MEMORANDUM

ON THE

SUBJECT OF THE

Queher Turnpike Trust.

The Quebec Turnpike Trust was established in 1841, by the Ordinance 4 Vic. c. 17.

4 Vic. C. 17, of the Special Council of Lower Canada.

The Governor was authorised to appoint Trustees for opening, making and property vest keeping in repair certain roads leading to the City of Quebec and to acquire for ed in the that purpose real and personal property "to be vested in Her Majesty for the public uses of the Province, subject to the management of the Trustees."

The following roads were placed under their control, viz.:

- - Being a total of...... 31 mil.

The Trustees were authorized to raise by way of loan, on the credit and £25,000. security of the tolls, a sum not exceeding £25,000, to defray the cost of opening and macadamizing the above 31 miles of roads, but as macadamized roads cannot be built under £1000 per mile, that sum was insufficient.

However, during the same year, the Legislature passed the Act 4 & 5 Vic. c. 4,5 V.c. 72. 72, adding to the 31 miles mentioned in the Ordinance, 31 miles, including three expensive bridges, which were all in a delapidated state. Scott's bridge was immediately rebuilt at an expense of £1000, the whole adding a further sum of about £4500 to the indebtedness of the Trust. Against this extension, as also Rosads extendagainst subsequent ones, not carrying with them any pecuniary provision for their education and maintenance, the Trustees remonstrated, but instead of placing at their disposal the necessary funds to enable them to meet their engagements and to make up for the deficit, the Legislature in 1843, passed the Act 7 Vic. c. 14, exempting from toll vehicles conveying manare, or parties to Church, on Sundays and Holidays, thereby entailing an annual loss of about £1000.

In 1845, Mr. Chauveau, the member for the County of Quebec, re- 1845. ferred the subject of the Quebec Turnpike Roads to a Select Committee composed of members residing in Quebec or representing the adjoining Counties, whose inhabitants were petitioning for the reduction and even, the entire