

REPORT OF SANDFORD FLEMING, C. E., C. M. G.

ENGINEER-IN-CHIEF, CANADA PACIFIC RAILWAY.

CANADA PACIFIC RAILWAY,

OFFICE OF THE ENGINEER-IN-CHIEF,

OTTAWA, December 26th, 1879.

FRED'K CUMBERLAND, Esq.,

General Manager,

N. & N. W. R'ys,

Toronto.

MY DEAR SIR,—I have to acknowledge the receipt of your letter of the 23rd inst.

You have asked me to give you my opinion in writing respecting the proposal which has been made to carry the Credit Valley Railway on a line pointed out to me through the middle of the depot yard of your Company between Bathurst and Brock Streets, in Toronto.

I have no hesitation in repeating the opinion I expressed to you when the matter was mentioned to me when in Toronto last week.

I then said it was impossible for me to conceive the proposal to have been seriously made by any sane person in any degree familiar with railways. My opinion remains unchanged. An inspection of the plan of the yard which you shewed me is quite sufficient to satisfy anyone of ordinary intelligence and experience that such a proposal should not for an instant be entertained. The number of tracks laid in the yard, the constant shunting going on, the increase of traffic from year to year, requiring more tracks and more shunting, would render it an extremely dangerous matter to run the trains of another Company across the ground. There would be a daily and hourly liability to collision, and the risk to human life and property would be so great that, in my judgment, no one could give his sanction to the proposal without laying himself open to the charge of reckless indifference to the safety of the travelling public.

I am,

Yours very truly,

SANDFORD FLEMING,

Engineer-in-Chief,

C. P. R.