

the Ottawa and St. Lawrence, must now come to the latter for a market and an outlet, their position will not be improved by a Railroad also on the river; it will not shorten their teaming, and, therefore, the influence of the Grand Trunk in developing this portion of the Province near Montreal will be feeble. Now, it is of great importance to Montreal that she should have a road which will traverse an agricultural district, because the consumption of a large city will pay the Railway transport on every article, even of the coarsest description of agriculture, or of the forest, which can be found within one hundred miles of it. Thus we can bring firewood, hay, milk, potatoes, lumber, &c., from Two Mountains, or Glengarry, and the Counties west of there, when we cannot afford to bring these articles from points west of Kingston.

The location of the Trunk Line on the front, as a provincial work for through travel and the mails, therefore not only justifies but creates a necessity for another line in the rear, which can neither be called a parallel nor a competing one: for it will do a business, and create a business which cannot and will not be done by the Trunk Road. Such a route is now absolutely essential for the protection of the interests of this City as a means of preventing the tide of the Ottawa trade from flowing toward the St. Lawrence and thus placing it in dangerous proximity to the Ogdensburgh road.

If I have succeeded in making myself clear on a subject so trying to your patience—it will be conceded that the great Ottawa railroad should forthwith be commenced. Whether or not, the present favorable position of the money markets, and the eagerness for investments in all promising Railroads should be taken advantage of, to place the whole route to Lake Huron in the market—does not affect the question. A Railroad from Montreal up the Ottawa can now be profitably sustained as far as the counties of Lanark and Carleton. The extension to Lake Huron must follow sooner or later, nor will it stop there.