

and conducted, without any other views, than to ascertain the best practicable route and to devise the best plans of proceeding in its construction. In schemes of great magnitude and expense, sensible men will take care to rely upon no loose speculations, or merely conjectural data, but will found their investments and expectations solely upon the results of sober thought, and the application of scientific principles. They will be governed by their anticipations of pecuniary consequences to themselves and their children, and of probable advantages to their country.

In this age of extensive observation, and bold projects for internal improvement, your road will attract the approbation of intelligent men, and the confidence of capitalists, as a measure of extraordinary facility of execution, in proportion to its extent, and of wise adaptation to the natural and artificial features of the vast and very thriving regions, with which it will be connected. It is shown to be highly worthy of being vigorously prosecuted, by every consideration of its local details, and ensured of abundant remuneration, by the soundest estimate of the various and extensive business it will command.

Too much care, in the collection and comparison of facts, affecting the location, security, resources, future business, and natural advantages of a new region, through which a great avenue of communication is to be constructed, can scarcely be taken, before the work is commenced. A proper care in these relations, demands, that whatever influences private and public interests in the immediate vicinity, in important points throughout the entire Province, and in the wide range of neighboring territories, from which travel and transport may be derived, should enter into the consideration of the Engineer, and properly qualify his whole course of decisions. Portions of your line must closely approach, and run parallel with steam navigation, while other large portions lying farther inland, need fear no competition, as the tracts which they traverse must exclusively depend upon your work for facilities of communication.

The inducements to construct the road, which constitute the subject of this report, are such as belong to the country