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284 Hist. du Can. N° 8

FIRST REPORT

OF THE

SPECIAL COMMITTEE

ON

INTERNAL COMMUNICATIONS.

[*Ordered by the Assembly to be printed.*]



20022925

FIRST REPORT

Of the Special Committee of the House of Assembly of *Lower Canada*, to whom was referred that part of the Speech of His Excellency the Administrator of the Government, at the opening of the present Session, which relates to Internal Communication.

[Received by the House, Monday the 8th March, 1830.]

HOUSE OF ASSEMBLY.

Tuesday, 26th January, 1830.

Resolved, That that part of the Speech of His Excellency the Administrator of the Government, at the opening of the present Session, which relates to internal communications, be referred to a Committee of five Members, to report thereon from time to time, with power to send for persons, papers and records.

Ordered, That Mr. *Blanchet*, Mr. *Stuart*, Mr. *Brooks*, Mr. *Heriot*, and Mr. *Deligny*, do compose the said Committee.

Wednesday, 27th January, 1830.

Ordered, That the Petition from the Inhabitants of the Townships of *Dudswell*, *Westbury* and *Ascot* be referred to the said Committee.

Ordered, That the Petition from the inhabitants of the
Townships

Townships of *Dudswell, Westbury, Eaton, Newport, Clifton* and *Hereford*, be referred to the said Committee.

Ordered, That the Petition from the inhabitants of the Townships on the River *St. Francis* be referred to the said Committee.

Ordered, That the Report from the Commissioners to carry into execution the Act of the ninth George the Fourth chapter nineteen, for the improvement and completion of the road from *Drummondville* to the Seigniory of *Deguire*, and that from *Drummondville* to the Township of *Brompton*, be referred to the said Committee.

Friday, 29th January, 1830.

Ordered, That the Report from the Commissioners of the road from *L'Ange des Mères* to *Sillery* be referred to the said Committee.

Ordered, That the Petition of the inhabitants of the Parish of *St. Anne* in the County of *Hampshire*, be referred to the said Committee.

Ordered, That the Petition of the inhabitants of the Township of *Blandford* and other of the Eastern Townships, be referred to the said Committee.

Ordered, That the Petition of the inhabitants of the Counties of *Quebec* and *Hampshire*, be referred to the said Committee.

Monday, 1st February, 1830.

Ordered, That the Reports from the Commissioners appointed to execute the Act of the 9th George IV. chapter 13th, laid before the House this day, and those heretofore laid before the House, be referred to the said Committee.

Ordered,

Ordered, That the Petition from the inhabitants of *St. Gervais* in the County of Hertford, be referred to the said Committee.

Wednesday, 3rd February, 1830.

Ordered, That the Petition of the inhabitants of the Township of *Shipton* and others, be referred to the said Committee.

Friday, 5th February, 1830.

Ordered, That the Petition of the inhabitants of the Parish of *St. Stanislas* and others, be referred to the said Committee.

Ordered, That the Petition of the inhabitants of the Township of *Kilkenny*, be referred to the said Committee.

Ordered, That the Petition of *M. L. Juchereau Duchesnay*, be referred to the said Committee.

Ordered, That the Petition of the inhabitants of the Seigniories of *Noyan* and *Sabrevois*, be referred to the said Committee.

Ordered, That the Petition of the inhabitants of the Counties of *Dorchester*, *Hertford* and others, be referred to the said Committee.

Ordered, That the Petition of the inhabitants of the Townships of *Shefford*, *Granby* and others, be referred to the said Committee.

Ordered, That the Petition of *Charles Smith, Senior*, one of the Commissioners of Roads in the environs of *Quebec*, be referred to the said Committee.

Ordered, That the Petition of the inhabitants of *Ste. Anne de la Pérade*, be referred to the said Committee.

Ordered,

Ordered, That the Petition of the inhabitants of *St. Francois de la Baie du Febvre* and other places, be referred to the said Committee.

Ordered, That the Petition of the Inhabitants of the Township of *Rawdon*, be referred to the said Committee.

Ordered, That the Petition of the inhabitants of the Townships of *Milton*, *Acton*, and others, be referred to the said Committee.

Ordered, That the Petition of the inhabitants of the Parishes of *Ste. Croix* and *St. Antoine*, be referred to the said Committee.

Ordered, That it be an instruction to the said Committee to make inquiry in what manner the monies granted by the Act 5th George IV. chapter 30, have been expended.

Ordered, That the Petition of the inhabitants of *St. Hyacinthe*, and other places, be referred to the said Committee.

Ordered, That the Petition of the inhabitants of the Seigniories of *St. Hyacinthe*, *Langan*, *Bourchemin*, and other Seigniories, be referred to the said Committee.

Friday, 19th February, 1830.

