

The one on the mainland of Nova Scotia is to be connected with the Intercolonial or other railway system, and a line has been surveyed from Port Mulgrave along the shore to this point, which, it is designed, is to be the Great Eastern Shipping Port of North America for Transatlantic traffic. The purpose of the harbour at Cariboo Cove is that Transatlantic steamships may be able to take their coal there, to be conveyed, at any rate during the winter, by railway from the different coal mines in the Island. A line for a railway has been surveyed by this Company from Cariboo Cove northerly to some point on the Cape Breton Railway about three miles east from the Straits of Canso, and it has also purchased a large extent of land round the Cove, and in the neighborhood of the Richmond Coal Mines.

ORANGEDALE TO BROAD COVE.

15. Having become part proprietor of the Broad Cove Coal Field as far back as 1869, and having lately obtained control of the principal part of these Coal Areas, and also possessing a Charter from the Provincial Government (known as the Inverness and Victoria Railway Charter, to survey and construct a line of railway from Orangedale on the Cape Breton Railway, via Whycocomagh, to Broad Cove and Cheticamp, you made arrangements last summer for the necessary Instrumental Survey. No survey had previously been made from Orangedale to the head of Whycocomagh Bay, about four or five miles, but from this north along the route now intended to be followed, a survey had been made by Mr. W. H. Tremaine, C. E., in 1875, for the Provincial Government, from Broad Cove or somewhere near the Mines, (half a mile from and 140 feet above the Sea) via Whycocomagh, to the Straits of Canso.

16. The Survey carried out last summer has been an exhaustive one, as it embraces some alternative portions as well as a set of cross levels, from which can be closely determined the best position for the final location. The route followed is from Orangedale Station on the Cape Breton Railway to the head of Whycocomagh Bay, thence keeping near the water's edge to the Indian settlement near Whycocomagh, and continuing north, crossing Skye River a little above that village, the line will be close to its left, or east bank, all the way through Skye Glen. About the 16th mile the line turns to the right, up the gorge of McQuarrie's Brook, which it follows for about a mile, and thence running easterly and northerly it reaches the head of Hay River valley, which it follows to the shores of Lake Ainslie about the 23rd mile. The Lake shore is followed round the foot of Mount Young and past the mouth of Black River to its extreme north end, which is known as Loch Ban, near the 29th mile. Thence, through a depression in the Lake Basin, it passes down into the valley of Big River, and entering the gorge of the river near the 23rd mile, it continues along the side of the steep bank to near the Sea shore, where it crosses the stream, a total distance of nearly 34 miles.

General description of the route followed.