put in their crops, and thus ensure some return in the first year of their settlement.

Date of departure.  
Preparation of land for settlers.

If they are left to prepare the land themselves, and to sow on the rough breaking, a crop is by no means certain, and the contingency of assistance during the winter is always possible to arise.

On the other hand, however, it is considered to have been demonstrated, that if a few acres are prepared in the previous year, there is a much better prospect of a crop being secured, owing to the soil being in better condition, and it would leave the heads of families and some of the younger people free to look for work outside their homesteads, and to earn wages in the summer and autumn.

The families might also be employed in preparing land for any families expected in the following season, for which they would be paid.

It would be desirable also to make different arrangements in the future for the purchase of the lumber for the houses, the live stock, implements, &c. than those hitherto adopted.

Purchase of stock, implements, &c.

It will be readily understood that the question of housing the people is a very important one, not only because of the necessity of warmth during the winter, but also on the score of expense.

The houses for the Saltecoats and Killarney families have been erected in an inexpensive way.

Houses.

In the case of the Saltecoats settlers, inexpensive frame houses, at a cost of from \$48 to \$75, of one or two stories, according to the size of the families, have been put up with the assistance of a carpenter. They were sufficiently warm as a shelter for the summer months, and the crofters were left to make them comfortable for the winter in whatever way they chose.

As already stated, the houses in both settlements were, at the time of my visit, all more or less in a state of forward preparation for the winter, and were calculated to withstand any weather that might be experienced.

My attention was directed to a class of house which the German-speaking settlers from Russia erect. An area of ground of the size of the house is dug out to a depth of from five to six feet, a portion of it still deeper to serve as a cellar. A double slanting roof is erected over this, the centre of which is from 10 to 12 feet in height from the floor. The roof is formed of poles, over which clay and sods are placed. A window is fixed in the gable at one end and a door at the other. The walls and floors are coated with clay which speedily hardens, and makes a firm and dry covering. The Russians also construct a stove for heating and cooking purposes, in clay, which answers admirably all their requirements, and is most economical in fuel.

A house of this kind is perfectly warm, contains two comfortable airy rooms, and is quite sufficient for the first few years, until the families are able to erect frame houses or log houses, as the Russians invariably do eventually.

The cost of the house is not more than a third, or one-half, of even the inexpensive structures that have been put up for the crofters.

The crofters would not, however, take to these houses, although a sample one was constructed for their inspection, the principal objection being that they are partly underground.

120*l.* insufficient.

It was soon seen, in the working of the experiment, that the amount of 120*l.* would not be sufficient to supply each family with the outfit, considered more or less indispensable, to enable them to start on their own account.

Partnerships undesirable.

A system of partnership was therefore arranged, in which a yoke of oxen and a wagon were to be used jointly by two families. This, however, in experience, has not been found to work well, and in the end the partnership in almost every instance, had to be dissolved, and each family given a full outfit.

Delay in settlement of families.

In any future cases, steps will have to be taken to avoid delay in the settlement of the families upon homesteads.

At Saltecoats, for instance, in some cases, as already explained, two or three months were lost by the indecision of the crofters in choosing the land upon which they would settle. This led to the loss of much valuable time at a critical period of the year.

Families must, in future, sign agreement.

Families should in future be made to sign an agreement before they start, explaining exactly what they are to receive, and what is expected of them, and one of the stipulations should certainly be that they must settle on the land chosen for them, care being taken, of course, that it is in every way suited for agriculture.

Shelter for parties on arrival.

It is also shown to be desirable that more extensive arrangements should be made in future for shelter for the families, as soon as they arrive at their destinations, and until they are properly settled upon the land. The erection of a large rough shed prior to the arrival of the people would meet the case, and the timber used in its construction would subsequently be available for other purposes.

Supply of food to families

The question of the supply of food to the families, and of the length of time it should be continued, is one of some difficulty. Both at Saltecoats and at Killarney, the families have had to be maintained, not only during the summer months, but also during the first winter, a contingency which was never contemplated in the scheme.

In the future, should any further colonisation be decided upon, the better plan would probably be to open a credit in favour of each of the families at one of the stores on their arrival, of from 70 to 90 dollars, with the understanding that they could spend the money as they wished, but that no more than 10 dollars per family should be drawn in any one month. They would have to supplement this amount by their own earnings and the produce of their crops, as previously suggested.

I deem this specially important, as, under any other arrangement, the people seem apt to get the impression that they will be fed as long as they demand support, and the feelings of self-reliance and independence, which are so necessary in all these cases, are not encouraged.

If the families understand that they are in direct communication with the storekeeper, and have not to rely upon the Board to a greater extent than that named, it must be evident that they are more likely to look after themselves.

The more they are helped the less independent they are apt to become, and until they realise that they must rely upon their own efforts are not likely to make as much progress as in other circumstances.

The result of my investigation is to confirm the opinion already expressed by Sir Charles Tupper, after inquiry into the matter on the spot, that the amount of \$600 hitherto advanced to these settlers is insufficient for the purpose of giving them a fair start.

1207. not sufficient to start families.

Both at Killarney and Saltecoats, this amount has had to be increased, and the same thing may be said of almost every family of crofters that has in years past been assisted to emigrate under the provisions of the Dominion Lands Act.

Opinions differ as to the amount that is absolutely necessary, but, so far as I could ascertain, the general opinion seemed to be that while in many cases, where the best classes of settlers are concerned, \$600 might be sufficient, the limit for inexperienced families similar to the crofters, should be increased from \$600 to \$900.

Suggested amount be increased to \$900.

This would enable each family to have a complete outfit, and would permit of two or three cows being given to them instead of one, as well as a pig or two, a couple of sheep, and some poultry.

What the larger sum would provide.

It would also provide for the breaking of the land in advance of their arrival, and enable a gun to be given to each family, which would be of much use in providing additional food, small game being plentiful in the season.

The provision of the larger amount would make the families practically self-supporting from the start.

In many cases it might not be necessary to spend the whole \$900, but it should certainly be available.

The additional cows would not only provide the families with milk, butter, and cheese, but they should have a considerable quantity for sale, either in the neighbouring towns or villages, or to the cheese factories or creameries which would at once be established if a proper supply of milk could be assured in any district. In that way the families would all the time be adding to their resources.

The chickens and pigs would also be useful to them for food and for sale, and in conjunction with the proceeds of the farms and dairies the settlers should, as already stated, be self-supporting almost entirely from the start.

Most of the crofter families are able to spin, and have wheels, and could make good use of the wool the sheep would provide.

It will be much more satisfactory to have a limit in the future that is not likely to be exceeded than the present one of \$600, which has been exceeded in almost every instance, and leads the persons assisted to believe that help will be extended to them to an indefinite extent.

The security for \$900 would even be better than for \$600.

Security.

A mortgage would be taken on the homestead (160 acres of land) of the head of the family for \$600, and a chattel mortgage upon the moveables for the whole of the money actually expended upon the farm.

An additional mortgage for any expenditure above \$600 would be taken on the homestead that might be entered for by any younger member of the family, eligible under the Dominion Lands Act. This should form the subject of agreement when the selection of the family was made.

The settlers at Killarney already have school facilities for their children. School districts will probably be arranged and school houses erected for those at Saltecoats in the course of the present year.

School for children.

In any future arrangement it would be better for everybody concerned that the repayments should be made on a graduated basis rather than in equal payments over a certain number of years.

Repayments.

It will be seen from my remarks that many difficulties have been experienced.

But notwithstanding the disadvantages mentioned, I believe that the families will, so far as I can judge, succeed in their undertakings. They are becoming accustomed to the country, and are doing well on their farms. The progress of Canada is more or less a record of successful colonisation. The farmers have started with but little capital, and have become successful and prosperous, and I can see no reason whatever why the same measure of success should not attend the families assisted by the Board.

Confidence in future of settlements expressed.

Other settle-  
ments.

They have started with greater advantages than the settlers previously sent out from Scotland have had. Upon the whole the latter appear to be doing fairly well, although some of them are behind with their repayments. It must be borne in mind, however, that the settlers of 1883-4, assisted by Lady Gordon Cathcart and others, had to pay much higher prices for everything than those which have prevailed during the last two years, and were not, therefore, in a position to make such a fair start as the settlers sent out by the Board.

Then, again, they have not had the most favourable seasons during the last few years. Still, they are all making fair progress, they are self-sustaining, they have a considerable area of land under crop, and one or two of them have already repaid their advances in full, while others have commenced to repay.

In any case, the land upon which they settled, their stock and implements, are of far greater value than their advances, showing that the security is ample in every way.

Success of  
continental  
settlers.

I am strengthened in my belief that colonisation, especially with the experience that has now been gained, can be carried out successfully to the advantage of the settler, and with the certainty of the return of principal and interest, by the manner in which the settlers from the Continent in different parts of Manitoba and the North-West are succeeding.

These settlers from Germany, Scandinavia, Hungary, Roumania, Iceland, &c., generally possess a little money of their own, but, in many cases, they have received small advances from the Canadian Pacific Railway Company, or from other sources.

They have made such progress that they may fairly be classed among the most successful settlers of the country.

They all have good houses, a fair area of land under cultivation, their stock is increasing year by year, and they are contented and prosperous.

In one settlement they are already beginning to refund the money advanced to them, although the instalments are not actually due.

It is true that they work harder, and seem to require less food than many other classes of settlers, but even making allowances in this respect, I feel justified in expressing the hope that the settlers sent out under the auspices of the Board will, with the diligence and industry they are now showing, with good seasons, and with the additional advances they have had, be in a position to carry out the agreements into which they have entered.