Ordered, That the Reports of the Commissioners for internal communications, laid before the House to this day, or to be received, be referred to the said Committee.

Attest.

W. B. LINDSAY,

Clerk Assbly.

HOUSE OF ASSEMBLY,

COMMITTEE ROOM,

Wednesday, 3rd March 1830.

In Committee on the annexed order of reference.

PRESENT:—Messrs. *Blanchet, Stuart, Heriot, Deligny,*
and *Brooks.*

Mr. *Blanchet* in the Chair ;

YOUR Committee to whom was referred that part of the Speech of His Excellency the Administrator of the Government at the opening of the present Session, which relates to Internal Communications, have given to the subject all the attention which its importance calls for, and have now the honor to report as follows :

Your Committee have directed their attention to the Internal Communications of that portion of the Province which lies on the North Shore of the *St. Lawrence*, and of so much of the land lying on the South Shore as is found between *Quebec* and the line dividing this Province from the *United States of America* ; and next, to the Internal Communications of that portion of the Province which lies on the South Shore of the *St. Lawrence* below *Quebec*, and it is under these three general heads that the observations they have to submit to the House, will be distributed.

Your Committee conceive that generally speaking, the public revenue cannot be safely or properly applied to any other Roads than main Roads of Communication, except under very peculiar circumstances, independantly of the considerations which render unadvisable the application of Public Monies to the cross roads generally,

rally, the superior importance of the main roads to the public at large, required on the part of the Committee their first and most particular attention.

FIRST HEAD.

The first road in the order of importance is that leading from *Coteau du Lac* to the line separating this Province from the Province of *Upper Canada*, as connecting the two Provinces together. It will be recollected that by the Provincial Statute of the 5th *Geo.* IV. cap. 30, a sum of £500 was appropriated towards opening a road from *Coteau du Lac* to the line separating this Province from the Province of *Upper Canada*, which sum it appears by the Report of the Commissioners has been laid out upon the road, besides a sum of £17 9 6, which the Commissioners have paid out of their own pockets for surveying and laying out the road; and that a further sum of £500 would be necessary to complete this road.

No. 1.
£517 9s. 6d. Your Committee would recommend an appropriation of £517 9 6 to cover the aforesaid deficiency and to complete the road in question.

The road from *Noyan* to *St. Armand* round the head of *Missisquoi Bay*, (respecting which a Petition of the Inhabitants of *Noyan* and *St. Armand*, praying for an aid, has been referred to your Committee,) is a public main road of communication, and as the rendering of it sufficient for the public purposes to which it is destined, exceeds the means of the Inhabitants who have already been subjected considerable expense upon it;

No. 2, £800. Your Committee would recommend the appropriation of a sum of £800 in their aid, which it appears from the examination taken before your Committee, would be necessary to render it solid and durable.

The communication along the banks, and by the waters of the River *St. Francis*, is in the estimation of your Committee of primary importance. In this view the Legislature

grislature has already appropriated sums of money for the amelioration of the land communication ; much benefit appears already to have resulted from the application of the public money to this object : further sums however appear to be necessary to be laid out upon this road, before all the benefits which it is calculated to produce can be secured : Your Committee would therefore recommend that there should be appropriated :—

First.—For that portion of the road on the South West side of the River *St. Francis* from *Hatley* to the Ferry, from five to six miles below *Drummondville*, and along the road as it now passes to the Bay of *St. Antoine*, a sum of three thousand one hundred pounds, whereof two thousand one hundred pounds is respectfully recommended to be expended in the present year, and the remaining sum of one thousand pounds in the next ensuing year, which said outlay your Committee humbly conceive will be sufficient fully to complete the said road, leaving it hereafter to be maintained by local taxation, in such manner as the wisdom of the Legislature may hereafter devise. No. 3, £3100.

Secondly.—For that portion of the road on the Easternmost side of the River *St. Francis* which is between *Shipton* and *St. Grégoire*, your Committee is humbly of opinion that no further appropriation be made for the said road in the present year.

Thirdly.—And as to that portion of the road which lies between *Shipton* and that commonly called the *St. Grégoire* road, it appears that of the sum of £1000 appropriated by the Provincial Parliament in the last year, only £427 13 has been expended, and your Committee are of opinion that it will be a fit time to consider the recommendation of the Commissioners for that road of a further appropriation of £700, when the balance of the sum already appropriated shall have been applied to the purposes of the appropriation.

Your Committee next directed their attention to the consideration of the water communication furnished by the River *St. Francis* itself. The

No. 4.
£3000.

