

2nd, because Ottawa having become the Capital of the Dominion it necessarily commands other advantages, in addition to the foregoing, which put competition out of the question, hence Ottawa City is and must naturally continue the Head quarters of the great lumber traffic of the Upper Ottawa.

Can any one believe, then, that Ottawa will continue much longer supine? Directly, or indirectly she must and will recover the trade of which she has lost so much in the past 4 years. Believing this to be inevitable, I have been employed, during the same period, in concerting and carrying out such measures as will not only secure to Ottawa what she must and will have, sooner or later, in this connection but do so in such a manner as will actually prove of great benefit to the Brockville and Ottawa Railway.

The available means to attain this end lay in the charter of the "Canada Central Railway" and in obtaining such modifying legislation thereupon as would render it suitable to our purpose. I was finally successful in securing these most important preliminaries; but the various negotiations were difficult and tedious, and much valuable time was unavoidably expended in their consummation:

Yet finally I secured for my friends in England, and solely in behalf of the Brockville and Ottawa Railway not only the control of this valuable charter, but also such a modification of it from the Legislature as empowers us to connect Ottawa City with our road at Carleton Place thus giving us the opportunity (the only one we shall ever possess) to effectually bar the construction of a direct road from Ottawa to Arnprior.

The connection at Carleton Place cannot but largely benefit our road, whereas a connection at Arnprior must prove only disastrous. If we do not secure the former within the period stipulated in the charter of the Canada Central the people of Ottawa will certainly secure the latter soon thereafter. That time expires 18th September, 1870 and having been already extended several times, there is no hope whatever of its renewal.

Under these circumstances it is my duty to bring the foregoing to your notice, and to urge prompt, serious consideration and action. Private parties have taken much trouble and responsibility, and