It must be borne in mind, in connexion with this matter, that the colonisation, in the terms of the scheme that is being administered by the Colonisation Board, is in the nature of an experiment. The experience that has been gained is, however, of a most valuable kind, and I am quite sure that it will enable any future effort in the direction of colonisation to be handled with probably less expense, and in a manner to render it more immediately reproductive, than has hitherto been found possible.

Conclusion.

In concluding this report I beg to state that I am under considerable obligations to the Hon. Edgar Dewdney, the Minister of the Interior of Canada, and to Mr. H. H. Smith, the Dominion Lands Commissioner in Winnipeg, for the assistance and co-operation they extended to me in connexion with my visit.

The same remarks apply to Mr. W. B. Scarth, the Land Commissioner of the Canada North-West Land Company, and to Mr. A. F. Eden, the Land Commissioner of the Manitoba and North-Western Railway Company. Both these gentlemen devoted much time and trouble to assist me in my inquiries at Killarney and at Saltcoats respectively.

I may say also that Mr. Caldwell Ashworth, the manager of the Bank of Montreal in London, has rendered me valuable aid in facilitating the remittance of funds to Winnipeg on several occasions.

I have, &c.

To the Most Hon. the Marquis of Lothian, K.T. J. G. COLMER.  
The Hon. Sir Charles Tupper, Bart., G.C.M.G., C.B.  
The Lord Provost of Glasgow.  
Sir James King, Bart.  
Thomas Skinner, Esq.

## CROFTER AND COTTAR COLONISATION SCHEME.

## APPENDIX.

Notes on Settlement of Crofters at Killarney, Manitoba (Oct. and Nov. 1889).

## No. 1.—WILLIAM McLEOD.

*House*.—14 by 16. Double boarded, and packed between with soil, &c. Has built small log addition.

*Stable*.—Log and turf stable.

*Ploughing, &c.*—40 acres ready for crop.

No well.

*Improvements*, as above, valued at \$245.

*Stock*.—One yoke of oxen, one cow, one yearling, one calf, two pigs, chickens.

*Crop*, 1889.—50 bushels wheat from 8 acres, 14 bags potatoes.

*Remarks*.—Malcolm McIver away north of Manitou, engaged for six months at \$20.00 per month and board. McLeod from home when we called. Information given by Mr. R. Smith. Nothing done on McIver's (brother) land yet.

## No. 2.—DONALD McDONALD.

*House*.—14 by 16. Double boarded, and packed between with soil, &c. Has built small log addition, 8 by 14.

*Stable*.—Log and turf stable.

*Ploughing, &c.*—8 or 10 acres fenced in for pasturage. 40 acres ready for crop.

*Well*.—20 feet, very little water.

*Improvements*, as above, valued at \$260.

*Stock*.—Yoke of oxen, one cow, one yearling, one calf, four pigs, 20 chickens.

*Remarks*.—Yoke of oxen killed by lightning on 1st July. Had them insured for \$65. Bought another yoke for \$125, balance payable next year. Samuel Graham (brother-in-law) sent him \$20 when he lost oxen; he is working in a saw mill in Winnipeg. There are 6 acres broken on Samuel Graham's homestead. Mary McDonald (sister) in Manitou earning \$10 per month.

## No. 4.—JOHN MCKAY.

*House*.—14 by 16. Double boarded, and packed between with soil, &c. Double-boarded roof with tar paper. Has built log addition about 10 by 16.

*Stable*.—Built of poles with turf walls and roof.

*Ploughing, &c.*—40 acres ready for crop.

*Well*.—15 feet deep, no water.

*Improvements*, as above, valued at \$240.

*Stock*.—One yoke of oxen, one cow, one yearling, one calf, two pigs, 10 chickens.

*Crop*, 1889.—15 tons hay, 23 bushels wheat from 10 acres. Sowed seven bushels potatoes and only reaped five bushels.

*Remarks*.—Seed-grain. Says he does not know where it is coming from. He is entirely without help (has a wife, and one child three years old) and cannot go out to work.

## No. 5.—NORMAN GRAHAM.

*House*.—14 by 16. Double boarded and packed with dirt, &c. Has built small log addition, 8 by 14.

*Stable*.—Log and turf stable.

*Ploughing*.—36 acres ready for crop.

Has two wells but no water.

*Improvements*, as above, valued at \$230.

\* Note.—"Value of Improvements" covers the house, stable, well, and ploughing. It does not include the value of the land, stock, and crop.

*Stock*.—One yoke of oxen, one cow, one yearling, one calf, 20 chickens.

*Crop*, 1889.—55 bushels wheat from 11 acres, 50 bushels potatoes, nine loads hay.

*Remarks*.—Wm. McLeod (cousin) who is at Rat Portage in Lumber Camp, paid him \$15 for six acres breaking. 7 acres ploughed on this homestead. Isabella Morrison (cousin) away at Winnipeg in service.

No. 6.—JOHN NICHOLSON.

*House*.—14 by 16 feet. Double boarded and packed between with clay soil, &c. Double boarded roof with tar paper.

*Stable*.—Made with logs with turf walls around.

*Ploughing, &c.*—Has 60 acres ready for crop next year.

Dug two wells but has no water.

*Improvements*, as above, valued at \$265.

*Stock*.—One yoke of oxen, one cow, one yearling heifer, one calf, two pigs.

*Crop*, 1889.—25 bushels wheat from  $\frac{1}{2}$  acres. Did not cut the whole of crop of 11 acres. Had 41 bushels potatoes from  $1\frac{1}{2}$  acres. Has 18 tons of hay.

*Remarks*.—John McLean (brother) (alias Kenneth Nicholson) been away working for two months at \$25 per month and board. 10 acres ploughed on his homestead and house erected value \$50. Murdo McLeod (partner) away permanently working at his trade, shoemaker. Nothing done on his land.

No. 7.—JOHN CAMPBELL.

*House*.—14 by 16. Double boarded, packed between with clay, &c. Double boarded roof and tar paper between. Wall paper inside. Has built log addition, which is in good repair.

*Stable*.—Log and turf stable with straw roof.

*Ploughing, &c.*—43 acres ready for crop.

Has well in company with M. Graham.

*Improvements* valued at \$230.

*Stock*.—One yoke of oxen, one cow, one yearling, one calf, two pigs.

*Crop*, 1889.—70 bushels wheat from nine acres, 10 bushels of oats, 14 or 15 bushels of potatoes, 10 loads of hay.

*Remarks*.—Angus Graham (partner) at Portage-la-Prairie threshing, earning \$25 per month. 5 acres broken on Graham's homestead and logs for house ready. Value, \$12.50.

No. 8.—JOHN MCKENZIE.

*House*.—14 by 16. Double boarded and packed between with soil, &c. Has lumber addition, 8 by 14.

*Stable*.—Log and turf stable, very good.

*Ploughing, &c.*—35 acres ready for crop.

No well. Gets water from a pond.

*Improvements*, as above, valued at \$200.

*Stock*.—One yoke of oxen, one cow, one yearling, one calf, two pigs.

*Crop*, 1889.—30 bushels of wheat from  $9\frac{1}{2}$  acres. No oats. 14 bushels of potatoes from eight sown. Seven loads of hay.

*Remarks*.—Andrew Graham (partner) working at Morden all the time. Lost three months work on account of sickness. Five acres broken (valued \$12.50) and logs on ground for house.

No. 9.—JOHN McLEOD.

*House*.—14 by 16 feet. Double boarded and packed between with soil &c. Double boarded roof with tar paper. Has log addition about 10 by 14 feet.

*Stable*.—Dug out. Part logs and turf.

*Ploughing, &c.*—About 40 acres.

Has well, but no water.

*Improvements*, as above, valued at \$235.

*Stock*.—One yoke of oxen, one cow, one yearling steer, one calf, 2 pigs, and a few fowls.

*Crop*, 1889.—25 tons hay. Has about 40 bushels of wheat from about 11 acres. No oats.

*Remarks.*—Three sons away working all summer at \$25 per month and board. John McLeod, senr., away earning \$3 a day at his trade, stonemason. Information given by John McLeod, who is working for the McLeods at \$25 a month and board.

John McLeod, junr., has 15 acres ready to crop, and house, value \$42. Wm. McLeod has 19 acres broken, value \$55, and has two oxen. Lewis McLeod has 15 acres broken and a house, value \$62.50.

No. 10.—KENNETH McAULAY.

*House.*—14 by 16. Double boarded and packed between with soil, &c. Has built small log addition.

*Stable.*—Good log and turf stable.

*Ploughing, &c.*—15 acres ready for crop.

Has one well, but very little water in it.

*Improvements,* as above, valued at \$230.

*Stock.*—Yoke of oxen, one cow, one yearling and one calf, two pigs.

*Crop,* 1889.—120 bushels of wheat from seven acres. No oats. 60 bushels potatoes. 30 loads hay.

*Remarks.*—Isabella (daughter) out at service at \$7 a month. John (son) at work \$20 a month. Neil Munroe at work, Rat Portage, \$1.50 a day, permanent work. Kenneth McAulay says "I am quite satisfied, and will have sufficient seed, other Canadian settlers not so advanced after being here six years as we are in less than two years. If half the "Island of Lews would come here they would do all right." Six acres broken on John McAulay's homestead, value \$25. Seven acres broken on Neil Munroe's homestead, value \$17.50.

No. 11.—ANGUS McDONALD.

