

for its deliberate decision, than that they should have been hurried through, or hastily rejected in the last session of an expiring Parliament.

I have, &c.

JOSEPH HOWE.

W. H. KEATING, Esq.

*5 Sloane Street, London Ath April, 1851.*

SIR, — I have now the honor to make to you my final report for the information of the Lieutenant Governor.

Mr. Hawes's letter to me bears date the 10th March. I could have left in the steamer of the 15th had I believed that no further steps were prudent or necessary. But, being quite aware of the obstructions which might be presented, and the delays which jarring elements on the other side of the water might occasion, I thought it best not to leave England without placing Nova Scotia in a position not only to show to her sister Provinces the practicability and wisdom of the policy to which I had given my sanction, but to act independently of them should that policy not be approved.

Looking to the sparse population of New Brunswick, and to the absolute impossibility of that Province executing, unaided, and within a reasonable time, either or both of the two important lines projected across her territory, I deemed it to be my first duty to satisfy my own mind that a systematic plan of colonization could be superinduced upon the gradual construction of the railways, so that, by the time that serious liability was incurred, her population and revenues should be correspondingly increased. The way having been previously cleared for conducting the inquiries and forming the connections which I deemed desirable, I trust I shall be prepared to show His Excellency that while, by accepting the generous and advantageous proposition of the British government, New Brunswick would obtain two railroads for a trifle more than one, made with her own resources, would cost; she would, by falling into the general scheme, run but little risk, and throw into her wilderness lands, in a very short time, at least half a million of people.

Into the details of the measures which I have prepared myself to propose, or the extent of the resources which can be brought to bear upon the waste territory which it is wise policy to people, I do not think it necessary here to enter.

Two or three simple facts will show that I did not attach too much importance to this branch of the subject. The terms upon which the British government is content to aid the Provinces are not less favorable than those given to the proprietors of the incumbered estates in the mother country. These parties pay for £100 sterling six and a half per cent. for twenty-two years, which extinguishes the debt, paying in full principal and interest. Those who wish us to make our railroads with American capital or contractors, propose that we should give our debentures, redeemable in twenty-five years, and bearing interest at six per cent. If we did this it is quite clear that we should make a ruinous and unnecessary sacrifice, paying in interest alone a sum nearly equal to the whole amount borrowed by either mode, and then having to repay the