

VALEDICTORY.

CONTRADICTIONS AND ABSURDITIES.

While necessarily engaged in revising the proof sheets of the foregoing letters, as they have passed through the press ; and while, at the same time, the contents of the Government Engineer's late pamphlet were fresh in my mind, so many glaring contradictions and absurdities have presented themselves before me, while comparing the earlier official reports and statements of the Government Engineer, with his more modern efforts in the same direction, that I cannot well refrain from calling especial attention to some of them, before dismissing this very prolific subject.

THE ALIGNMENT OF THE ROAD.

Referring to the Government Engineer's Report upon the North Shore Railway, dated Nov. 25, 1874, as quoted from in one of the preceding letters, he uses the following language in relation to this subject.

"The alignment is good, and will admit a high rate of speed." Whereas :

On page 8 of the Government Engineer's late pamphlet, in referring to a change in the line near Portneuf, he says: "This change I have already referred to. It was a *most necessary* one. It got rid of a 6 degree curve, and 34 degrees of curvature on a long maximum grade, which would have *greatly crippled the line*, no other curves exceeding 4 degrees."