*House.*—14 by 16. Double boarded; packed between boards with soil, &c. Sodded on the outside. Has a log addition of about 12 by 14, well built.

*Stable.*—Good log and turf, with turf roof.

*Ploughing, &c.*—37 acres ready for crop.

*Improvements,* as above, valued at \$275.

*Stock.*—One yoke oxen, one cow, one yearling, one calf, two pigs, 20 chickens.

*Crop,* 1889.—100 bushels of wheat from 8 acres. No oats or barley. 22 bags of potatoes from five bushels sown. 10 or 11 loads of hay.

*Remarks.*—John McKenzie (cousin) earning wages at Rat Portage, but does not know how much. Six acres broken on his homestead. Isabella McIver (cousin) earning \$10 per month. Has paid McDonald 3*l.* off passage, &c. Sends money to Scotland also. Well satisfied with country.

No. 13.—ANGUS McLEOD.

*House.*—14 by 16. Double boarded and packed between with soil, &c. Double boarded roof with tar paper. Has built log addition about 12 by 14.

*Stable.*—Log and turf stable with John Nicholson (No. 6).

*Ploughing, &c.*—40 acres ready for crop.

*Improvements,* as above, valued at \$265.

*Stock.*—One yoke of oxen, one cow, one yearling heifer, one calf, two pigs, and a few fowls.

*Crop,* 1889.—14 bushels of wheat from five acres.

*Remarks.*—Away from home for the day. Donald (brother) has 10 acres broken and house erected, value \$55.

No. 14.—JOHN MORRISON.

*House.*—14 by 16. Double boarded and packed between boards with soil, &c. Double boarded roof with tar paper.

*Stable.*—Log and turf stable.

*Ploughing, &c.*—Has 35 acres ready for crop.

Has well, but no water.

*Improvements,* as above, valued at \$205.

*Stock.*—One yoke of oxen, one cow, one yearling, one calf, two pigs.

*Crop*, 1889.—80 bushels of wheat from  $6\frac{1}{2}$  acres, 25 bushels potatoes from 8 bushel sown. No hay. Could not get mower until all was cut.

*Remarks*.—Murdo M. (cousin) says: "I travelled over 500 miles trying to get work, but could find none. I went into debt for my board last winter." Seven acres broken on his land, value \$17.50. George Morrison away working. He is expected at Pelican Lake every day with stock and outfit to settle down on land. Five acres broken, value \$12.50.

No. 15.—JOHN GRAHAM.

*House*.—14 by 16. Double boarded, packed between with soil, &c. Double boarded roof and tar paper between. Has built log addition about 10 by 14.

*Stable*.—Log and turf stable.

*Ploughing, &c.*—40 acres ready for crop.

*Improvements*, as above, valued at \$200.

*Crop*, 1889.—19 bushels of wheat from 7 acres, 15 bushels of potatoes from eight sown, 12 loads of hay.

*Stock*.—One yoke of oxen, one cow, one yearling heifer, one calf, two pigs, five chickens.

*Remarks*.—John Grahame (cousin) has been away for three months at \$20 per month and board, but is now at home. 5 acres broken on his land, value \$12.50.

No. 16.—ALLAN McLEOD.

*House*.—11 by 16. Double boarded, packed between boards with soil, &c. Double boarded roof with tar paper.

*Stable*.—Log and turf. Turf roof.

*Ploughing, &c.*—40 acres ready for crop.

Has a well, but not deep enough for water.

*Improvements*, as above, valued at \$260.

*Stock*.—One yoke of oxen, one cow, one yearling, one calf, two pigs, and a few fowls.

*Crop*, 1889.—18 bushels of wheat off 9 acres, no oats or barley. 19 bags potatoes from 5 acres sown, eight loads hay.

*Remarks*.—Donald Murray, care of above A. McLeod, came out on his (McLeod's) recommendation, but cannot find land. Wants to get the quarter section that Donald Murray (No. 18) had. Latter has now gone to Saltcoats and will not want it. Murdo Stewart (brother-in-law) married and living on his own homestead.  $5\frac{1}{2}$  acres ploughed and house erected, value \$55.

No. 17.—JOHN MCKENZIE.

*House*.—14 by 20. Good. Double boarded and packed between with soil, &c. Double boarded roof with tar paper between. Small log addition.

*Stable*.—Good log and turf stable.

*Ploughing, &c.*—44 acres ready for crop.

Good well and plenty of water.

*Improvements*, as above, valued at \$180.

*Stock*.—One yoke of oxen, one cow, one yearling, and one calf and two pigs. Son has cow and calf, bought with money left by grandfather.

*Crop*, 1889.—63 bushels wheat from 7 acres. 15 acres were under crop, rest not fit to cut. 11 loads hay, 22 bushels potatoes.

*Remarks*.—Kenneth McLeod (cousin) away in Dakota earning \$2.50 a day for a few days, has five acres broken and a house erected, value \$37.50. C. McKay (cousin) away in Morden working for a month. This person never gives McKenzie anything.

No. 18.—WILLIAM McDONALD.

*House*.—14 by 16. Double boarded, packed between with clay, &c. Log addition to house, 14 by 12.

*Stable*.—Good log and turf. Turf roof.

*Ploughing, &c.*—15 acres ready for crop.

Well, but very little water.

*Improvements*, as above, valued at \$320.

*Stock*.—One yoke of oxen, one cow, one yearling, one calf, two pigs.

*Crop*, 1889.—30 bushels wheat from 9 acres, five bags potatoes.

*Remarks*.—Donald Murray (partner) away at Saltcoats, where he has married and settled down. Nothing done on his homestead. Brother, Alexander, working north of Winnipeg. Does not know what wages he is getting. 6 acres broken on his homestead.

## No. 19.—MURDO GRAHAM.

*House*.—14 by 16. Double boarded, packed between with clay, &c. Double boarded roof with tar paper between. Papered inside. Has built a good log addition 12 by 16.

*Stable*.—Good log and turf stable.

*Ploughing, &c.*—35 acres ready for crop.

Has good well with Campbell (No. 7).

*Improvements*, as above, valued at \$225.

*Stock*.—One yoke of oxen, one cow, one yearling, one calf, two pigs, 15 chickens.

*Crop*, 1889.—55 bushels wheat from 9 acres. Ten bushels oats, 16 bushels potatoes. Seven or eight loads of hay.

*Remarks*.—Does not know where he will get seed-grain, as he requires most of his wheat for flour. Makes a request for it.

## No. 21.—NORMAN MCKENZIE.

*House*.—14 by 16. Double boarded and packed with soil, &c. Log addition.

*Stable*.—Very good log and turf stable.

*Ploughing, &c.*—40 acres ready for crop.

Has two wells, but no water; digging another.

*Improvements*, as above, valued at \$240.

*Stock*.—One yoke of oxen, one cow, one yearling steer, one calf, two pigs, 20 chickens.

*Crop*, 1889.—Had 29½ bushels wheat from 9 acres, 18 bushels potatoes, 26 loads of hay.

*Remarks*.—Wm. McKenzie (brother) has been away four months at \$21 per month and board. 6 acres ploughed on his homestead, value \$12.50. Jas. McIver (brother) gone to Saltcoats. 5 acres broken on his homestead, value \$12.50. Malcolm and William (brothers) have bought a yoke of oxen for themselves with money earned. Paid \$60 down; balance payable in a year.

## No. 22.—JOHN MACDONALD, JUNR.

*House*.—12 by 24.—Double boarded, packed between with clay, &c. Divided into two rooms.

*Stable*.—Dug out of a bank. Log and turf; turf roof.

*Ploughing, &c.*—40 acres ready for crop.

Good well and plenty of water.

*Improvements*, as above, valued at \$285.

*Stock*.—One yoke of oxen, two cows, one yearling, one calf, two pigs.

*Crop*, 1889.—10 bushels of wheat, no oats. Five or six bushels potatoes from 13 or 14 sown. 25 loads hay.

*Remarks*.—Norman (son) has been at home all summer. 10 acres ploughed, value \$25. Duncan (son) has 4 acres ploughed on his homestead, value \$10. Archie (son) has been away working on section of C.P.R. for three months at \$1.25 per day. Archie also had three weeks' work with threshers, \$1.50 per day.

## No. 23.—JOHN MACDONALD, SENR.

*House*.—14 by 20. Double boarded, packed between boards with soil, &c. Has a log addition.

*Stable*.—Good, "dug out of bank," with logs and turf for walls and turf roof.

*Granary*.—Log incomplete.

*Ploughing, &c.*—35 acres ready for crop.

Has plenty of water in his well.

*Improvements*, as above, valued at \$245.

*Stock*.—One yoke of oxen, one cow, one yearling and one calf, four pigs, and 12 chickens.

*Crop*, 1889.—20 bushels of potatoes from nine sown. 29 bushels wheat. Five bushels of oats. 18 or 20 tons of hay.

*Remarks*.—Wm. McDonald (son) has been working for Mr. Cowan for 1½ months at \$20 per month. He is now engaged with thresher at same wages. 18 acres ploughed, house and stable, value \$90. Donald (son) has earned \$10 away one month. Catherine (niece) earning \$8 per month. Margaret (niece) earning \$8 per month, started two weeks since. Very near the lake, but does not seem to go in for the fishing.

## No. 24.—ANGUS McLEOD.

*House*.—14 by 16. Double boarded, packed between with clay, &c. Has a log addition 14 by 10.

*Stable*.—Log and turf. Turf roof.

*Ploughing, &c.*—15 acres ready for crop.

