

ance, and from the surveys which have been continued under his directions, the undersigned has, as requested, given the whole subject very full consideration, and now has the honour of bringing under the notice of the Government, the following suggestions and recommendations:—

He may first, however, observe that the surveys between Manitoba and the country south of Lake Nipissing, demonstrate that through that section of country a perfectly practicable line for the Railway may be had. Between Manitoba and Lake Superior, there is indeed a choice of favourable routes, and the information now acquired, or which will be acquired before the close of the present winter, will, it is believed, be sufficient to enable the Government to decide finally respecting the location of the Railway, and to adopt such measures as may seem best with regard to the commencement of construction, when the Spring opens.

In British Columbia a great deal has been done, and a vast amount of information has been accumulated, but the field of enquiry is so exceptionally difficult that the subject is not, as yet, by any means fully understood. True, a favourable passage through the Rocky Mountains has been discovered, by which a Railway can be carried from the North Saskatchewan, to the central plateau of British Columbia, with gradients as light as those on Railways in Ontario, and with works of construction scarcely heavier than on the Intercolonial Line; we are thus enabled to project a satisfactory route from the Railway system of the Atlantic Provinces to a point within about two hundred miles of the Pacific tide water; but the great "Cascade range" of mountains intervenes and presents formidable obstacles. It must not be understood that the difficulties met with