

It is not expected, however, that the route of the Piles Branch will be ready for submission to the Board of Directors until quite late in the season.

#### V. WORK OF CONSTRUCTION.

The inauguration of the commencement of the work of construction upon the North Shore Railway, took place at the intersection of King and St. Ours street, in the City of Quebec, on the 18th of July last, with ceremonies every way suitable to commemorate an event so important, not only to the Company, but to the citizens of Quebec, and to the Dominion at large.

Since that time, the Contractors have constantly increased their forces until now, when there are about 200 men and 12 teams employed upon the work. About eight miles of roadway, extending from the City of Quebec westward, are now nearly ready for the superstructure, besides other portions which are well under way; and nothing but the legal delays incident to obtaining the Right of Way for the Contractors, will prevent the completion of the road-bed as far west as the Jacques Cartier River during the present working season.

If the owners of the lands through which the Railway passes, had manifested a spirit of justice and liberality at all commensurate with the benefits which they are sure to receive from the construction and operation of the Railway, no such legal proceedings would be necessary, and the grading would now have been completed as far, at least, as Paradis Pass.

The work of construction is under the immediate charge of Mr. Samuel L. Keith, as General Manager of the Contract with the Chicago Contracting Company, for the construction and equipment of the entire Main line and Piles branch of the North Shore Railway.