

The whale and other fisheries of that great inland sea, 350,000 square miles in extent, the various indications of minerals, more or less prominent throughout the entire region, must sooner or later call for direct railway communication; and when we consider that the southern extremity of James Bay may be touched by the shortest and best practicable transeontinental line of railway available on our continent, whereby the combined lines for commercial relations between Europe and the Oriental empires, may be shortened from five hundred to a thousand miles, and the grades reduced to one half of those of any other line, we may take it for granted that sooner or later the iron horse will awaken the solitudes of Rupert's Bay.

With this development in view, a glance at the general map of the country will show at once the advantageous position of our province, and particularly of our shipping ports for the future trade of that region.

Every year adds to the demand for larger ocean freight carrying vessels, and of course they will seek the best port on the shortest route, which against all odds must ultimately be Quebec.

Quebec must have its counterpart somewhere on the shores of James Bay, and possibly the very territory asked for by the Albany River Pulp Company, may in the not far distant future become the site of a growing city.

This is not simply a question of local interest; it may involve questions of the highest imperial interest, and therefore in my humble opinion it would be injudicious for the Government to alienate any such prominent portion of our northern seaboard for any price or consideration that could likely be obtained for it at present.

The whole humbly submitted.

I have the honor to be

Sir,

Your obedient servant,

HENRY OSULLIVAN,

D. L. S. & M. Can. Soc. C. E.

Inspector of Surveys, P. Q.

L. L. 25th May, 1900.