

and also between the above-mentioned hills, was in wet weather almost impassable, and that it would be oppressive to enforce the Law against the inhabitants, who by a *Procès Verbal* of old standing, were indefinitely bound to make and keep the same in repair, as being their front road.—It was resolved to grant them pecuniary aid towards effectuating the purpose, on condition of their rounding and gravelling their road, and accordingly there was paid to the said inhabitants the sum of £140 : 8 : 9, comprehending allowances for injury to individuals by the carting of the gravel.—Consequently on the whole of the objects above-mentioned, there has been expended by the Treasurer, in money £40 : 6 : 7, beyond the total amount of monies by him received and for which he remains still in advance.

And several Members informed your Committee, that they were well acquainted with the said road in its former and present state, and that the improvements made in the same, are beyond what were considered practicable; but that it is still susceptible of, and requires further improvements to be made durable; besides that the labour applicable thereto, where defined, is greatly inadequate to the objects; and where the inhabitants are indefinitely bound to the repairs, it would be too burthenfome for them were such labour rigorously exacted.

That although the principle of the general road system, may have been very proper in respect to the *La Chine* road, when it served merely as a communication between farms and dwellings of the different inhabitants of the Island of *Montreal*, and to carry their own produce to market; yet since that the said road became the great thoroughfare for the Commerce and intercourse between *Upper* and *Lower Canada*, and property of a very great amount, has in consequence been annually transported over the same by carters who carry for hire; it would have been and would still be the height of injustice and oppression, to exact of the said inhabitants such a portion of labour, as would be sufficient for keeping the said road in proper order: Consequently that if other means be not fallen upon, the same
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