Well, but no water.

*Improvements*, as above, valued at \$218.

*Stock*.—One yoke of oxen, one cow, one yearling, one calf, two pigs, and chickens.

*Crop*, 1889.—35 bushels of wheat from 9 acres. No oats or barley. Four bushels potatoes, seven or eight sown. 20 loads hay.

*Remarks*.—Alex. Morrison and Constance Morrison (cousins) engaged all the time. John Morrison (cousin) been earning \$8 per month all the time since spring. Jno. Morrison has repaid all the money Angus McLeod spent for him, the others have not paid him anything. Alexander Morrison has 15 acres ready for crop, value \$37.50.

## No. 25.—ANGUS MORRISON.

*House*.—14 by 16. Double boarded, with paper between.

*Stable*.—Log and turf. He is busy building a new one, which will be very good when finished.

*Ploughing, &c.*—35 acres ready for crop.

*Improvements*, as above, valued at \$205.

*Stock*.—One yoke of oxen, two cows, one yearling heifer, two calves, four pigs, and a few fowls.

*Crop*, 1889.—Seven or eight loads of hay. 30 bushels of wheat from 8 acres. 15 bushels of potatoes.

*Remarks*.—Archie (son) was out thrashing, but did not get paid. \$11 due him. 9 acres ploughed on his homestead, value \$22.50.

## No. 26.—DONALD McKINNON.

*House*.—14 by 20. Double boarded, and packed between with clay, &c. No log addition.

*Stable*.—Has two very good, dug out of bank, with logs and turf walls.

*Ploughing, &c.*—40 acres ready for crop.

Well, but no water.

*Improvements*, as above, valued at \$275.

*Stock*.—Two yokes of oxen, three cows, one yearling, three calves, two pigs, some chickens and guinea fowl. Two sheep.

*Crop*, 1889.—27 bushels of wheat from 8 acres. No oats or barley. 20 bushels potatoes from 10 sown. 20 loads hay.

*Remarks*.—The extra yoke of oxen belongs to John (younger brother). Has worked out for them partly. His sisters have paid him most of the money spent for them. Two are now married, the other engaged at Glenboro' at \$12 per month. 7 acres ploughed on Mrs. McKinnon's (the mother's) homestead, value \$30. Nothing done on Kenneth's land (brother).

## No. 27.—DONALD STEWART.

*House*.—14 by 16. Double boarded, packed between with clay, &c. Has an addition made of lumber 12 by 14.

*Stable*.—Very good. Built of logs, turf walls and roof.

*Ploughing, &c.*—50 acres ready for crop next year.

Two wells, but very little water.

*Improvements*, as above, valued at \$320.

*Stock*.—One yoke of oxen, four cows, four calves, two heifers, two pigs, pony and trap, 50 chickens.

*Crop*, 1889.—50 bushels of wheat from 9 acres. No oats or barley. 20 bushels of potatoes. 25 loads of hay.

*Remarks*.—Has a mower, paid for. Kenneth Stewart (son) working on his own place. 7 acres broken, value \$17.50. McLeod (brother-in-law) has 7 or 8 acres (value \$32) broken, on his homestead. Both boys intend building houses on their homesteads next spring. Very well satisfied with the way in which they have been treated, and like the country. Mrs. Stewart spins a good deal, and knits socks for sale.

## No. 28.—RONALD MCKAY.

*House*.—14 by 16. Double boarded, packed between with clay, &c. Has built log addition, incomplete.

*Stable*.—Log and turf.

*Ploughing, &c.*—10 acres fenced for a pasturage. 45 acres ready for crop.

Two wells, good water.

*Improvements*, as above, valued at \$221.

*Stock*.—Yoke of oxen, one cow, one yearling, one calf, two pigs, 15 chickens.

*Crop*, 1889.—36 bushels wheat from 8 acres. Eight or nine bushels potatoes from 14 sown. 12 loads hay.

*Remarks*.—Has a seeder \$22, but not paid for. Mary (sister) away at Manitou. Has received a dollar from her since she went a year ago. Likes the country, getting on well.

## No. 29.—DUGALD MCKENZIE.

*House*.—14 by 16. Double boarded, with clay between. Has built small log addition 14 by 12.

*Stable*.—Log and turf.

*Ploughing, &c.*—40 acres ready for crop.

Well 42 feet, but no water in.

*Improvements*, as above, valued at \$270.

*Stock*.—One yoke of oxen, one cow, one yearling heifer, one calf, three pigs, and 20 chickens.

*Crop*, 1889.—26 bushels wheat from 7 acres. No oats. No barley. 18 bushels potatoes. 13 or 14 loads of hay.

*Remarks*.—6 acres ready on land of Donald McKenzie (brother), Morrison (cousin), and McKay (brother-in-law). John McKay, Donald McKenzie, and Hugh Morrison all earned \$50 during the year after paying board. Mary Ann McKinnon (cousin) out at service, earning \$10 per month all the time. Has paid McKenzie half of the passage money back. Say it is not easy to get the fish out of Pelican Lake, but is going to try again this winter. Donald McKenzie has 6 acres broken, value \$15. John McKay has 5 acres broken, value \$12.50. Hugh Morrison has 10 acres broken, value \$25.

## No. 30.—RODERICK MCKAY.

*House*.—14 by 16. Double boarded, packed between with clay, &c.

*Stable*.—Log and turf stable.

*Ploughing, &c.*—10 acres ready for crop.

Has dug three wells: only got enough water for the house.

*Improvements*, as above, valued at \$295.

*Stock*.—One yoke of oxen, four cows, one yearling, three calves, two pigs, 20 chickens.

*Crop*, 1889.—80 bushels wheat from 11 acres. Nine bushels of potatoes.

*Remarks*.—Has a mower and rake. Annie Shaw (cousin) has been away since beginning of year at \$10 a month. John McKay (father) has 6 acres broken, value \$15.

## No. 31.—BANN MCKINNON.

*House*.—14 by 20. Double boarded and "slip lapped." Stone banking. Has an addition of lumber 14 by 10.

*Stable*.—Log and turf stable.

*Ploughing, &c.*—12 acres ready for crop.

*Improvements*, as above, valued at \$285.

*Stock*.—One yoke of oxen, one cow, one yearling steer, one calf, two pigs, 10 chickens.

*Crop*, 1889.—32 bushels wheat from 12 acres. No oats. Six bushels potatoes from eight sown. Six loads hay.

*Remarks*.—Annie (daughter) now married to K. McMillan (cousin). Margaret (daughter) was working all summer for \$5 per month; she is now getting \$8. Mrs. McKinnon spins yarn, and makes socks for sale. Kenneth McMillan has been out working two months, but cannot get his money. He has house, stable, well, and 8 acres ploughed, value \$165.

## No. 32.—KENNETH MCLEOD.

*House*.—14 by 16. Double boarded, packed between with clay, &c. Has stone banking half way up.

*Stable*.—Log and turf, and dug out.

*Ploughing, &c.*—30 acres ready for crop.  
10 acres fencing for pasturage.

*Improvements*, as above, valued at \$256.

*Stock*.—One yoke of oxen, two cows, one yearling, two calves, 30 chickens, two pigs.

*Crop*, 1889.—33 bushels of wheat and 20 bushels potatoes.

No. 33.—JOHN FRASER. (See page 5.)

*House*.—14 by 16. Double boarded and papered inside. Turf walls on outside.

*Stable*.—One log and turf stable.

*Ploughing, &c.*—37 acres ready for crop.

*Improvements*, as above, valued at \$220.

*Stock*.—One yoke of oxen, one cow, one heifer, one calf.

*Crop*, 1889.—22 bushels of wheat from 10 acres. Five bushels of potatoes from two bushels sown.

*Remarks*.—John Fraser dead, his son Donald is working on his father's place. Eldest girl out at service all summer for \$10 per month, but is now at home. Donald has 5 acres broken on his own place, value \$12'50.

APPENDIX B.

Notes on Settlement of Crofters at Saltecoats, N.W.T. (Oct. 1889).

No. 1.—JOHN MCAULAY.

*Family*.—Consists of a wife and three small children, aged three, four, and one year, respectively. All in good health. John Murray, a cousin, accompanied them from Scotland. Is now at work, it is supposed, at Portage la Prairie. Has not been heard from. Has not remitted any of his earnings.

*Breaking*.—Has about 6 acres ploughed.

*House*.—Well turfed outside, as high as wall plate. Gables are yet to be protected. When this is done the house should be warm and comfortable, and capable of resisting the severest cold.

*Stable*.—Is now in course of construction. The necessary turfs are cut and ready at hand.

*Stock*.—Is well satisfied with his oxen. It appears that he returned the team originally allotted to him, paying \$18 extra, to get a better yoke. Cow and calf doing well.

*Well*.—None. He and No. 9 are digging one together for common use. At present gets water from one of his neighbours.

*Hay*.—Has about five tons of hay now in stack. Says that he has as much more lying in the meadow ready to be drawn in. Complains of length of time spent in haying, having been more than six weeks at it. It had to be cut with a scythe and raked by hand.

*Labour*.—When told that he should go off to the grade and earn wages with the rest, declined to do so until all his buildings, &c. were ready for winter.

*Complaints*.—None: does not speak English well.

*General*.—Says he likes the country "middling well." This is his second location, having declined to take the land originally allotted to him. Requires winter clothes, as well as for his family.

No. 2.—KENNETH McIVOR.