The waters of that River which might be made subservient to the transportation of lumber, extend to a distance of from 130 to 150 miles, and have upon their banks a number of Townships; many of these would furnish an abundant supply of timber for exportation to an amount of from £50,000 to £75,000 in value annually for several years to come; this amelioration might be effected, as it appears from the examination of persons acquainted with the locality, at an expense of £3000, which might be refunded to the Province by a small duty upon the lumber which the Inhabitants would thus be enabled to bring down the *St. Francis*, if indeed the general benefit conferred upon the whole Province by this measure, were not amply sufficient to justify the application of so comparatively a small portion of the public funds for the attainment of so great an end.

The next main road of communication to which the attention of your Committee was directed is the road leading from the Northernmost extremity of Lake *Memphramagog* to the mountain of *St. Hyacinthe*, and commonly called the *Outlet Road*, and also the road connecting Lake *Massiwicki* with the said extremity of Lake *Memphramagog*.

For these two last Roads there was appropriated by the Legislature in the last year, a sum of £1500; of which from £900 to £950, has been disposed of under specific contracts, as appears by the Report of the Commissioners; of this sum from £700 to £750, stands disposed of on the Road between the Lake *Massiwicki* and the Northern extremity of Lake *Memphramagog*, and £200 within about four miles to the westward of the *Outlet*, leaving a sum of from £550 to £600 only to be applied to the remainder of the Road extending over a space of fifty two miles.

Your Committee considering that the Road in question affords one of the principal channels of communication between and through the Townships, with the old Settlements in *St. Hyacinthe* and with *Montreal*, are
of

of opinion that over and above the sum of £550 to £600 undisposed of, and already appropriated, a further aid of £1000 be granted, to be applied to the making and improving of the said Road.

No. 5
£1000.

Your Committee next took into their consideration the Petitions of the Townships of *Milton*, *Acton* and others, the Petition of the Townships of *Shefford*, *Grandby*, *Stukely* and *Ely*; and the Petition of the Townships of *Shipton*, *Melbourne*, *Durham*, *Kingsey*, *Brompton*, *Windsor* and *Ely*, and are of opinion that the most advantageous route of communication for this part of the country would be from the northern limit of *Melbourne* through *Ely*, *Roxton* and *Milton*, to the old settlements in the neighbourhood of *Yamaska* mountain, and that for the purpose of opening this Road, a sum should be appropriated not exceeding £1,600 currency.

No. 6,
£1,600.

Your Committee next examined the Petition of the Inhabitants of *St. Hyacinthe* and other places, and are of opinion that the prayer of the said Petition should be granted.

The Road prayed for affords in the opinion of your Committee, a desirable communication between the old settlements in *Yamaska* and River *St. Francis*, besides being of great public importance in other points of view, particularly to Militiamen settling in the Townships of *Upton* and *Acton*, and they think that a sum not exceeding £800 should be appropriated for the purpose of opening the said Road.

No. 7, £800

Your Committee next proceeded to take into consideration the Petition of the Inhabitants of *Ste. Croix* and *St. Antoine*; the line of communication prayed for by the Petitioners appears to your Committee to be likely to be productive of great advantage in more than one respect. It connects the old settlements already established in the Seigniorship of *Ste. Croix* to a depth of six concessions, with the settlements upon *Craig's Road* which it would intersect by a continued straight line.

The Seigniorship of *Ste. Croix* being ten leagues in depth,
possesses

tertile lands to its extremity, and it continues to be granted *en. Routure* at the ancient rates ; the making of the Road in question would incidentally have the effect of rendering available these lands to the redundant agricultural portion of the people to be found in the old settlements on the *St. Lawrence*, and would afford them the means of settlement, under very advantageous circumstances ; your Committee are therefore of opinion that a sum of £700 should be appropriated for the opening of the said Road.

No. 8, £700.

Your Committee next examined the prayer made on the part of the inhabitants of *Inverness*, for a change in the existing line of communication, from the said Township to the *St. Lawrence* at *Bazile's*, in the Parish of *St. Nicholas*, and are of opinion that an aid of £400 ought to be granted for the Road projected from Mr. *Cullen's*, on the River *Beaurivage* through the Seignories of *St. Giles* and *Ste. Croix*, and the Township of *Nelson* and *Inverness*, in as near as may be a straight line.

No. 9, £400.

Your Committee then examined the Report of the Commissioners for opening a communication between *Beloeil* and *Varenes* : It appears that a sum of £200 was appropriated in the last year for the opening of this Road, the Report of the Commissioners establishing that this object could not be obtained with a less sum than £500 in the whole, and it appearing to be one of considerable public utility, your Committee recommend the appropriation of the additional sum of £300, making with the aforesaid sum of £200, the sum of £500 for the making of the Road in question.

No. 10, £300.

Your Committee next examined the Petition from *Dudswell*, *Westbury*, *Eaton*, *Newport*, *Clifton* and *Hereford*, and are of opinion that the prayer of the Petitioners ought to be granted so far as the Township of *Dudswell* is concerned, and the making of a Road from its northern limits to its centre, and also from the northern extremity of the Road already opened to *Ireland*, being

a distance of five miles, and that there be appropriated for this object a sum of £750.

