

PECIAL COMMITTEE ON ROADS AND OTHER INTERNAL COMMUNICATIONS.

complete this Road; the Saint Lawrence Becancour; the soil is rich and might afford means of settlement to more than 5000 Settlers, equally advantageous for the Settlers themselves and the Province.

Mr.
Chs. Turgeon

11 Dec. 1828,

Do the Seigniories adjoining these Townships still contain a number of unconceded Lots of Land sufficient to supply the demand therefor of the younger farmers who wish to settle themselves on land of their own?—I know little of these Seigniories; but the anxiety shown by the young farmers to procure Lands on the River Becancour gives me reason to believe that there are few or no lands in these Seigniories yet unconceded.

What part of these Townships do the new Settlers appear to prefer; and where, in fact, are the Settlements already begun, the most numerous?—The River Becancour, which as I have before observed, serves as a central point to the said Townships appears to be preferred among the new Settlements, and, in fact, it is there that the Settlements are the most numerous.

What is the state of these new Settlements; and can you inform the Committee what is the number of families or persons already settled in these places?—The Settlements on the River Becancour are in a sufficiently advanced state. I cannot exactly say how many families are there settled: I feel persuaded they exceed fifty.

Is the progress of these Settlements retarded by the want of a Road; and to how many families would the opening of the Road mentioned in the Petition referred to the Committee [*The Petition of divers inhabitants of the Eastern Townships, situated in the County of Buckinghamshire, was shewn to the witness*] afford a readier means of settlement; and what means of communication have the families now established in the Townships?—The necessity under which the Settlers find themselves of carrying on their backs, the numerous articles for which they have occasion during the summer, from the Settlements on the St. Lawrence to those on the River Becancour, is severely felt by them, and exposes them to great privations, by which means many of those already settled there become disgusted, and those who wish to settle are deterred from doing so. Now, the opening of the Road prayed for would, I think, procure and facilitate the means of settlement to more than 5000 families.