*Family*.—Sons, aged 18, 10, 6, 4, 2; daughters, 16 and 8; wife. Son James was at Killarney; is now at the Rockies. Wants to join father and take up the south-western quarter. Writes to his parents and promises to remit money. Another son is working with farmer named Gunn. Has been offered a cow as wages. Eldest daughter is blind. Lost her sight since her arrival here. Is otherwise in good health. Doctor attributes cause to some internal trouble. Children otherwise well and healthy.

*Breaking*.—About 10 acres.

*House.*—Partly turfed; nearly ready for the winter.

*Stable.*—Finished. Pole and turf roof. Will doubtless prove a warm and comfortable one for stock.

*Oxen.*—Good; two oxen.

*Cow.*—Says it is "very middling." Has a good calf.

*Well.*—Depth 15 feet, and contains about 3 feet of good water.

*Hay.*—Has two tons of hay in stack on farm and about eight tons in meadow to be drawn up later on.

*Labour.*—This man went out to work of his own accord.

*General.*—Wife stated that she liked the country well enough. Said that the husband had been very busy all through the summer, and had only lately been able to go to work.

#### No. 3.—DONALD MONTGOMERY.

*Family.*—Wife and three small children aged 7, 3, and 1 years. Duncan Martin is his partner. Says that he took him as such on the "Claymore," and that up till then was a stranger to him. Martin is employed upon a threshing gang at \$30 a month. Has not received any money from him though he has promised to send some.

*Breaking.*—None.

*House.*—The walls are now almost entirely protected with turf, and a little more work will render the house ready for winter.

*Stable.*—Built of turf and poles. Roof yet to be finished.

*Oxen.*—The yoke supplied this man turned out badly, and were condemned by Mr. Buchanan, who was appointed to test them.

*Cow.*—Good. Gives a fair supply of milk. Calf getting on well.

*Well.*—38½ feet deep; gives a fair supply of water.

*Hay.*—Five tons in stack, and as much more in the meadow to be drawn in.

*General.*—Mr. Borrodale will have Montgomery provided with oxen without unnecessary delay. Says he likes the country well enough, and would like to get some friends out to join him. Asks that clothing be supplied himself and family before the winter sets in.

#### No. 4.—KATHERINE MACDONALD, a Widow (see page 7).

*Family.*—Son of 14; three smaller children, daughters of 7, 5, and 3. Colin McIver accompanied family. Went to work at Portage la Prairie 12th May. Returned and started out again, 23rd June. Has sent no money.

*Breaking.*—None.

*House.*—In course of preparation for the winter. Interior neat and tidy, with curtained bed place.

*Stable.*—None; unnecessary at present. Norman McRae will winter stock.

*Stock.*—Oxen, good.

*Cow.*—Good milker, with a fine calf.

*Well.*—None; gets water from No. 46.

*Hay.*—Will be allowed to share No. 8's hay.

*General.*—Donald Montgomery and Norman McRae are helping the widow, erecting turf walls to the house, putting up hay, wintering stock, and generally taking all care of her and her family. Norman thinks the widow might have a second-hand waggon supplied her, and the use of his oxen (which he is willing to allow) will enable her to get along. Her oxen might be taken away, and an extra cow, which she could look after herself, might be given her. Children will want clothes. A Red River cart, it is thought, will suit her at first better than a second-hand waggon.

#### No. 5.—MALCOLM MCKAY (father of No. 37).

*Family.*—Wife and three sons, 18, 16, 14, and daughter aged 13. Son Donald, 18, wants quarter section alongside father. Is working at Winnipeg. Son Donald 16. Has had two months' work at \$1. Son Niel, 14, had been to work; thought \$50 a year insufficient. John, another son, and two daughters (one married) at Killarney. Daughter Martha, 13, sick. With No. 32.

*Breaking.*—Four acres.

*House.*—Walls are well plastered outside on rails, which should add very much to the warmth. Inside was noticed a home-made churn, rather neatly and ingeniously constructed. Spinning-wheel in use by wife. McKay had drawn up a fair supply of firewood against the cold weather, and had constructed a skid for drawing water, which he will be able to use as a sleigh during the winter.

*Stable.*—Turf walls completed and the frame of the roof constructed of poles ready for the reception of the hay and turf, which will make it warm and weather-proof.

*Well.*—25 feet; contains but little water: but this may be remedied by deepening the well a couple of feet or so.

*Hay.*—Has about six loads drawn in, and more lying in the meadow.

*Labour.*—One of the boys now at home should be able to find work, and so contribute towards the support of the family.

*Stock.*—Two oxen, one cow. One cow purchased by himself.

No. 6.—DONALD MORRISON,

*Family.*—Wife and three daughters, 19, 9, and 2. Sons, 13 and 6. Annie, the eldest daughter, has been at work since the 21st of July last. Has been written to for money, but has, so far, made no remittance.

*Breaking.*—Has 3 acres breaking.

*House.*—Has the lower floor plastered inside with mud on rails. When the upstairs is done should be warm and comfortable.

*Stables.*—Substantial walls of turf are built, and the framework for the roof, formed of posts and rails, is ready for covering. A couple of days' work should complete this.

*Stock.*—Two oxen, one cow.

*Well.*—22 feet deep; contains one foot of water.

*Hay.*—Eight tons in stack.

*Complaints.*—Says that his children are very badly clothed, and are quite unable to face the cold weather as they are. Says that part of his stove furniture was stolen from him at the station, and that he cannot get on without the frying-pan and baking-pan, which are missing. Borradaile was instructed to supply these articles and charge them. Claims that the Government agreed to winter the emigrants, and that it is therefore bound to see them through. Was told no promise of the kind was made. Is accused in the neighbourhood of having set fire to the prairie, and was fined after being tried.

No. 7.—NORMAN McAULAY,

*Family.*—Wife and two children, aged two and one years, boys. Alexander McAulay, a cousin, accompanied them. Is now working at Portage la Prairie. Has not remitted any of his wages. Wants the S.E. quarter section, 15 Tp. 21 Rge. 4 W. 2. Annie McKay, a cousin, is working at Galdson. Has not sent them any money.

*Breaking.*—About 7 acres.

*House.*—Built on wrong place. Turf walls commenced in addition for purposes of warmth.

*Stable.*—Incomplete. Has the walls, which are of turf, all finished and ridge pole of roof in its place. Should be able to finish it off in a few days.

*Stock.*—Yoke of oxen and one cow, which appear to be very satisfactory.

*Well.*—Has had ill luck with well digging. Has commenced and abandoned two after getting down several feet, owing to encountering large boulders which prevented further progress. Has to get water from a neighbour at present.

*Hay.*—Has about 4 tons at the house, and will have to draw the balance, 6 tons, from the meadow on first opportunity.

*Labour.*—An industrious man. Went out to work on the railway of his own accord. Was there at time of visit. Saw his wife, but as she spoke no English, could get but little information. She and children appeared to be in good health.



## No. 11.—CHARLES DOCHERTY.

*Family.*—Sons, 18, 14, and 11; daughters, 19 and 9 years. Alexine (19) was at work at Birtle with Mr. Fraser; got an attack of measles, and returned home; is still ill and unfit for work; symptoms are severe pain in the chest and vomiting. Her appearance certainly bore out the father's contention that the girl could not leave home. Son (18) wants S.E. quarter of same section as homestead. Is unable to go to work; very sickly.

*Breaking.*—10 acres back-set.

*House.*—Partly turfed walls. Is now erecting addition of pole and frame to act as protection from weather and to afford additional accommodation. This house will, doubtless, prove warm, as it is sunk 3 feet in the ground.

*Stable.*—Built of turfs and poles. Finished and ready for occupation.

*Stock.*—Oxen, cow, and calf.

*Well.*—Has dug two wells; (1) 18 feet, no water; (2) 26 feet, still digging; auger shows trace of a little water.

*Hay.*—Hay, in stack on farm, about 15 tons.

*Labour.*—Agreed to come to Salteats the following day to set to work on the railroad.

Complains of his cow. Became useless three days after he got her. Acknowledges that he made the selection himself.

## No. 12.—ALEXANDER MACDONALD.

*Family.*—Wife; sons, 14, 12, 4, and 2; daughters, 10 and 8.

*Breaking.*—10 acres broken, part of it back-set.

*House.*—Says he wished he had built a turf house at the commencement, instead of having the present kind erected. Is now engaged in erecting a turf addition to afford additional accommodation and protection from the weather. Has plastered downstairs the interior of the house with clay and pieces of poplar between the studs.

*Stable.*—Well finished; turf and poles; neatly done; divided into stalls for the stock.

*Stock.*—Two cows, both milking; one of which he purchased with his own money. Has also two pigs; yoke of oxen.

*Well.*—28 feet deep; contains very little water; lake close by.

*Hay.*—Has about 10 tons of hay in stack.

*Labour.*—Agreed to go to work on the following day on the railway.

*Complaints.*—Failure of potato crop; says he only got 4½ bushels from 17 bushels sown. Says he is satisfied with the farm, which is well adapted to stock-raising. Will do his best to keep up his credit.

*General.*—This man refused his first location, and is now upon land selected by himself. That which he rejected has been taken up by another settler. Brought 15*l.* out with him; says he has only 25 cents left. Has a supply of summer clothes, but will require some for himself and children for the winter.

## No. 13.—MALCOLM McLEOD.

*Family.*—Mother; sister at work at Strathelare with Peter McFadden. Cousin, John McLeod, at Portage la Prairie since the 12th of May.

*Breaking.*—Two acres only.

*House.*—Built by himself; inside partly plastered.

