

THE WORKS AT DALHOUSIE

Landing at Dalhousie, the Commissioners proceeded to inspect the progress of the work going on in that vicinity.

About 50 miles east and west of Dalhousie are now under contract. The first visited was that in the hands of Mr. Jobin, east of Dalhousie. Jobin is a French Canadian, living in Quebec, and he is carrying on his work in a most satisfactory manner. He is at work on the grading throughout the whole length of his contract, and has already completed a very considerable amount of it. He has succeeded in finding very good quarries, where the stone for the masonry is now being got out. Some will be delivered on the ground within two or three weeks, when the work of making the culverts will be at once proceeded with. Jobin is executing his work in a very thorough and complete manner, to the entire satisfaction of the Engineers, who speak highly of the energy which he is displaying and the manner in which he is carrying on the work. He has now about 300 men at work, and has no difficulty in getting all the labor he wants.

WORKS AT CAMBELLTOWN.

Returning to Dalhousie, the party then proceeded westward to some distance beyond Cambelltown, the contract here being in the hands of an Ontario firm, consisting of Messrs. Elliott, Grant and Whitehead. Their work is also progressing in a satisfactory manner, the entire line being cleared, and a large amount of grading already done. They have about 300 men at work. There is a good deal of rock excavation on this contract. Elliott and Grant have taken up their residence at Campbelltown, and are personally superintending their work. There has been some difficulty in finding suitable stone quarries in the vicinity of the work; but they have now been obtained, and the contractors expect to have all the stone for the culverts and bridges on the ground before the winter sets in. The line from the Metapedia, about three miles from which Elliott's contract begins, runs on the south side of the Restigouche river, in sight of it nearly the whole way. The work is principally side-hill cutting, a good deal of it through rock, but no heavy structures. The view from the trains for about thirty miles will be magnificent. It was nearly nightfall before the drive of fifty miles was over, and it was understood that both the Commissioners and the Engineer were very well satisfied with the progress made by Jobin and Elliott, Grant and Whitehead.

AGRICULTURAL CAPABILITIES OF THE COUNTRY.

I am satisfied that the agricultural capacity of this part of the country has never been properly understood. The teeming waters of the Bay of Chaleurs, and the vast forests on land, combined with the absence of the necessary facilities for getting agricultural produce to market, have tended