

(Enclosure No. 1.—Copy.)

To His Excellency The Honorable J. H. T. Manners-Sutton, Lieutenant Governor, &c. &c. &c.

The Committee of Council respectfully report to Your Excellency, that they have had under their consideration the Dispatch of Lieutenant General Eyre, Administrator of the Government of Canada, on the subject of a Railway from the Riviere du Loup to Halifax.

The Legislature and People of New Brunswick have always evinced a lively interest in the proposed Railway, and uniformly manifested a disposition to aid such an undertaking to the full extent of the resources of the Province.

The Committee of Council advise Your Excellency to assure Her Majesty's Government, and the Administrator of the Government of Canada, of the interest they feel in the proposed Railway; of its importance to the Colonies and the Parent State. They believe that the perpetuation of British power in America depends upon the consolidation of the Colonial Empire, which the proposed undertaking would greatly promote.

When the question in 1852 was the subject of negotiation between the Province and the Imperial Government, New Brunswick agreed to contribute a fair proportion towards the construction of the Railway. His Excellency Sir Edmund Head, the present Governor General of Canada, having taken an active part in these arrangements, is fully cognizant of the views of the people of this Province, and of their deep interest in the question.

To the three Provinces such a Railway would be of the highest importance as a means of developing their resources, promoting their material interests, and strengthening that mutual sympathy and unity of interest and feeling so essential to secure for them that Commercial and Political position to which they are entitled from their situation and resources.

The Committee of Council are confident that if Her Majesty's Government could be sufficiently impressed with the great importance of the proposed Railway to the Empire, in a national point of view, and that Imperial interests absolutely require it, they would not hesitate to take such measures as would secure its construction.

New Brunswick, with her large domain, could provide a vast field for future colonization, which, with her other resources, would afford a present security and future means to defray what might be considered her reasonable portion of the expenditure.

The Legislature of New Brunswick during its recent Session expressed the opinion that Your Excellency should ascertain whether the Government of Canada would undertake the construction of a Railroad from St. John to Canada jointly with the Government of New Brunswick, upon such terms as should be consistent with the interests and means of the respective Provinces, with the aid of the Imperial Government.

The Committee of Council are so fully impressed with the great importance of the matter, that they would have advised Your Excellency to send a delegation to England to press the subject upon Her Majesty's Government, did it not appear to them that, from the lateness of the period Your Excellency received the intelligence, such delegation could not arrive in London in time to give that weight to their representations which would be the primary object of any such mission.

The Committee of Council advise Your Excellency to communicate this Minute to Her Majesty's Government, to His Excellency the Administrator of the Government of Canada, and to His Excellency Sir Gaspard Le Marchant, the Lieutenant Governor of Nova Scotia.

(Signed)

CHARLES FISHER,
S. L. TILLEY,
JAMES BROWN,

CHARLES WATTERS,
W. H. STEEVES,
DAVID WARK.

August 10th, 1857.

(Enclosure No. 2.—Copy of Despatch from His Excellency Sir W. Eyre to His Excellency the Lieutenant Governor of New Brunswick, dated July 22nd, 1857.)

(Copy)—No. 14.

St. John, New Brunswick, August 15th, 1857.

SIR,—With reference to my Dispatch of the 10th inst., No. 13, I should state that previously to my receiving from the Lt. General administering the Government of Canada, the letter of which a copy