

UNITED COUNTIES OF LEEDS AND GRENVILLE.

Resolutions adopted unanimously by the Municipal Council of the United Counties of Leeds and Grenville, on the 16th day of October, 1851.

1. *Resolved*,—That this Council desires to offer its humble gratitude to the Great Giver of all good for the abundant Harvest with which it has pleased Him to crown the labours of the industrious Husbandman, during the present season.

2. *Resolved*,—That this Council springing directly from the People, identified with, and appointed to watch over their interests and prosperity; embraces the present opportunity of expressing its satisfaction at the progress already made in the construction of Macadamized, Plank and Gravel Roads, as well by private enterprise as by the public funds, and that it also rejoices in the opening prospect of the extension of Railway communications, which have a powerful tendency to facilitate Agricultural, Mechanical and Mercantile enterprises; and to promote the improvement, social comforts and general progress of the Country.

3. *Resolved*,—That the line of Rail Road contemplated from the St. Lawrence to Lake Huron, is one of vast importance to the Province of Canada, affording as it will do, to the whole traffic of the Great West and North West, a direct line of communication across this Province, by a much nearer route to the Atlantic Ocean than any yet contemplated; and this Council trusts that a Charter may be granted by the Provincial Legislature, at its next Session, for the construction of the said Road, and upon the same liberal terms and conditions, as other Charters have been granted for similar purposes.

4. *Resolved*,—That the scheme of a Grand Trunk Railway to connect Toronto with Halifax, via, Quebec, as contemplated by the 14th and 15th Victoria, Chapter 73, may have been conceived in Patriotism and intended for the Public good; but this Council, without presuming to impugn the motives of its supporters, cannot allow the present opportunity to pass, without expressing its decided opposition to the scheme, especially as it adds 4,000,000 of pounds to

the Public Debt of the Province, and incurs an annual expenditure (at 6 per centum of £240,000 for interest alone; and inasmuch also as the said Act provides, that this enormous sum of £4,000,000, shall first be appropriated to the construction of that portion of the said road, which lies between Halifax in Nova Scotia and New Brunswick, and from thence to Quebec: thus exhausting the whole four millions (and it may be more) on a portion of the road, far distant from and utterly useless to Upper Canada, and leaving the balance of the road from Quebec to Hamilton, through the whole of the Upper Province unprovided for, and if ever built, requiring further appropriations and increased debts and taxes, oppressive to the People and adverse to the interests of Upper Canada.

5. *Resolved*,—That if such Trunk line should commence at Montreal, or even at Quebec, instead of at Halifax, and run from either of the said Cities to Toronto or Hamilton, this Council would willingly support such a scheme, as it would pass through the Cities, chief Towns and settled portions of both Upper & Lower Canada, and be based upon equal justice to the Eastern, as well as to the Western sections of the now united Provinces.

6. *Resolved*,—That Petitions be prepared and presented to the Provincial Legislature, one praying for the repeal of so much of the Act of the 14th and 15th of Victoria, Chapter 73, as authorises the contraction of the said debt of four millions, on a road east of Quebec; and the other for the grant of a Charter to construct a Rail Road from the Georgian Bay on Lake Huron to Brockville and Prescott on the St. Lawrence.

7. *Resolved*,—That a printed copy of these resolutions be forwarded to the several Municipalities in Upper Canada, requesting their concurrence therein.

(A true Copy,
JAMES JESSUP,
County Clerk.