

MINUTES OF EVIDENCE BEFORE THE SPECIAL COMMITTEE

Mr. *Chs. Turgeon*, worked at the opening of the Road prayed, or of any other ?
 11 Dec. 1828. —The landholders in Blandford have already made a very convenient winter Road of the Road prayed for. Some other persons settled lower down the River have opened another leading out of it between Blandford and Maddington ; and some Lumbermen, a few years ago, opened a third at a distance of about a league from that last mentioned.

Is it beyond the means of the Settlers in these parts to open and complete the said Road ?—Even if they united all their labour and all their means, they would be unable at present to open a Summer Road.

At what distance from the Settlements on the Banks of the St. Lawrence are the new Settlements on the River Becancour and would these last have no means of communication by any other line than that on which the Petitioners pray that a Road may be opened ?—The Settlements on the River Becancour are about five leagues from those on the Saint Lawrence. In addition to what I said in answer to the seventh question I may add that the River Becancour itself affords the means of water communication, but about the middle of the Township of Maddington it becomes full of rapids, and the Portages are now impassable. Altogether, this means of communication is very dangerous

Do you know what reasons the Petitioners have for desiring Road between the 1st and 2d ranges of Blandford rather than elsewhere ?—Among other reasons for this preference are these this Road is in a more advanced state than any other, and the great number of Lots granted and on which Settlements are made in the 1st and 2d Ranges, affords more certain means of keeping it in repair :—The land necessary and fit for the Road has been reserved in this place ; and further, there is a Road in the Seignior of Gentilly leading to the Township already *verbally* *lisé* and on the point of being opened.

If the Legislature were to grant a pecuniary aid for the opening of the said Road, what means are you acquainted with by which the future keeping up and repairing of the Road might be provided for ; suggest those means to the Committee ?—I consider the means pointed out in my answer to the preceding question