No. 11, £750

In reference to the Petition from *Hereford*, and *Compton*, your Committee are of opinion that it is highly desirable that an aid should be granted for this Road as completing the whole line of communication from the mouth of the *St. Francis* to the Province line, and accordingly that an aid not exceeding £500 should be appropriated for the opening of a Road running from the southernmost boundary line of *Hereford*, and through that Township to *Compton*.

No. 12 £500

Your Committee next examined the Petition from *St. Francis*, and humbly recommend an aid to the inhabitants in the augmentation of the Townships of *Wendover* and *Simpson*, to repair their Road and to make Bridges, a sum of £300; your Committee would also recommend for a Road from *Lennoxville* in *Ascot* to the west line of the Township of *Eaton*, the appropriation of a sum of £150.

No. 13, £300.

No. 14, £150.

SECOND HEAD.

Your Committee next proceeded to the second head of the matters referred to them, to wit; the internal communications of that portion of the Province which lies on the north shore of the River *St. Lawrence*, and your Committee beginning at the lower extremity of the District of *Quebec*, examined the Petition of the inhabitants of the Parish of the *Bay St. Paul*, and examined *Pascal de Sales Laterrière*, Esquire, respecting the facts stated therein, who confirmed the truth of the said facts.

Your Committee considering that the Bridge to which an aid is prayed for, is upon a main Road of communication, and considering also the peculiar circumstances disclosed in the Petition, are of opinion that a sum not exceeding five hundred pounds currency ought to be granted, as an aid to the Petitioners for erecting the said Bridge, the whole expence of which is estimated at £4000.

No. 15, £500.

Your Committee next took into their consideration the internal communications of the Island of *Orleans*, which

which occupied the attention this Honorable House in the year 1819, and in conformity with the Report of the Special Committee, made on the twenty ninth day of March of the said year, and concurred in by this Honorable House on the 31st day of the said month of March, recommend that an aid be granted to the inhabitants of the Island of *Orleans*, for opening a Road from the Church of the Parish of *St. Jean*, crossing the Island to the Church of the Parish of *St. Famille*, and for this purpose they recommend a grant of £200 currency.

No. 16, £200.

Your Committee next directed their attention to the main line of communication between the Cities of *Quebec* and *Montreal*, and here the two first objects which presented themselves to their attention, were the public toll bridge of *Jacques Cartier* and the approaches to the private toll bridge at the mouth of that River; the former of these has been rendered impassible by the falling in some of the wood work of it, this damage may be repaired, and the bridge itself restored to the public uses by an expenditure not exceeding £250, and they accordingly recommend that a sum not exceeding this amount may be appropriated for this purpose.

No. 17, £250.

Your Committee beg leave also to represent to your Honorable House, that from the diminution of traveling over this bridge during the Summer months, owing to the introduction of Steam Boats, and during Winter months from the erection of the private toll bridge at the mouth of the River *Jacques Cartier*, the tolls of the said bridge are not sufficient to pay the wages of the keeper thereof, they therefore recommend that when the said bridge shall be completed, it may be a free bridge, they would recommend also the grant of £200 to aid the inhabitants to improve the approaches to the said private toll bridge at the mouth of the *Jacques-Cartier*.

No. 18, £200.

Your Committee next directed their attention to two several Petitions from the inhabitants of *St. Anne de la Pérade*, the one praying for an aid to certain persons charged

charged with the maintaining of a certain route in the said Parish, and the other praying for a bridge over the River *St. Anne*; as the route in question supplies the place of the main road, when the latter is overflowed occasionally at the breaking up of the ice in the Spring, and as the opening of this route would be much too onerous to be supported entirely by the individuals now charged therewith :—

Your Committee is of opinion that there be granted No. 19, £36. to the said Petitioners a sum of £36 for the purpose aforesaid.

And as to the Bridge over the *St. Anne*, your Committee sensible of the utility of such a measure, have not nevertheless before them sufficient information either as to the place, where the said bridge out to be located, or as to the expense thereof, to justify them in going further than recommending the appropriation of a sum not exceeding £75, for the plans and estimates No. 20, £75. already made, and the obtaining estimates of the expense of the said undertaking to be laid before the three branches of the Legislature at their next Session.

The projected bridge over the River *St. Maurice* having been made the subject of a special reference, and the provision which the House in its wisdom thought expedient and necessary upon this matter, having been incorporated in a Bill, your Committee were relieved from the duty of directing their attention to it. And here ended their labours on the main line of communication between the cities of *Quebec* and *Montreal*.

