

made to induce Your Excellency to adopt Major Robinson's Line (so called) as the route of the Intercolonial Railroad.

That the adoption of the road by that line will be of little advantage to New Brunswick, and will not attain the object contemplated by the Dominion in the building of the Intercolonial Railroad.

That the best interests of the Dominion demand that a *more direct line* should be adopted which will meet the commercial requirements of Canada.

Therefore, your petitioners pray Your Excellency to take the premises into consideration, and by proper surveys, and otherwise, ascertain the practicability of a *Central Route*; believing that route will best conduce to the future growth and development of the Dominion.

And your petitioners, as in duty bound, will ever pray, &c., &c., &c.

(Four Petitions.)

(Signed,)

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JAMES HOLDEN,
SAMUEL A. NEVER, Esq.,
WILLIAM L. NEVER.
(and 433 others.)

(Copy, Letter No. 235.)

The Honorable Wm. McDougall, C.B.,
Minister of Public Works, Canada.

MONCTON, NEW BRUNSWICK,
March 24th, 1868.

SIR,—I beg to request that you will be pleased to place at my credit, in the Bank of Montreal in Ottawa, the sum of (\$10,000) ten thousand dollars, to meet disbursements in connection with the Intercolonial Railway surveys now being conducted by me under recent instructions.

The expenses already incurred amount to about \$7,500, *viz.*, for camp stores and general equipment of parties now in the field, \$2,500; for Railway expenses, transporting stores and staff, \$500; and for advances to engineers in charge of parties, \$4,500, to meet current expenses. The balance of the \$10,000 now asked for will shortly be required.

I have left with Mr. Drummond, of the Montreal Bank, in Ottawa, my Power of Attorney to receive the amount and place it at my credit, to meet drafts now made and hereafter to be made.

I have the honor to be, Sir,
Your obedient servant,

(Signed,) SANDFORD FLEMING,
C. E.