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STATEMENT OF PROCEEDINGS UNDER THE

that no unnecessary delay may occur in commencing the construction of the Intercolonial Railway.

I shall feel much obliged if your Grace will inform me as soon as convenient, whether, in the opinion of Her Majesty's Government, this Act is a satisfactory fulfilment of the conditions imposed as the basis for granting the Imperial guarantee by the "Canada Railway Loan Act, 1867."

His Grace
The Duke of Buckingham and Chandos,
&c. &c. &c.

I have, &c.
(signed) *Monck.*

The Minister of Justice to Lord *Monck.*

THE undersigned has the honour to submit for your Excellency's consideration, the expediency of transmitting at an early day to the Secretary of State for the Colonies, a copy of the Act of the Canadian Parliament, authorising the construction of the Intercolonial Railway, which was passed on the 21st December last, and an official copy of which I beg leave to send you herewith.

This Act has been framed with the view of fulfilling the requirements of the Imperial Act, known as "The Canada Railway Loan Act, 1867." It provides for the construction of the railway, and appropriates four millions sterling for the purpose, and by the 26th clause it provides for the use of the railway, at all times, for Her Majesty's military and other service.

It will be observed also that the conditions of the 3rd section of the Railway Loan Act are fulfilled by the 27th, 28th, 29th, 30th, 31st, 32nd, 33rd, and 34th clauses of the Canadian Statute.

As it is of great consequence that this work should be proceeded with without delay, it is important that the approval of Her Majesty's Government should be obtained with all convenient speed.

The Canadian Parliament will re-assemble on the 12th March, and it is exceedingly desirable that it should be informed that the Act in question has been approved of, or that some further legislation is necessary.

The undersigned assumes that the measure will be considered satisfactory, and in such case the only thing remaining to be done before the granting of the guarantee and the commencement of the work, is to obtain the approval of the Secretary of State for the Colonies, to the line in which the railway is to be constructed.

The Canadian Government expect to be able to transmit for the consideration of his Grace the Secretary of State for the Colonies, before the work can be commenced in the spring, a report of their decision as to the plan of the line of railway, together with the estimates of the cost of construction, which it is hoped will meet with his approbation.

The undersigned trusts, however, that his Grace will not wait the reception of such report before obtaining the decision of Her Majesty's Government, whether the Canadian Act is in other respects satisfactory.

Ottawa, 6 January 1868.

(signed) *John A. Macdonald.*

ANNO TRICESIMO-PRIMO VICTORIÆ REGINÆ.

CAP. XIII.

AN ACT respecting the construction of "THE INTERCOLONIAL RAILWAY."

Assented to 21 December 1867.

Preamble.

WHEREAS the provinces of Canada, Nova Scotia, and New Brunswick joined in a declaration that the construction of the Intercolonial Railway is essential to the consolidation of the Union of British North America, and to the assent thereto of Nova Scotia and New Brunswick; and consequently agreed that provision should be made for its immediate construction by the Government of the Dominion of Canada; and whereas, in order to give effect to that agreement, it was declared by the 145th section of the Imperial Act, known as "The British North America Act, 1867," that it should be the duty of the Government and Parliament of Canada to provide for the commencement, within six months after the Union, of a railway connecting the River St. Lawrence with the city of Halifax in Nova Scotia, and for the construction thereof without intermission, and the completion thereof with all practicable speed; and whereas the Imperial Act known as "The Canada Railway Loan Act, 1867," authorises the guarantee by the Imperial Government of the interest on a loan to be raised by Canada towards the construction of the Intercolonial Railway, connecting the Port of Rivière du Loup, in the Province of Quebec, with the line of railway leading from the city of Halifax, in the Province