Their attention was next called by various petitions to the tract of country in the rear of the existing settlements, and separated from them by mountains or morasses; and embracing the valley of *St. Anne* and of *Batiscan*, in the District of *Quebec*; the Township of *Caxton*, in the rear of the *Rivière du Loup* in the District of *Three Rivers*; the Township of *Brandon* in the rear of the Parish of *Berthier*, of *Raudon* in the rear of the Parish of *St. Sulpice*, of *Kilkenny* in the rear of the Seignior
niory

niory of *Lachesmay* and the adjoining Township of *Abercrombie* in the rear of the Parish of *Terrebonne*.

The mountainous tract of country and morasses already adverted to rendering access to this fertile country, unattainable by the private means of those who are already settled thereon, or who are desirous of going thither, and the former being subject to great hardships and privations for want of proper communications; your Committee consider that public aid would be advantageously applied to the opening of certain leading lines to the country in the rear of the mountains which stretch from *Quebec* to *Terrebonne*, and that the following sums should be appropriated for this purpose.

First, for opening a road from the *River aux Pins* in the Seigniory of *St. Gabriel* towards the head of the valley of the *St. Anne*, a sum not exceeding £200 currency.

Secondly, for opening of a road from lot number sixteem at a land belonging to *Louis Cantin* in the Seigniory of *Fossambault*, in as straight a line as may be practicable and advantageous, to the river *Jacques Cartier* towards the Lake, between numbers thirty and thirty six in the fifth range of the said Seigniory, a sum not exceeding £350.

Thirdly, for the opening of a road at the most convenient point on or in the neighbourhood of the Westernmost side of the Barony of *Portneuf* to the foot of the valley of the *St. Anne*, a sum not exceeding £250.

Fourthly, for the opening of a road in the vicinity of *St. Stanislaus* in the valley of the *Batiscan*, a sum not exceeding £300.

Fifthly: For the completing of the Road already opened through the Township of *Caxton*, £100.

Sixthly: For the completing of the Road already opened from the back settlements of *Berthier* to the Township of *Brandon*, a sum not exceeding £450.

Sevently: For the opening of a Road from the Township

ship of *Rawdon* to *Grand St. Esprit*, and *Bridges*, a sum not exceeding £330.

No. 27, £330.

Eighthly: For a Road leading from the old settlements at *Terrebonne* to the Township of *Kilkenny*, a sum not exceeding £350.

No. 28, £350.

Ninthly: Your Committee finding that the opening of the *Rideau Canal* and the works now going on that of *Grenville*, have produced a great increase in the number of travellers, and carriers on the Road across the Townships of *Chatham*, and the whole amount thereon appearing to equal five thousand tons annually, whereby the said Road has been entirely cut up, and that the expense of repairing the same would much exceed the private means of the small number of Inhabitants now residing in the said Township, think that to improve the front Road of the west half of the Township of *Chatham* on this side of *Grenville*, there should be appropriated a sum not exceeding £400 currency.

No. 29, £400.

Your Committee then took into consideration the Report of the Commissioners for the Roads of *Coghnewagha*, *Beauharnois* and *St. Regis*, and are of opinion that a further sum of £1000 should be appropriated for completing the communication from *Coghnewagha* to *St. Regis*, through the Township of *Godmanchester*.

No. 30, £1000

THIRD HEAD.

The Road from *Metis* to *Ristigouche* has been merely explored and laid down; the report of the Commissioners for opening the Road from *Ristigouche* to the Lake *Matapédiach* has not yet been received.

Your Committee then took into consideration the bad condition of the Road leading from *Bic* to *Trois Pistoles*, and as that part of the country is not thickly settled, Your Committee are induced to recommend an appropriation of one thousand pounds to improve that part of the Road. The River *Trois Pistoles* being a river of five arpents in breadth and too wide for the inhabitants

No. 31, £1000.

habitans

habitants to build a bridge over it; Your Committee
 No. 32, £500. are of opinion that a sum not exceeding £500 ought to be granted to the inhabitants of the said Parish, to help them to build the said Bridge as soon as they shall have brought the materials for the building thereof on the spot intended for its erection.

The River *Verte* being a very wide river, and too much so for the inhabitants to build a bridge over it,
 No. 33 £500. Your Committee are of opinion that a sum not exceeding £500 ought to be granted to the inhabitants of the said Parish to help them to build the said bridge, as soon as they shall have brought the materials for the building thereof on the spot intended for its erection.

According to the report of the Commissioners for repairing the highways and bye roads of the Portage of the Lake *Timiscouata*, it appears that the whole sum appropriated for that purpose has been expended, except £43 15s. 6d. remaining in the hands of the Commissioners; that Road crosses twice the height of lands, and can never be put in a good state: the Administrator of the Government caused the parts to the east of that Road to be explored; by the Report it appears that a much more convenient Road might be opened that way, but which would lengthen the distance between *Timiscouata* and *Quebec*. The opening of that Road is estimated at £3000.

