

Main Trunk ; and after speaking of certain lines then constructing by private companies, proceeds to say that the guarantee shall be extended "to the Great Western Railroad, which has been commenced and partly constructed on the faith of the said guarantee, *and forms part of the said Main Trunk Line.*"

Upon the faith of these proceedings, plainly and conclusively shewing the Great Western Railway to be a "part of the Main Trunk series of lines," the Directors of the former were enabled to induce English capitalists to embark money in the undertaking, which even then presented great prospects of a remunerative result, although not so great as the existing circumstances now hold out ; and which seemed, by the Acts of the Canadian Parliament, to be protected against the adoption of a wild and reckless system of competition.

If any thing further is needed to indicate that the Great Western was a part of the Trunk line, it may be found in the fact that the Canadian Government, finding it impossible to procure the Imperial guarantee contemplated by the Act of 1851, called into existence private companies for constructing the Trunk line between Montreal and Toronto ; and in the required Proclamation, issued by order of the Governor in Council, there occurs this passage, defining the actual course of the line—viz :

"Now know ye, that having taken the premises into our Royal consideration ; and being desirous of advancing and promoting the interests of our said Province. We have directed and declared, and do hereby direct and declare, that the said Main Trunk Line of Railway shall be made upon a line extending from some point on