*Stable.*—Heavy turf walls nearly completed; frame of roof, composed of rails, erected ready for covering.

*Stock.*—He and No. 15 had each half yoke. Did not get on together. Have now each a yoke of oxen, but still share the waggon. Has two cows and two calves.

*Well.*—12 feet deep; contains 2 feet of good water.

*Hay.*—About 8 tons of hay in stack on farm.

*Labour.*—This man ought to go to work; word was left for him to that effect, but he failed to arrive on the day appointed.

*General.*—Was absent from home on the occasion of our visit, and, as his mother speaks no English, we were unable to gain much information.

## No. 14.—DONALD GRAHAM.

*Family.*—Wife and five children; sons, 8 and 6; daughters, 10, 3, and 3 months. Has no adult help.

*Breaking.*—Has 1.4 acres broken.

*House.*—Not fixed for winter; will require to devote his time to this without delay.

*Stable.*—Turf walls, partly completed.

*Stock.*—Yoke of oxen; three cows. Has some fowls.

*Well.*—Good, contains 3 feet of water; depth 18 feet.

*Hay.*—8 tons.

*Labour.*—Is now engaged at working on the railway with his oxen.

*General.*—Being absent from home, and his wife not speaking English, we were unable to get much information.

## No. 15.—ANGUS SMITH.

*Family.*—Newly married wife. Brother Roderick, at Regina. Has not had any money from him. Wants the S.W. quarter.

*Breaking.*—2 acres.

*House.*—Built by himself; partly finished inside.

*Stable.*—Finished. Turf walls, and pole and turf roof; faces north. Wants lumber to make a door for it.

*Stock.*—Oxen doing well. Has two cows and two calves; has plenty of milk.

*Well.*—12 feet deep, with 3 feet of water.

*Hay.*—6 tons; well fire guarded.

*Labour.*—Was offered \$3 50c. a week and board on railway work. Did not think it enough; preferred to stay at home. Now agrees to go to work on Thursday.

*Complaints.*—None.

*General.*—This man has a gun supplied him at a cost of \$12. The country affords many opportunities in the way of game.

## No. 16.—ALEXANDER McLEAN.

*Family.*—Wife and four sons, 18, 16, 14, and 10. Alexander, eldest son, worked at West Selkirk two months at \$15 a month. Brought back \$20; says no more work obtainable. Agrees to go to railway work on Thursday. Murdo, the second boy, works at Basswood.

*Breaking.*—Four acres.

*House.*—Very neatly finished inside with split rails and plaster; nearly completed.

*Stable.*—Turf roof partly finished. Has dug a passage into the stable for additional warmth, so as to avoid direct communication with the air.

*Stock.*—Oxen all right. Cow doing well; gives little milk. Has a good calf. Has a fine little pig, bought by Alexander out of his wages.

*Wells.*—Has two wells, one 30 feet deep, with 2 feet of water.

*Hay.*—10 tons.

*Labour.*—Is too old to go to work. Suffers also from sore eyes.

*General.*—Wife engaged in spinning. Wool supplied on shares by some one in the neighbourhood.

## No. 17.—JOHN McLEAN.

*Family.*—Margaret, his wife. Said to have a son of 16. Angus his brother, went to Winnipeg on the 27th July. Now working upon the dump; had no money from him yet. John, a cousin, went to Portage la Prairie on 12th May. Now at Regina. Had no money from him.

*Breaking.*—Four acres.

*House.*—Plastered downstairs on the inside; when done upstairs the house will be ready for winter. Has table and dresser; roof tar-papered.

*Stable*.—Large and good, as far as done; one slope of roof remaining unfinished at present. Walls turf, and frame of poplar poles.

*Stock*.—Oxen all right; cows give about 3 quarts a day; calf doing well.

*Well*.—18 feet; 3 feet of water.

*Hay*.—10 tons in stack.

*Labour*.—Will go to work on dump on Thursday.

#### No. 18.—DUNCAN McLEOD.

*Family*.—Consists of wife and two sons, 11 and 20. Murdo, the eldest, is at work on the Regina and Long Lake Railway. John, the younger, is at home, helping the father, who is an old man.

*Breaking*.—Only 1 acre.

*House*.—Not ready for winter.

*Stables*.—Walls of turf ready for roof, for which poles have been cut and drawn ready for construction. Stable is well dug out of a bank and promises to be warm when completed.

*Stock*.—Two oxen and two cows.

*Well*.—Has joint well with 23.

*Hay*.—Six or seven tons. Laid a note telling him to plough a fire guard round the place as he is running a great risk.

*General*.—Found the family in the house (12:20 p.m.) reading the Bible.

#### No. 19.—DONALD McKAY. (See page 7.)

*Family*.—Son of 11; daughters of 16 and 11; wife. Norman, his brother, away at work. Says he gave Norman his only good pair of boots to take him away with. That not long ago he was burned out, losing everything he had. Effie, his daughter, is working at Portage la Prairie; not been heard from.

*Breaking*.—About 1 acre.

*House*.—Not yet ready for winter. Is packing the walls with peat moss for sake of warmth. Has constructed bedsteads.

*Stable*.—Very good; expended a great deal of labour upon it. Dug out of bank walls constructed of turf and roof of poles covered with peat moss, and turf over that.

*Stock*.—Complains that oxen are too young to be of much service; has a good cow.

*Well*.—35 feet deep, with good water.

*Hay*.—About nine tons.

*Labour*.—Has helped to dig three wells, entailing a good deal of work.

Tools supplied him not first rate; hammer head broken off. Mr. Borradaile requested to give him another.

*General*.—Will require winter clothing for himself and family. Mr. Borradaile to supply him with a pair of boots if he will consent to go to work and turn up at the grading.

#### No. 20.—KENNETH MURRAY.

*Family*.—Newly married wife. Alexander Morrison, partner, went to Portage la Prairie on the 12th May. Has received no money from him yet.

*Breaking*.—Has broken some three or four acres.

*House*.—Partly turfed.

*Stable*.—Constructed of turf and poles; very good.

*Stock*.—Oxen very good; cow.

*Well*.—None; gets water from Donald Morrison.

*Hay*.—Has 8 tons in stack.

*Labour*.—Told to go to Salteats for work on railway; declined.

#### No. 21.—FINDLAY McLEAN, R.N.R.

*Family*.—Wife, and one child three months old. Donald McLeod, brother-in-law, at work. Mary McPhail, a cousin, at Portage la Prairie.

*Breaking*.—Only about four acres.

*House*.—Not ready for winter; lying around are rails ready for this work. Explains delay by saying that he has been waiting for Donald, who promised to come and help him. Interior of house appears to be tidy, and comparatively neat.

*Stable.*—Walls are finished and frame of roof completed ready for covering in.

*Stock.*—Two cows and two calves. Thinks one calf sickly. Says cows were milked and spoiled at Salteons, thereby injuring calf. Says oxen are nine years old, and no good for the plough, as they were always used hitherto for drawing logs for the saw mill. Claims that it takes two men to work them, one leading. (These oxen were tried and reported on by Buchanan, who said that they would do all right with a little care.)

*Well.*—32 feet deep; not much water.

*Hay.*—Eight or nine tons; says he lost a couple of tons by fire on the meadow.

*Labour.*—Cannot go away to work on account of wife.

*Complaint.*—Bad tools; says he has broken two hammers.

*General.*—Had 5*l.* when he left the old country, says he bought clothes with it.

#### No. 22.—ALEXANDER MITCHELL.

*Family.*—Wife and two children, daughters of 24 years and six months. Niel McLeod wants N.E. quarter as homestead; if allowed to take it is willing to give a lien for over-draft; is working at Gladstone; has sent no money. Annie, working with Mrs. Morton at Gladstone, sent \$3.

*Breaking.*—Has 11 or 12 acres done.

*House.*—Built by himself. Not completed yet; getting on slowly. Great delay owing to his not taking lumber until August.

*Stable.*—Not commenced yet; says the turf is all burnt up.

*Stock.*—Did not get oxen till late; returned his original yoke; cow calved since he got her; had no calf at foot.

*Well.*—21 feet; 9 feet of good water.

*Hay.*—12 or 15 tons, well stacked.

*Labour.*—Work too backward to admit of his going away from home.

*Complaint.*—Prairie fire; great damage to soil. Also that he did not get calf with his cow.

#### No. 23.—DONALD McLEOD (Son of No. 18).

*Family.*—Wife and two children. Is a sickly man; suffered from diphtheria. Has brother and sister in Winnipeg.

*Breaking.*—Two acres.

*House.*—Has commenced to fix it up for the winter; inside is pretty good.

*Stable.*—Pretty good as far as completed; walls up; composed of logs and turf.

*Stock.*—Oxen and cow.

*Well.*—12 feet deep, but only 6 inches of water; requires deepening.

*Hay.*—Six or seven tons. Requires a fire guard; left a note to this effect.

*Labour.*—Not able to go to work; health poor.

*General.*—Absent from home on occasion of visit; was not able to get much information consequently.

#### No. 24.—MALCOLM McDONALD.

*Family.*—Wife and two boys (two years and six months). Mary McPhail, sister-in-law, at Portage la Prairie; has written and promised to send money. John McRae has been earning wages at Portage la Prairie; has written to the family, but remitted no money.

*Breaking.*—Eight acres.

*House.*—Walls sodded outside, and a turf addition commenced and partly completed.

*Stable.*—Built of turf and poles; finished ready for winter.

*Stock.*—Oxen and two cows.

*Well.*—On N.W. quarter, 16 feet deep; four feet of water.