Your Committee do not think proper to recommend the granting of that sum before further explorations have been made.

Your Committee then examined the Report of the Commissioners appointed for the opening of the Road between *Kamouraska* & *La Rivière Ouelle* (for which Legislature had appropriated £500) running sixteen miles to the south in the Wood, on a width of fifteen feet passable for wheel carriages, and fifteen feet cleared on each side. The Crown Lands through which that Road passes are of a superior quality and capable
 of

of admitting of a new Settlement. According to the accounts of travellers, there are twenty four miles of Road which require to be opened to reach the first settlements on the River *St. John*, inhabited by Canadians, emigrated mostly from the southern coast, and who are very anxious to see that Road opened, so as to afford a communication with the *St. Lawrence*. The witnesses who have given these informations to Your Committee are of opinion, that with an appropriation of £1000 that a Road might be opened so as to afford a free communication.

The Commissioners were obliged to apply to the Grand Voyer to lay down the Road in the Wilderness and to provide to its future maintenance, The Grand Voyer obliged the Commissioners to open that part of the Road, so that they should want a sum of £95 4s. 11d. to complete it. No. 34,
£95 4s. 11d

Your Committee humbly recommend that appropriation.

The Witnesses who appeared before Your Committee, have acquainted them, that it becomes necessary that this Road should communicate with the *St. Lawrence* for the advantage of the public. This Road offers some difficulties, and would, according to their estimation cost £450. Your Committee, considering the utility of this Road, think that a sum of £500 ought to be granted for the opening of this Road and for improving the part thereof already opened. No. 35, £500.

Your Committee then examined the Report of the Commissioners for the Road of *L'Islet*, by which it appears that that Road has been opened on a length of 175 acres by 24 feet in width, passable for wheel carriages, for which £440 7s. 6d. have been expended besides £9 for cost of management, to which sums must be added the charges of the Grand Voyer whom the Commissioners intend to call upon to provide for the keeping of the said Road.

The

The Commissioners do not pray for any further appropriation.

Your Committee then examined the report of the Commissioners for the Road of *St. Pierre* and *St. Thomas*, the parts through which these Roads could more conveniently pass, have been visited by a Surveyor who laid down the said Roads: that of *St. Thomas*, (beginning at the line dividing the first from the second concession to the south of the *Rivière du Sud*, going up with a few windings as far as the south bank of that River, where it is generally supposed the ungranted lands of the Crown begin) is eleven miles and ten acres in length. In that extent there are fifteen hills of a remarkable height, but seven of which only it is necessary to ascend and descend. There are also eight bridges to be erected and a swamp. The lands both adjacent to, and remote from, each side of that Road and going up to about thirty acres this side of the River are, generally destitute of soil, and it is only from that distance and advancing through the Crown Lands, that woods of a fine growth, and large tracts of land capable of improvement, are to be found.

The Road of *St. Pierre* beginning at about 24 acres from the line dividing the lands of the first from those of the second concession, to the south of the *Rivière du Sud*, is also opened with a few turnings as far as the said River, where it is believed that the waste lands of the Crown begin.

That Road is about eleven miles and seven acres in length; there are in that extent twelve hills, the first of which is of considerable height and length; the other eleven are small and of gentle acclivity. There are ten bridges to be constructed, one of which is eighty feet, two of fifty feet, and the seven others of about fifteen feet, and a swamp of about three acres.

The lands both adjacent to and remote from each side of the road, and reaching to about thirty acres this side

of the said river, are generally bad, and it is only from that distance and advancing through the crown lands, that fine wood and lands fit to be cleared are to be found.

The inhabitants of *St. Thomas*, *St. Pierre*, *St. Francis* and *St. Vallièr*, who for a great while have been suffering on account of the barrenness of the lands in their neighbourhood, are very anxious to see that Road opened, that they may be enabled to go and settle towards the source of the *Rivière du Sud*, where, according to the accounts of travellers, lands of the best quality are to be found.

Your Committee therefore think proper strongly to recommend the necessary appropriation towards opening these Roads. According to the Report of the Commissioners the sum expended on the Road of *Rocher de la Chapelle* is £230 6s. 1d., and that expended on the Road to *St. Pierre* is £197 19s. 8d.

On account of the difficulties that offered themselves in the exploration of these Roads, the Commissioners have been able to commence the works only when the season was far advanced, and by the evidence it appears that an appropriation of £350 would be required for each of these Roads, in order to complete them.

Your Committee therefore think they ought to recommend an appropriation of £700 towards that purpose. No. 36, £700.

