

whatever length of road was necessary in order to bring her Railways into connection with ours. This done, we should have the long contemplated European & North American Railway completed, and a connection made between the interior of the Province and the principal seaports on its Southern and Western sides.

The paper read by Mr. Burpee before the St. John Chamber of Commerce has since been published in pamphlet form, and in several of the newspapers, and has thus been widely circulated throughout the Province. The proposed scheme has excited much attention, and met with very general favor in the western and southern sections of the Province. It is even said that it is not unfavorably regarded by some of the members for Westmorland and Kent. Mr. Burpee, having visited Woodstock to ascertain the feelings of our people in the matter, has had an opportunity of explaining his views to a number of our leading men; and the preliminary steps have been taken to call a public meeting of the people of the County, that a formal expression of their opinion may be had on this important question.

Meanwhile the Athenæum, which has had the subject under its notice, has resolved to do what it can to inform the public mind with respect to the position which Carleton should take in the matter of Railway Extension; and with that object has ordered the preparation of this Report, with the intention of publishing the information which it contains.

Let us now, without further preface, enquire, first, of what value generally the proposed extension of Railways would be to our own County.

The Province has expended some five millions of dollars upon the St. John and Shediac Road, which, so far from being of any direct service to Carleton, has been a positive disadvantage, because it has enabled the agriculturists of Prince Edward Island to compete with ours in the markets of this Province. We have been saddled with a heavy annual tax, to assist the people of another colony to drive us out of our legitimate markets. In any further construction of Railways by the Government, or expenditure by Government upon their construction, it becomes us to insist that due regard should be paid to our long neglected interests. And if the proposed extension gives a promise of serving those interests, and is feasible in itself, it behoves the people of Carleton to give it a prompt, unanimous and hearty support.