

Nevertheless; despite the drawbacks which we have here set out, and our statements respecting which are corroborated by the figures above given, settlement proceeds on the Eastern side with great rapidity. The extensive and prosperous settlements of Glassville and Johnville are the work of but a few years. A half dozen years since there could scarcely be found a settler in these regions; but a year ago even one of them had become so important that the Legislature set it apart as a new parish. If we wish to form a pretty correct notion of the rate at which settlement is proceeding in the Eastern portion of this County we have but to turn to the Report of the Crown Land Department for the year ending 31st October, 1862, and observe the approvals of applications for Government lands under the Labour Act. It will be easily understood that lands applied for by actual settlers are applied for under the Labour Act; and that lands which are applied for by payment down, or by instalments, are generally *bought* for purposes of speculation. Now in the year mentioned, the Crown Land Returns show that of 1,004 approvals of applications under the Labour Act in the Province, there were 234 for lands in Carleton County; while of the number of acres for which applications was thus made, in all 95,955, over a third,—23,202,—were located in the County of Carleton.

Had there been a Bridge across the River for the last ten years, at this day the East side would probably have been little, if at all, behind the West side in production. A Bridge would nearly equalize the advantages of the two sides; and with a Railway to Woodstock such an impetus would be given to settlement upon the enormous extent of wild lands on the East side, that in ten years from the time at which the Bridge was completed we should have the productions of the County double those of its West side. With these facilities of communication Carleton would, in a few years drive from the markets the competing produce of Nova Scotia and Prince Edward Island. Her capacity for agricultural production cannot be judged by what she does at present produce, both from the want of access to the East side, and because her farmers have no regular and steady market in which to dispose of their surplus produce. The home demand in our villages and in the lumber woods, falls very far short of what is necessary to draw forth the capa-