

forward to embark in the undertaking by subscribing for stock to the extent of £125,000. To their energetic support and to the effective Parliamentary ability and zeal of D. Christie, Esq., M. P. for Wentworth, the efforts of the Directors to secure a liberal charter for the entire line were wholly successful.

The undertaking under the management of the Directors for the past year having grown in magnitude and interest, they think it now proper to lay before the shareholders the characteristics, progress and prospects of the road as authorized to be constructed under the enlarged powers possessed by the company.

The entire length of the road as now established is 156½ miles, the eastern division extending from the Niagara River to the town of Brantford, being 74½ miles; the central division from Brantford to Paris, 8 miles, and the western division from Paris to Goderich, 74 miles.

Of the southern division 26 miles is nearly a perfect level; the grades are remarkably easy over the remainder, and 70 miles of the whole distance is a *straight line*.

From the southern terminus of the road, immediately opposite the city of Buffalo, the line passes through a rich farming country to Dunville, and thence along the fertile valley of the Grand River through several thriving towns and villages, and a country of great fertility, to Brantford.

This portion of the line is now in progress of construction and rapidly approaching completion. The Directors refer to the Engineer's report of the state and progress of the work.

The central division, comprising a distance of 8 miles, connects the flourishing towns of Brantford and Paris. Both possessing great natural advantages and already of considerable importance as commercial and manufacturing centers, will contribute largely to the business of the road. The location of Brantford, at the head of river and canal navigation eighty miles in length, connecting with lakes Erie and Ontario, enables her already to rank as the fourth port of export in Upper Canada; the principal staples, wheat and flour, of a quality and value which compare favorably with the best Genesee produce, afford a sufficient indication of the exuberant fertility and cultivation of the surrounding country. The contract for this division has been let on terms

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