

communication thus afforded, the prosperity of those great Dependencies would be promoted, their strength consolidated, and added to the strength of the Empire, and their permanent union with the Mother Country secured.

That Canada has already nearly completed the construction within the Province of a chain of Railways over sixteen hundred miles in length, extending from the Eastern frontier of the Province towards its Western boundary, which is of the greatest importance to its commercial and material prosperity, and would form part of the great proposed highway; but which, without completion to the Ocean, is comparatively useless, in a national point of view, either as bringing the Sister Colonies together, or as connecting those Colonies with the Parent State.

That under these circumstances, we are deeply impressed with the importance of an Inter-Colonial Railway, and the necessity for its immediate construction; and desiring to coöperate with your Majesty's Imperial Government, and the Provinces of Nova Scotia and New Brunswick, in securing its speedy completion, we approve of the memorandum addressed to your Majesty's Secretary of State for the Colonies by the Canadian Delegates, and laid before the Provincial Parliament by His Excellency the Governor-General, in his gracious message, communicated on the 31st May last; and we humbly pray that the proposed Inter-Colonial Railway may receive your Majesty's gracious and early consideration, and that the future negotiations may be conducted as nearly as may be on the basis submitted in the said memorandum.

*Government House, Halifax, N. S.,
7th September, 1858.*

SIR,—

I have the honor to acknowledge the receipt of your Excellency's despatch of the 24th August last, transmitting a copy of certain Resolutions adopted by the Legislative Council and Assembly of Canada, on which a joint Address to Her Majesty on the subject of an Inter-Colonial Railroad was founded.

I have, &c.

MULGRAVE.

His Excellency Sir E. W. HEAD, Bt.

MY LORD,—

Quebec, Sept. 10, 1858.

I have the honor to transmit for your Excellency's information the enclosed copy of a Minute of the Executive Council of Canada, approved by myself, relating to the Inter-Colonial Railway, to connect Canada with the Lower Provinces.

I also forward printed copies of the Resolutions adopted by both Houses of Parliament in this Colony on the subject, together with copies of certain papers laid before the Legislative Assembly, relating to the same matters.

I have, &c.

EDMUND HEAD.

His Excellency the EARL OF MULGRAVE.

Copy of a Report of a Committee of the Honorable the Executive Council, dated 6th September, 1858, approved by His Excellency the Governor-General.

The Committee of Council, having reference to the recommendation contained in their report of the 31st ult., on the subject of the Inter-Colonial Railway, to connect Canada with the Lower Colonies, humbly advise that copies of the joint Address to Her Majesty, passed by the two Branches of the Canadian Parliament, during its last Session, be forwarded by your Excellency to the respective Governments of Nova