*Hay.*—About one ton at house, and 10 more lying in meadow.

*Labour.*—Promises to go to work on the railway.

*General.*—House built on wrong quarter section. John McRae to take the house and pay No. 24 for it, who will then put up house in his own quarter section.

## No. 25.—DONALD MACDONALD (Stonemason by trade).

*Family*.—Wife and three children, boy of 5, girl of 4, and infant. Murdoch, his brother, has been at the Portage since 12th May. Has been written to, but has sent no money.

*Breaking*.—10 acres.

*House*.—Well finished; good substantial addition erected, with an open fireplace of stone.

*Stable*.—Well finished. Worth \$20. Turf and pole.

*Stock*.—Two cows; only one milking, giving about a teacupful. Yoke of oxen.

*Well*.—25 feet deep, but only 4 inches of water. Requires deepening. Lake close by.

*Hay*.—About 10 tons up.

*Labour*.—Arranged to work on railway on the 9th.

*General*.—Wife said she liked the country well enough, and that the children were very well indeed. Says the whole family will require winter things. Brought out no money.

## No. 26.—ANGUS MCKAY.

*Family*.—Wife and four children.

*Breaking*.—4 acres.

*House*.—Has done nothing towards fitting it for the winter, says his time has been fully taken up in well digging.

*Stable*.—Walls completed, and roof ready to be covered.

*Stock*.—Oxen and cow doing well.

*Well*.—Uses well dug jointly with No. 19.

*Hay*.—Has 10 tons. Complains of the time lost in putting this up.

## No. 27.—MALCOLM McDONALD. (See page 7.)

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Went to Killarney.

Was told might have oxen if he came up for them before 15th September. Did not come and has not yet turned up (November 15th).

## No. 28.—ROBERT MCKAY.

*Family*.—Wife and four children (son, 8, and daughters, 6, 4, 2). Arranged for them all to live with a neighbour whilst he went off to earn some wages on the railway. Bought on a tenner (barat) for whose passage he is charged \$1. This sum appears to have been handed him on leaving, so that he might not lose anything. Says he spent it and a bit of his own money on a sick child. Sister-in-law is out earning wages.

*Breaking*.—12 acres. Back-setting commenced.

*House*.—Not fixed for the winter; will be completed upon his return from the railway.

*Stable*.—Turf walls completed, ready for the roof. A few days' work will render this weather-proof.

*Stock*.—Two cows and two calves; also has a few chickens. Yoke of oxen

*Well*.—13 feet deep and 3 feet of water.

*Hay*.—About 15 tons.

## No. 29.—ALEXANDER MURRAY.

*Family*.—Wife and two sons, 18 and 14. Murdo eldest now working at the Rockies; is suffering from sore eyes and will return. Rodrick working at Basswood; has made no romance. Donald Murray joined him from Killarney.

*Breaking*.—10 acres.

*House*.—Well turfed; in capital condition for the winter. Has good supply of firewood drawn up.

*Stable*.—Turf and pole; best stable in the Colony. Wants lumber for door.

*Oxen*.—Cost \$110. Is satisfied with them. Cow and calf in good condition.

*Well*.—19 feet; 6 feet of water. Covered over with poles and clay with neat trap door.

*Hay*.—About 8 tons.

*Labour*.—Donald will go to work at the railway crossing of Whitesand Creek.

*General*.—Will want clothes for the winter. Says that his wife finds the place lonely and misses the Gospel.

## No. 30.—ALEXANDER MORRISON.

*Family.*—Wife and three small daughters, aged 7, 3, and 1½ years.

*Breaking.*—9 or 10 acres.

*House.*—Walls protected with rails laid horizontally and mudded; half finished; neat interior.

*Stable.*—Logs with heavy turfing outside; now in course of construction. Is being erected jointly with No. 41.

*Stock.*—Complains very much of his oxen. One of them is lame and useless; cannot stand hard work, though lameness passes off with rest. (Close this beast himself.)

*Cow.*—Gives about 1½ quarts. Calf all right.

*Well.*—About 45 feet deep, water brackish.

*Hay.*—9 to 10 tons. Has more stacked in meadow. Complains of the heavy labour involved in putting it up.

*General.*—This man is now upon his second allotment; his first, which he rejected, was since taken by one Pollock. Will require winter clothing for family.

## No. 31.—DONALD MORRISON.

*Family.*—Wife and six children, all under 15. Sons, 13 and 8; daughters, 15, 10, 4, and 1½. Eldest daughter went to Portage la Prairie on the 25th July. Has not sent any of her wages.

*Breaking.*—Two acres.

*House.*—Not fixed for the winter.

*Stable.*—Big stable of turf and poles. Not completed.

*Stock.*—Wants his oxen changed. Has two cows giving milk. Has two pigs; worked a day for each.

*Well.*—25 feet deep, contains seven feet of water.

*Hay.*—Has about six tons.

*Labour.*—Cannot leave family to go to railway work. Complains that he lost a great deal of time about one of his oxen. Nevertheless he likes the beast, which is a good worker.

*General.*—Has an additional cow, which was earned by one of his daughters as wages.

## No. 32.—JOHN MCKAY

Settled on Hudson Bay quarter by mistake. His improvements are on the S.E. quarter, which his son, Malcolm, will take up, consisting of 80 acres.

*Family.*—Wife, and son of 22, and daughters of 27, 18, and two 12. Malcolm at work. Rachel, daughter, at Portage la Prairie, working with Mrs. Dancer. Mary, sister, is at home.

*Breaking.*—Five acres.

*House.*—Roof soddled over. Walls plastered inside downstairs. Two spinning wheels.

*Stable.*—Built of turf and poles. Finished.

*Stock.*—Was given a yoke of oxen. Has small pig. Two cows with calves. One of the cows was purchased by himself.

*Well.*—18 feet deep; little water.

*Hay.*—About eight tons.

## Nos. 35 and 34.

## No. 34.—JOHN MCKAY, senior.

## No. 35.—JOHN MCKAY, junior.

*Family.*—Consists of wife and eight children; sons, 14, 10, and infant; daughters, 16, 10, 8, 4. Kenneth, his brother, is at Portage la Prairie. Had a letter from him, but no money. Brother's family is in the old county, looked after by friends. Donald Murray went to Portage la Prairie on the 12th of May. Is now at Rat Portage employed on a saw mill. Has received no money from him. Catherine, daughter, 16 years, at home.

*Breaking.*—Father has six acres; son has none.

*House.*—Walls are partly turfed; a few days' work will make it warm and habitable during the winter.

*Stable.*—Excellent. Built of turf and roofed with hay. Should be very warm. Wants another cow.

*Hay.*—About seven tons; a few more to be cut. Has mother five left in meadow.

*Well.*—None; water is obtained from No. 3.

*Labour.*—Son agrees to go to work on railway at Whitesand Creek on Friday.

*General.*—The whole family will want clothes. Had no money when they came out. No. 33 has one cow; No. 34 has one cow and two oxen.

No. 35.—PETER MORRISON.

*Family.*—Wife, and sons of 11, 9, 7, and 5; daughter of 3.

*Breaking.*—Only one acre. Says that haying has fully occupied all his time since the 15th of July.

*House.*—Partly finished inside. Has a good supply of firewood.

*Stable.*—Very good indeed; built of duck turf.

*Stock.*—Cow is giving milk. Has yoke of oxen.

*Well.*—None. Will commence at it.

*Hay.*—Has about 14 tons.

*Labour.*—Says that he cannot leave his family for railway work.

No. 36.—DONALD MACDONALD

*Family.*—Mother, over 40 years. Brothers, 20 and 17; sisters 15 and 13. Brother, John, aged 17, went to Winnipeg on the 7th July. Has been employed with a farmer. Is now engaged with another farmer. Alexander, brother, 20 years, went to Portage la Prairie on the 29th of May. No letter from him. Christine, sister, was working out, but not receiving any wages left and went to another place. Annie is at home helping the mother.

*Breaking.*—Five acres.

*House.*—Nearly finished inside. Roof partly turfed. Mother has spinning wheel. Fair supply of firewood drawn up to the house.

*Stables.*—Very good; turf and pole. Roof covered over with hay. Requires lumber to make a door.

*Well.*—Dug down 15 feet; scanty supply of water.

*Hay.*—Has 10 tons, or thereabouts.

*Labour.*—Said he was very anxious for work.

*Complaint.*—That his work was much hampered through his having only half share of wagon. The sole control would have greatly facilitated his operations.

*Stock.*—Yoke of oxen, cow, and calf; all satisfactory.

*General.*—Asks that the family be supplied with clothing for the winter. Did not bring much with him for want of money.

No. 37.—RODERICK MCKAY (Son of No. 5).

*Family.*—Wife and three children: son, aged 1 year; daughters, 3 and 5. Brother Angus went to Portage la Prairie 29th May. Aunt, aged 58 years. McKay has received money from none.

*Breaking.*—Five acres.

*House.*—Plastered outside on rails. Nearly ready for winter. Spinning wheel in the house.

*Stable.*—Very good. Dug out of the bank. Pole roof. Turl walls, about five feet thick at base.

*Stock.*—Cow, not in calf, and has never had calf. Gets milk from his father's cow. Asks that an exchange be made. Oxen are old, but good workers.

*Well.*—22 feet deep, but no water. Thinks he can get water by using auger.

*Hay.*—Has seven loads cut with his father; about one-third drawn in. His hay is stacked dangerously near the house. Mr. B radeale was instructed to get him to move it a little further away. A spark from the stove-pipe would cause the destruction of hay and house.

