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REPORT

On the Proposed Trunk Line of Railway from an Eastern Port in Nova Scotia, through New Brunswick, to Quebec.

Halifax, Nova Scotia, August 31, 1848.

THREE principal lines or routes for a trunk line of railway present themselves for consideration ; and by combining portions of two of these lines together, a fourth and fifth route may be formed.

1st. Commencing at Halifax and crossing the Province of Nova Scotia to a port in the Bay of Fundy, from thence by a steamer to St. John, in New Brunswick, and then by Fredericton along the St. John River, to the Grand Falls.

From the Grand Falls by the best practicable route across to the mouth of the Rivière du Loup, on the St. Lawrence, and by the right bank of the St. Lawrence to Quebec.

The distance by this route would be as follows :—

	Miles.
Halifax to Windsor	45
Windsor to Annapolis	85
Annapolis to entrance Bay of Fundy	11
Across Bay of Fundy to St. John (by sea)	45
St. John to Fredericton	65
Fredericton to Woodstock	62
Woodstock to the Grand Falls	71
The Grand Falls to the mouth of the Rivière du Loup	106
Rivière du Loup to Quebec	110

Total distance Halifax by the St. John River to Quebec 600

This line may be termed a **Mixed route**—by railway and steamboat.

2nd. Commencing at Halifax and running to Truro at the head of the Bay of Fundy, thence over the Cumberland Mountains to Amherst, then along the coast from Bay Verte to Shediac, thence by a north-westerly course, crossing the Rivers Richibucto and Miramichi above the flow of the tide, so as not to interfere with the navigation.

Then by the valley of the North-western Miramichi to Bathurst, on the Bay Chaleurs, along the coast of this Bay to the Restigouche River, and by it and the valley of the River Metapedia to the St. Lawrence, and by the right bank of the St. Lawrence to Quebec.