

PETERBOROUGH, Jan. 8th, 1877.

GENERAL S. SEYMOUR,  
Consulting Engineer, &c., Quebec.

DEAR SIR,—In your earlier Reports upon the North Shore Railway, extending from Quebec to Montreal, I notice that you attach considerable importance to the completion of a direct line between the cities of Ottawa and Toronto.

May I ask you, whether your subsequent experience and observation, during a residence of several years in Canada, have in any degree changed your views upon this subject. And, also, as to what amount of Government and Municipal aid per mile, would, in your opinion, afford a sufficient basis to induce capitalists to invest a sufficient amount in the bonded securities of the Company, to ensure its early completion.

I may state, for your information, that the distance from Toronto to a connection with the Canada Central Railway, at Carleton Place Junction, is about 195 miles; and that from that point to Ottawa, over a branch line already built, is 28 miles; making the total distance from Toronto to Ottawa 223 miles. Also, that the estimated cost of the Railway is \$20,000 per mile, including equipments.

Yours, very truly,

W. H. SCOTT,  
President Huron & Quebec Railway Co.

TORONTO, Jan. 15th, 1877.

DEAR SIR,—Yours of the 8th inst. was received just as I was leaving Quebec, on a visit to the Western part of New York State; and as I am likely to be detained here for a day or two, on account of the stoppage, or irregularity of the trains, I will embrace the opportunity of answering your letter before leaving.

You ask me whether my views as to the importance of a *direct line of Railway*, between the cities of Toronto and Ottawa, have