*General.*—Says he had a one-third share in boat. Brought a little money with him; has now only 20 cents left. Has enough stockings for the winter, but no clothes. Has a roll of excellent tweed, woven by Ewen McKay, which he has been endeavouring to sell at 1 dollar a yard; was offered 75 cents, but refused.

## No. 38.—MURDO MCSWEEN.

*Family.*—Wife, and partner, Donald Campbell. Has had a letter from him, saying that he will be up this fall. Is working at Macdonald Station. Murdo says he does not expect to be repaid by his partner.

*House.*—Plastered outside on rails laid horizontally. Declares his lumber was 140 feet short, \$3. It seems that after delivery of the quantity necessary for the house, Murdo took it to the lake and hauled it about the country.

*Stable.*—Half built; rails and turf.

*Well.*—42 feet deep; contains six feet of good water.

*Breaking.*—Six or seven acres.

*Hay.*—Has eight tons lying in the meadow and two tons in stack.

*Clothes.*—None for the winter; has plenty of light summer things.

## No. 39.—EWAN MCKAY (weaver by trade).

*Family.*—Wife, and three sons, aged 12, 11, and 5; and three daughters, aged 15, 10, and 2. One of his girls had work at hotel, but returned home after a while.

*Breaking.*—Five acres.

*House.*—Turf roof over boards and tar paper; plastered inside up and down stairs. Has spinning wheel and loom, and would like to follow his trade.

*Stable.*—Built of logs, with turf walls and sod and hay roof.

*Stock.*—Cow and calf, and oxen. Satisfied with them.

*Well.*—38 feet; 3½ feet of water.

*Hay.*—Has about eight tons.

*Labour.*—Was told to come to work on Wednesday.

## No. 40.—NIEL MCSWEEN.

*Family.*—Brother and his wife. Brother Tulloch working at Medicine Hat. Wife staying at Niel's House. Annie, sister, at home. Marion working at Birtle with Mrs. Herchmer; writes, but sends no money. Catherine McGuish, friend, left them at Winnipeg; is at service. No letter from her.

*Breaking.*—Four or five acres.

*House.*—Turfed roof over boards and tar paper; partly plastered inside. Sister has spinning wheel. Not plastered upstairs yet.

*Stable.*—Completed; built of turf, with pole and hay roof; warm.

*Stock.*—Has yoke of oxen. Is well satisfied with cow. Has chickens.

*Water.*—40 feet deep; contains 10 feet of water.

*Hay.*—Has about six tons in meadow and as much in stack.

*Labour.*—Agreed to come to work on Friday as spare man.

## No. 41.—MURDO McDONALD.

*Family.*—Wife, and three children, sons, aged 6, 4, and 2. Donald, a cousin, working at Arden; has written, but sent no money. Katherine McLeod, a cousin, went to Winnipeg; no word; thinks she is now at Killarney.

*Breaking.*—About six acres.

*House.*—Ready for winter; well solded outside.

*Stable.*—None.

*Stock.*—Says oxen are only "middling." Cow all right, not much milk. Good calf.

*Well.*—None; gets water from No. 46.

*Hay.*—Nine tons.

*General.*—Will want clothes for the children for winter.

## No. 12.—ALEXANDER YOUNG.

*Family.*—Wife and four children: son aged 4, daughters 8, 2, and baby. Norman Morrison, a cousin, went to Portage la Prairie on 12th May: will take S.E. quarter of homestead if he can get advance of £300, and will then see No. 2 through. Jane Stewart came out with family, and went straight through to B.A.

*Breaking.*—Two acres: did some breaking for Mitchell.

*House.*—Built it himself. Done nothing to it for the winter.

*Stable.*—Turf walls up: rails for framework of roof lying alongside.

*Stock.*—Cow and calf lost: supposed to be in Icelandic settlement. Oxen all right.

*Well.*—17 feet deep: 5 feet of water: good.

*Hay.*—Lost all by fire: absent from home putting up more with his wife assisting him.

## No. 13.—ARCHIE FERGUSON.

*Family.*—Wife and five children, son of 7, daughters 15, 13, 7, and 1. Marion, daughter, is at the Moosomin crofter settlement.

*Breaking.*—Six acres.

*House.*—Good: plastered downstairs: turf roof. Wife has spinning wheel.

*Stable.*—Very good: log and turf.

*Stock.*—Is satisfied. Oxen and cow all right: cow not giving much milk.

*Well.*—None.

*Hay.*—Has six tons: trying more.

*Labour.*—Will go to work on the railway on Friday.

*General.*—Says his brother, Frederick Ferguson, one of Lady Gordon Cathcart's Moosomin crofters, has three or four 1,000 bushels of wheat and has 20 head of stock, after five years in this country. He produced Archie a cow and calf if he will go for them. Wants clothes for children. Likes the country well, and says that everyone has been very kind to him.

## No. 14.—MURDO McIVOR.

*Family.*—Wife and three children, daughters 1, 2½, and 2 years. Donald Graham, cousin, at Portage la Prairie on 12th May. Was at work on railway at Drummond when last heard from: expects to return when work gets scarce.

*Breaking.*—1½ acres.

*House.*—Outside has enclosed house with 12 corner posts, painted at corners, and plastered in with mud, making a thick and impervious wall to the house.

*Stable.*—Is building one with No. 30 jointly: got on fairly, but not making a good substantial job of it.

*Stock.*—Had a yoke of oxen brought in and started them two months ago. Cow poor: gives only about a quart of milk.

*Well.*—Shares that of No. 30.

*Hay.*—Has put up hay with No. 30, and will share with him.

*Labour.*—Cannot go out to work, the backward condition of his own work renders it imperative he should stay and finish it.

*General.*—Will want winter clothing for himself, his children. Says he left some ropes and nets with his neighbours.

## No. 15.—MURDO McIVOR.

*Family.*—Wife and two small children, daughter of three and infant: all in good health. Girl who accompanied him has married Donald Murray.

*House.*—Walls protected with rails laid horizontally and nudded: almost completed.

*Stable.*—Finished: poles and turf.

*Stock.*—Says oxen are good enough in plough, but not up to much in waggon. Only one cow and no calf.

*Hay.*—Has six tons up and one-sixth sown on 50 tons in meadow. Complains of seven weeks lost baying.

*Well.*—He and Murdo McSwain share a very good well together.

*Labour.*—Will go to railway work at Whitesand Creek on Friday.

*Complaints.*—Wants another cow and calf.

*Breaking.*—Seven acres. Will want warm clothing for winter.

## No. 16.—JOHN MACDONALD, a tailor by trade.

*Family*.—Wife and one child two years old. Sister Barbara was at Birtle. Received letter from her but no money. Received wages, 86 a month. Now near Solsgirth with Mrs. Rideout. Donald, a cousin, works at Neepawa. Complains of small wages, gets \$30 a month and pays \$15 board. Has had four months' work.

*Breaking*.—Has about nine acres broken.

*House*.—Walls are nearly completed; is now engaged in finishing.

*Stable*.—Nothing done.

*Well*.—Well 17 feet deep and five feet of water; covered over and trap door constructed.

*Stock*.—Oxen all right, also cow. No calf.

*Complaint*.—No calf with cow. Claims one.

*General*.—Wants shoes and winter clothing for himself and family. Likes the country pretty well, but says his wife is very home-sick.

## No. 17.—JOHN MELVOR.

Was seven years at York factory in the Hudson's Bay Company.

*Family*.—Wife; son 23, another of 15, and daughter of 12. Son, John, will give security if allowed to take S.W. quarter. David, another son, with McLeod at Killarney. Came up last year. Isabella, at home sick. Murdo, a son, at home.

*Breaking*.—Two acres.

*House*.—Plastered outside; turf ready for roof.

*Stable*.—Very good. Divided into stalls and drains out.

*Stock*.—All right. One cow, bought another for himself. Has calf. Has yoke of oxen.

*Well*.—18 feet deep; contains 2½ feet of water.

*Hay*.—10 tons in stack.

*Labour*.—Either he or his son will go to work on railway on Thursday.

## No. 18.—KENNETH McLEOD.

Young man with no family. Has two partners who send him nothing. One of them, Donald Gillies, writes occasionally but sends no money. Says Donald will return soon and let him go away to work.

*Breaking*.—10 acres. Says it took him a month to do it.

*House*.—Cost \$71 75c. Done nothing to it for the winter.

*Well*.—20 feet deep; only contains six inches of water.

*Stables*.—Walls partly completed of turf.

*Stock*.—One cow; calf dead.

*Hay*.—11 tons. Cut with mower. Repaid use of machine with three days' labour.

*General*.—Likes the country. Wants N.E. quarter kept for feed in S. stand. Says did not go to work as not ready. Was helping Mitchell. Says he has only done two months' work for himself in all. Complains of the effect of the prairie fire, which has done a great deal of damage. This man was first located upon N. half section 22. He thought it not good enough and refused it. An English settler has now taken it up and erected a house costing \$900. Was urged to go to work. Agreed to go to the dump on Friday next the 9th instant.

## No. 19.—DONALD McLEOD.

Donald Melvor, son of 17, came out with 19 and has gone to Killarney.

*Breaking*.—One acre.

*House*.—Is erecting Red River frame house. Is living in tent.

*Well*.—20 feet deep. A fair supply of water.

*Hay*.—About eight tons; has fenced it in.

*Labour*.—Was absent when we visited place. Left note for him to come in to work, which he accordingly did.