Your Committee next examined the Report of the Commissioners for the Road of *Kennebec* by which it appears that the extent of Road that was to be made was twenty-eight miles, of which eight miles and seven acres have been completed, so as to be passable for wheel carriages on a width of eighteen feet with sufficient ditches on each side. The work has been done partly by day's work and partly by jobs, a sum of £844 8s. 10d. has been advanced and expended for the making of that Road; the Commissioners are of opinion that a sum of £1600 is required to complete that Road; the opening of it appears of great importance

No. 37,
£1600.

tance, as it would afford the means of establishing immediately a line of post or mail-stage between *Point-Lévy* and *Portland*, which is the nearest sea port to *Quebec*. Under those circumstances Your Committee think they ought to recommend that appropriation.

Your Committee then examined the Report of the Commissioners for the opening of the Road of the second Concession in *St. François, Nouvelle-Beauce*, towards the south-west branch ; the Road is to be about six miles in length of which two miles and ten acres are made, and on which a sum of £169 3s. 3d. has been expended. The Commissioners are of opinion that a sum of about £150 is required to complete that Road, including the building of a Bridge. The Road from the south-west branch to the Road of *Dudswell* is thirty-eight miles and sixty-seven chains, the ground is rather hilly, but capable of being cultivated ; no work has been done on that Road, except that it has been explored and laid down. The Commissioners consider that a further sum of £200 is required, besides the sum already appropriated to open that Road.

No. 38, £350.

Your Committee recommend also the granting of both these sums.

Your Committee next examined the Report of the Commissioners for opening the Road from the south-west branch of *Tring* to *Craig's Road* in *Leeds* ; that Road is twenty-four miles and forty-three chains in length, it has been opened in its whole extent on a width of twelve feet, the stumps have been cut on a level with the ground ; this Road has been made by contract. The lands in the neighbourhood of the Road are of a superior quality, and belong to the Crown ; a sum of £300 had been appropriated for the opening of that Road ; there remains a balance of £4 12s. 5½d. in the hands of the Commissioners, who recommend an appropriation of £150 to build a

No. 39, £150.

Bridge

bridge and undermine some rocks which are to be found on that Road; and Your Committee think they ought to recommend the appropriation of that sum.

Your Committee took into consideration the report of the Commissioners appointed for the repairing of the Road of *Laprairie*, for which it appears that only £500 have been paid out of the £2000 appropriated last year, and with that sum the Commissioners have caused materials to be brought upon the place, to repair the Road in the worse and most dangerous parts, and such parts as are at the public charge, the Commissioners suggest to cause that Road to be macadamised.

Your Committee therefore think they are justified No. 40, £3000. in recommending an appropriation of £3000 to enable them to macadamize that Road in its whole extent, and to turn it so as to make it shorter.

The Commissioners for the improvement of the Road of *Chambly* report that the sum of £1000 granted for that purpose, seems to them insufficient to put the said Road in good state of repair, unless an additional sum of £500 be granted them by the Province; to make the necessary works, and to drain the said Road, without which draining it will be almost impossible to complete any lasting improvement on the Road, and Your Committee beg leave to recommend the granting of that sum. No. 41, £500.

Your Committee beg leave to recommend the following aids to enable settlers to make settlements on the Crown Lands.

To open a Road from the back settlements in the Parish of *St. Jean Port Jolie* to the Crown Lands £300. No. 42, £300.

To continue the Road on the east side of the Church of *Cap St. Ignace* to the Crown Lands £250. No. 43, £250.

To open a Road from the back settlements of *St. Vallier* to the *Rivière du Sud* £200. No. 44, £200

To continue the Road from the Church of *St. Gervais* to the Crown Lands £125. No. 45, £125.

To

To continue the Road from the Mill at *St. Gervais*
 No. 46, £125. to *Buckland* £125.

To open a Road to the new settlement forming on
 No. 47, £200. River *Etchemin* £200.

To complete the Bridges over the River *Etchemin* in
 No. 48, £80. the Township of *Frampton* £80.

To complete the Road to Lake *Etchemin* £300.
 No. 49, £300.

The Commissioners appointed to superintend the
 Road of *P'Anse-des-Mères* to *Sillery* report, that they
 have not been able to complete the work for the sum
 of £1000, which had been granted by the Legislature
 for that purpose, and pray for a new appropriation of
 No. 50, £500. £500, which sum Your Committee recommend fa-
 vorably to Your Honorable House.

To continue the improving of the Roads about *Que-*
 No. 51, *bec* £3000.
 £3000.

To reimburse *Charles Smith* the sum by him expen-
 No. 52, ded for the building of a Bridge £213 13s. 9d.
 £213 13 9.

For improving the *St. Lewis* Road £200.
 No. 53, £200.

For repairing Commissioner's Bridge over the River
 No. 54, £100. *St. Charles* on the *Lorette* Road £100.

