

by these contractors in some degree, and have made a deduction from the account payable by the terms of the contract. Here the Trustees have occasion to remark it as their opinion, that work done under the eye of trustworthy overseers, is not only superior in every respect, but cheaper also.

#### CONTRACT, No. VIII.

John Belcher tendered for the excavation and levelling of the West Hill of the Humber, at the rate offered by one Trotter, who requested to be released from his Tender, as it would, in his apprehension, prove a loss to him, the Trustees having consented to his trial before contract, and Belcher having consented, took up the contract, which he did, and has very nearly performed.

The Trustees regret that they have to complain that Mr. Thomas Cooper has, in despite of the obvious necessity, therefore, refused to remove a large framed stable, usually called a driving house, appurtenant to his tavern. The requisite removal would have cost but little, not more than twelve or fifteen pounds, but Mr. Cooper demanding £70 at one time, and subsequently proposing to reduce the demand to £50, the Trustees were under the unpleasant necessity of giving instructions to the contractor to go on with the work, and fill the hollow ground in front of this frame stable with the earth and sand excavated from the hill. This driving-house now stands 8 or 10 feet on the road, and exhibits a very unsightly object, interrupting the uniform course of the south side of the road towards the bridge over the River. The Trustees fear that legal process must be resorted to with regard to Mr. Cooper in this respect.

#### CONTRACT, No. IX.

Thomas Montgomery tendered for section 25, and cutting down part of the hill in front of his own house, and has nearly performed the work. At this time the Trustees considering the amount of the contracts as still quite within the means, and the season well fitted for the work, determined on extending the work to the improvement of the swamp in section 47 and 49, over which a decayed causeway of logs then afforded a very bad way, even in good weather, and one in bad weather next to impassable. This they propose to improve by the entire removal of the old timbers, ditching, erecting culverts, and filling up to sufficient height the whole of the way with earth, covered with a bed of excellent gravel, afforded on the high ground of the road in its approach towards the swamp. This work has been done under Mr. Peter McCollum, as overseer, with the superintendence of Mr. Logan, Mr. Lewis, and Mr. Cook, by days' labor. This piece of work has been admirably well done, and affords for a future time a perfect compact and solid foundation for macadamization, when it may hereafter become necessary. It is hoped, however, that the deep covering of the coarse gravel will afford the public an excellent road for a long time. The swamp was of such a nature that if unrepaired the improved part of the road Eastward of it would be the less useful publicly, and the tolls, of course, less productive. This conviction on the minds of the Trustees induced them to pass over the continuous improvement by macadamization from

the Eastward, and indeed also suggested the necessity of levelling the Credit hills, so dangerous to travellers, cattle, and waggons.

To these hills the Trustees directed Mr. Gibson to repair, and report upon their condition, and the best mode of rendering them safe by such work as should by its nature be a preparation for more complete and permanent work, should the Parliament augment the funds necessary for its further improvement. Mr. Gibson did accordingly survey this portion, and presented sections and plans for its improvement; which being approved of, the work was, by day laborers, horses and carts, conducted under the care of Mr. John Carey, living near the spot; and the Trustees have every reason to be fully satisfied with the care and fidelity of Mr. Carey in the duty entrusted to him; the safety of this passage will, no doubt, greatly augment the usefulness of the road, and improve the receipts of toll.

#### CONTRACT No. X.

Joseph Horning tendered for cutting down the hill on the East and West sides of a branch of the River Etobicoke. Tender accepted and work performed agreeably to it.

#### CONTRACT, No. XI.

William Ogden tendered for building a bridge over the Etobicoke, which is done; but the severe weather has prevented the finishing the approach to it, which will be also finished so soon as the opening of the Spring will admit.

#### CONTRACT, No. XII.]

William Custead tendered for the work of section 8 and 9, accepted, and work performed.

#### CONTRACT, No. XIII.

John and Alexander McLean, Masons, tendered for the construction of three culverts, accepted, and work performed.

It appears that about 5 or 6 years ago, a stone arch was built by Government over the race-way, at Mr. Cooper's Mills, at the Humber, and the portion of the bridge at the East end, with respect to the line of road, was so situated that it did not afford a sufficient sweep of ground for the safety of teams descending the road. To obviate this it became necessary to add to this stone arch an extent of 20 feet of new work, which is accordingly done; though still the projecting driving-house of Mr. Cooper's disfigures the appearance of this improvement, and is, in fact, a subsisting nuisance in the way.

The Trustees have, under the authority of the Statute by which they act, established a second toll-gate on the East side of the Mimico River, with like toll charges as at the Western toll-gate of this City established the preceding year. It is not possible, at present, to form any satisfactory estimate of the probable receipts of this new gate so recently erected.