

BRITISH
NORTH AMERICA.

it far more desirable that it should be under the control and sole management of one directory, and that the Imperial Government.

The trunk line, as recommended by Major Robinson, may be the best which can be discovered, but if a more central one can be found between Shediac and the St. Lawrence, it would be more generally advantageous to the provincial public, and we entertain every confidence that Her Majesty's Government will take care to adopt such line as will be best suited for all purposes national and provincial.

Extract from the Minutes,

R. FULTON.

No. 3.

(No. 13.)

No. 3.

COPY of a DESPATCH from Lieut.-Governor Sir EDMUND HEAD to
Earl GREY.

Government House, Fredericton,
February 2, 1849.

(Received February 20, 1849.)

MY LORD,

I HAVE the honour to transmit, for your Lordship's information, the enclosed copy of the resolutions passed at a meeting held at Dorchester, in the county of Westmoreland, on the subject of the Halifax and Quebec Railroad.

I have, &c.,

The Right Hon. Earl Grey,
&c. &c. &c.

(Signed)

EDMUND HEAD.

Encl. 1 in No. 3.

Enclosure 1 in No. 3.

Mount Whatley, Westmoreland, (*Near Amherst*),
January 19, 1849.

SIR,

IN pursuance of the directions of the meeting of the freeholders and inhabitants of this county yesterday, held at Dorchester, I beg leave to transmit you a copy of the resolutions passed at such meeting, on the subject of the proposed Halifax and Quebec Railway, and I have to request the favour of your laying them before his Excellency the Lieutenant-Governor.

I have, &c.,

The Hon. John R. Partelow,
&c. &c. &c.

(Signed)

WILLIAM HENRY BUCKERFIELD,
Secretary to the Meeting.

Encl. 2 in No. 3.

Enclosure 2 in No. 3.

AT a Meeting of the Freeholders and Inhabitants of the County of Westmoreland, held at the Court-house in Dorchester, on the 18th day of January, 1849.

The Hon. WILLIAM CRANE was called to the Chair.

Mr. W. H. BUCKERFIELD was appointed Secretary to the Meeting.

The following resolutions were proposed by the Hon. A. E. Botsford, seconded by the Hon. Edward B. Chandler, and carried unanimously.

1st. Resolved unanimously as the opinion of this meeting, that the subject of the proposed railroad between Halifax and Quebec is one of paramount importance to the British North American Provinces, that the future destiny of these valuable possessions depends upon the early construction of this grand national work, and that it is a duty equally imperative upon Her Majesty's Government, the Colonial Legislatures, and upon every individual claiming the privilege of a British subject, to afford every aid and assistance to the promoting this truly patriotic undertaking, upon the success of which, unquestionably depends the future relations and prosperity as well of the mother-country as of these her colonies.

2nd. Resolved unanimously as the opinion of this meeting (deeply impressed with the vital importance of the subject), that the Legislature of this province should at the approaching session pledge the faith of the province for the payment of such proportion of the interest of the capital required to construct the railroad as may be deemed fair and reasonable, having regard to the relative position and capabilities of this province, as compared with those of our sister colonies of Canada and Nova Scotia, and should also empower the Executive of this province to make free grants of a breadth of way, and at least one half of all Crown lands over which the railroad may pass, or which may be in the vicinity thereof.

3rd. Resolved unanimously, that next to and intimately blended with the profitable operation of the great trunk line stands the contemplated branch railway from St. John to Shediac, connecting as it will the commercial emporia of the three provinces, Quebec, St. John, and Halifax, and securing, as it undoubtedly will, the general line of communication by steam for travellers to and from Europe and America, as well to Canada as to the United States,