For improving the *St. Clair* Road £250.
 No. 55, £250.

For improving the Road commonly called *Misère*
 No. 56, £250. Road £250.

For improving the Road from the *Ferry* at *Point*
 No. 57 £1000. *Levy*, towards the Catholic Church £1000.

For improving the Road prayed for by the inha-
 No. 58, £125. bitants of *Stoneham* £125.

For the making of a Road from the end of the
Roche Platte road in *Stoneham* by the most direct and
 convenient Route untill it strikes *Stoneham* road, and
 No. 59, £200. for Bridging on the said Route £200.

For improving the Road from *Gentilly* to River
 No. 60, £504. *Bécancour* £504.

Towards aiding the Inhabitants of *Gentilly* and
Blanford to make the Road verbalized from the 2nd
 No. 61, £200. Concession to this Township £200.

For improving the water course to drain the swamp
 No. 62, £60. of *Boucherville* £60.

For

For improving the *Little River* at *Montreal* £1000.

No. 63,
£1000.

For improving the Roads in the environs of *Montreal* £3000.

No. 64,
£3000.

For improving the main Road from *Three-Rivers* to *Pointe du Lac* £1000.

No. 65,
£1000.

For exploring the remote parts of the District of *Quebec* £500.

No. 66,
£500.

For exploring the Country lying between the River *St. Maurice* and the River *Ottawa* in the rear of the existing settlements, and ascertaining whether it be practicable and convenient to open a Road from some point of the River *St. Maurice* to the Township of *Grenville* or some other Township on the River *Ottawa*, £500.

No. 67,
£500.

The Road which will thus be opened affording great facilities from the older settlements to the Townships in the rear of them, it will now be competent to the Militiamen entitled to grants from the Crown, to avail themselves advantageously of its bounty and to settle themselves in the proximity of their friends and relatives. It is not however to be denied that the expenses of survey would weigh heavily upon very many of these persons in the first instance.

To relieve them from this burthen and to facilitate the settlement of these meritorious subjects of His Majesty, it is recommended that a sum of £1000 be appropriated as an aid for the purpose of surveying the Lands for the Militiamen who served during the late war.

No. 68,
£1000.

Your Committee next proceeded to the consideration of the references made to them by your honorable House of the various reports and accounts made and rendered to the House by divers Commissioners for divers Roads, for the opening or repairing of which monies were appropriated in the last Session of the Provincial Parliament; with the view of ascertaining the
correctness

correctness of the accounts rendered by them of the expenditure of the public monies intrusted to them, the sufficiency of the work done under their superintendance by their directions, and the balance of public monies, if any, remaining in their hands.

Your Committee have not the means of making that minute investigation nor of obtaining at present that full information, which it is requisite they should possess, before they could rightly venture to recommend the passing of the said accounts; for the purpose of obtaining this, they would humbly suggest the expediency of publishing for the use of the Members all the aforesaid Reports and Accounts of Commissioners, to the end that they may receive a careful investigation at the ensuing Session of the Legislature.

It appears that certain of the Commissioners have made default to make their Report, and to render their Accounts to the three branches of the Legislature within the first fifteen days of the Session thereof.

Your Committee would humbly recommend that before the close of the present Session, measures should be taken to ascertain the names of the persons who have so made default, and that an address be presented to His Excellency the Administrator of the Government praying that he would be graciously pleased to direct the proper Law Officers of the Crown, to take the proper measures for compelling these individuals duly to render their Accounts.

Your Committee beg leave to observe, that many of these Roads having been done by days' work, under the immediate direction of the Commissioner or Commissioners, it becomes necessary that Roads so made should be received and reported upon to the public, by some person or persons unconnected with the expenditure and application of the said monies, who may report to the Legislature at the next Session, upon the state and condition of the said Roads.

For the purpose of indemnifying the person or persons

sons who may be so employed, Your Committee would recommend the application of a sum not exceeding £200.

No. 69, £200.

The regulations established by His Excellency the Administrator of the Government for the expenditure of the monies appropriated last year by the Provincial Legislature for Internal Communications, are of so judicious a character as to require nothing further from Your Committee, than this expression of their opinion and their hope that they may be continued in the ensuing year, and they doubt not that the care which has been taken by His Excellency as well in framing these instructions, as in nominating fit and proper persons as Commissioners, and the vigilant superintendance over the right and economical application of those monies, will be continued in respect to the appropriations now recommended by Your Committee, and they beg leave to add, that it is from a deep conviction of this, that they have been induced to recommend in the foregoing proposed appropriations, the expenditure of larger sums of money than they would otherwise have felt themselves justified in doing.

Ordered, That the Chairman do leave the Chair and report.

The whole, nevertheless, humbly submitted.

F. BLANCHET,
Chairman.