

the proposed Railway would not fail to bring into Toronto the business of a large and fertile tract of country, which, without such a line of communication, would ultimately find an outlet in another direction." With positive facts before me, I cannot but demur to the opinions expressed in the Report generally, particularly with reference to the clause I have quoted; the first portion states, that "the proposed Railway would not fail to bring into Toronto the business of a large and fertile tract of country." I am satisfied it will *fail*, and I hope to be able to satisfy every reasonable person that the business of the "large and fertile tract of country" referred to, would not be brought into Toronto, if the proposed North-west Railway is constructed. The whole of the future trade of the Counties of Grey, Bruce, and portions of Huron and Wellington—probably the best farming land in Canada, according to the expressed opinions of competent judges, by the census of 1852, the County of Bruce maintained the highest average, 20 bushels of wheat to the acre—would be diverted *from* Toronto, the natural outlet, to Guelph, Hamilton, and the United States, by the construction of the North-west Railway. Let it be supposed, that the North-west Railway has been completed from Guelph to Southampton, through the fertile valley of the Saugeen, with the branch to Owen Sound, the Galt and Guelph Branch of the Great Western Railway, the connecting link between Hamilton and Guelph opened, the respective distances will be as follows:—

## HAMILTON ROUTE.

|                                |            |
|--------------------------------|------------|
| From Owen Sound to Guelph..... | 91 miles.  |
| From Guelph to Hamilton.....   | 44 "       |
|                                | <hr/>      |
|                                | 135 miles. |

## TORONTO ROUTE.

|                                |            |
|--------------------------------|------------|
| From Owen Sound to Guelph..... | 91 miles.  |
| From Guelph to Toronto.....    | 49 miles.  |
|                                | <hr/>      |
|                                | 140 miles. |

Difference in favor of Hamilton five miles.

N. B. If a direct line was constructed between Guelph and Hamilton, the distance would only be 29 miles, increasing the difference in favour of Hamilton to 20 miles.