

is spent in wandering about the country in search of what is not very easy of attainment. Another difficulty of the newly-arrived settler consists in getting information concerning the unoccupied territory. No land-office or land-agent is found here for the emigrant to apply to, and he not unfrequently falls into the hands of those who defraud him, or is led astray by the reports of the ignorant or prejudiced, and at last is induced to purchase much more than he requires, and in consequence fails of success. The government lands are disposed of in a different way from what ours are. A certain parish having been surveyed and mapped, is advertised as being open for sale; persons select and make application, and if a less quantity than six hundred and forty acres is desired, he is obliged to state the reasons of his wish to obtain it, and the use to which he purposes to put it: the land is then advertised to be sold on a certain day (of the month), at public auction. If the land offered for sale happen to be in the neighbourhood of some wealthy proprietor, he cannot fail to become informed of it; the section is bid up, and the person may be disappointed in obtaining the allotment selected and advertised by his own desire.

The minimum price must be paid, at any rate: this originally was five shillings an acre; it is now twelve. Ten per cent. must be paid down, and the remainder in one month, or the deposit is forfeited. On payment of the money the title-deed is given, subject to the nominal quit-rent of a peppercorn. Before delivery of the deeds, the law provides that forty shillings shall be paid to the colonial secretary, and five shillings to the register. The crown reserves to itself the right of making roads and bridges, as well as of taking timber, stone, and other materials for making and keeping them in repair; as well as all mines of coal and precious metals. No land within one hundred feet of high-water mark on the sea-coast, harbours, or bays, is to be considered open to purchase, unless for purposes of commerce and navigation.

As respects the discontents arising from what the colonists call the misapplication of the land-fund, her Majesty's ministers have determined that she has a right to alienate the waste lands, and divert the appropriation of the proceeds, and that the doubts raised would, if sustained, be laid aside by a declaratory act of Parliament.

All free persons are admitted as purchasers of land, without any limitation whatever as to quantity.

In order to show that the statement of the extent of crime in the colony, however extraordinary it may appear, is not exaggerated, I will give extracts from the charge of Judge Burton to the jury, at the close of the session of the Supreme Court, in November, 1835, and