

The Directors would further call your attention to the Petition also annexed (the original copy now being in your Department) signed by a large number of the people's representatives in Parliament.

They would ask your immediate attention, and that of the Government, to the subject, as it is of paramount importance that if anything is to be done it should be done this year.

The Directors are happy to be in a position to inform you that well-known capitalists are prepared to undertake the construction of the entire roads (127 miles), if the Dominion Government guarantees a reasonable subsidy.

This is all now requisite to secure a vigorous prosecution of the projected work, and consequent impetus to immigration from various parts of Europe; very satisfactory arrangements having been made with several land companies on the other side of the Atlantic to promote the settlement of numbers of English, Scotch and Irish immigrants so soon as the country is opened up by rail communication with the centres of commerce.

The Directors cannot too earnestly impress upon you, and through you other members of the Government, the vast importance of immediate action, as delay may jeopardize arrangements now made, based upon the anticipated assistance from the Dominion Treasury.

On behalf of the petitioners:—

ALONZO WRIGHT, M.P.	} DIRECTORS.
C. H. MACKINTOSH, M.P.	
L. DUHAMEL, M.P.P.	
W. J. POUPORE, M.P.P.	
WILLIAM A. ALLAN.	
LUKE HENEY.	
J. MURRAY MITCHELL.	
J. M. CURRIER.	

Hon. Sir CHAS. TUPPER, K.C.M.G., C.B., Minister of Railways.

*Special Report of Mr. A. L. Light.*

DEPARTMENT OF GOVERNMENT RAILWAYS, P. Q.

ENGINEER'S OFFICE, QUEBEC, April 15th, 1883.

To the President and Directors of the "Ottawa and Gatineau Valley" and "Ottawa Colonization" Railways.

GENTLEMEN,—Acting upon instructions received from your Boards, I beg to report as follows upon the practicability of the proposed Railway System for the development of Ottawa County, and the great resources north of the more settled districts.

I have carefully considered the objects your Directors have in view, and from a general practical acquaintance with the districts in question, I am of opinion that these enterprises would prove of exceeding benefit to a portion of the Province of Quebec, and by opening up a new country to the north, containing large agricultural, mineral, and other resources, must eventually form a valuable link in the chain of roads constituting the Pacific, Intercolonial, and Ontario Railway systems, besides becoming a feeder to those eastern and western lines which centre at the capital city of the Dominion.

I am of opinion that the Ottawa and Gatineau Valley, and Ottawa Colonization Railways should be connected, and consider that your Boards are acting wisely in constituting them as one and the same enterprise, for without the construction of the roads as now projected and surveyed, the development of very important interests, in one direction or the other, must be neglected.

A reference to the objects of the Ottawa and Gatineau Valley and Ottawa Colonization Railways, will at once establish the force of this opinion.

The Ottawa and Gatineau Valley Railway, is intended to operate through a most fertile and prosperous section of the Gatineau Valley, in Ottawa County, making a