

lengthy notice. The waters of the Gulf of St. Lawrence, the lower part of that river, and those of the Bay Chaleurs and Miramichi Bay furnish the best fish in the world. Salmon, mackerel, shad, halibut, herrings and gaspereaux are taken in such vast numbers, that were the means of transport open, they would find their way to every town and city in Canada and the West, and a new source of traffic, of vast importance, would be established. Along the North Shore are to be found establishments for taking and preserving fish, compared with which those in other parts of the Province sink into insignificance. From the south side of the Bay Chaleurs to Shediac are to be found oysters beds of almost boundless extent, while lobsters may be taken in millions and sold for 60 cents per 100. Salmon, instead of being preserved in hermetically sealed cans, would be dispatched fresh to the Canadian markets of the Dominion and the West, either packed in ice, or frozen by the process lately introduced by an American at Bathurst. This trade alone would soon be of great importance, for at present there is annually caught at Miramichi 600,000 lbs., in Bathurst 274,000 lbs., and in Restigouche upwards of 342,000 lbs. These three rivers will suffice to show what a field for enterprise the construction of a railroad along this coast would open up. From a pamphlet lately issued upon the subject of the Intercolonial Railway we find that:

“ Every station on a line extending more than 16,000 miles, in every direction on this part of the continent, would have its depot daily supplied with the most delicious fish in the world, which could be sold at moderate prices, and still afford the merchants engaged in this traffic a heavy profit * * *

“ In return for fish, the people of the interior would furnish flour, meat, butter and all the fruits of their industry. Commerce would at the same time open up an immense source of revenue for the railway, for its extent would be limited only by the quantity of fish to be supplied by the sea touching the adjacent coasts. This market of fresh fish would supply the wants of a population of not less than 4,000,000 souls, which would consume ten times as much of this good fresh fish at a very low price, as they now do of salt fish at very dear rates and often in bad condition. Not fewer than 200 railroad stations would open up as many markets requiring to be furnished daily.”