

If the Valley Road could be built as presented to you, it would extend from the Intercolonial about two miles above Newcastle where it crosses the Miramichi to Boiestown, a distance of about 60 miles towards Fredericton, a base line from which, and various points along the same, the supplies could be delivered and transported to the lumber camps, thus lessening the truckage just by so much distance as they are carried along the line. In this way not only would the business of the country be promoted, and the cost of prosecution lessened, but it would add immensely to the traffic of the Government Railway by the revenue which would be derived from the transport of provisions and workmen, and besides that, as it passes through a finely settled country, with numerous mills and facilities for many more, which would certainly be almost at once erected, an immense passenger and lumber transport would be at once developed for the Intercolonial Railway, and prove one of its best paying branches connected therewith. I would refer to the enormous traffic that is now being developed from Carleton Place to Nipissing on the Canadian Pacific, which I have no hesitation in saying will tax the carrying capacity of that section of the road in lumber and lumber operations and provisions therefor.

What I now beg respectfully to suggest is that, if the Government cannot see their way to take up and subsidize the above section as a whole, that they should build as a branch of the Intercolonial a valley line from the Intercolonial at the Miramichi crossing to Boiestown, a distance of..... 60 miles.

Or to Docktown, a distance of.....	48	"
Or to McLaggan's, or Farley's Mills, a distance of.....	23	"
Or to Renous, a distance of ...	17	"
Or the South-west Boom, a distance of.....	9	"

Of course, the most desirable point, and the one that would afford the greatest benefit to the public, and the Intercolonial, would be Boiestown, and so on in the order in which I have placed them. On the Boom, where over 150,000,000 feet of lumber is rafted, and for months over 400 men are employed, and there is not the slightest doubt but it would be an immensely paying section.

The transport to the Miller Bark Factory would of itself supply a train load of freight in bark and extract therefrom, three or four times a week each way.

I have, therefore, respectfully to ask that, in case the whole scheme from the Intercolonial Railway to Fredericton cannot be taken up, then that your Government should ask Parliament to make provision for building a branch line of the Intercolonial Railway to Boiestown, or such of the other points named, as the Government, on investigation of the facts, may approve of.

I have the honor to be, Sir, your obedient servant,

SIR CHARLES TUPPER, Minister Railways and Canals.

P. MITCHELL.

Memorandum.

OTTAWA, 15th May, 1883.

The undersigned has the honor to represent that a petition has been received from the Miramichi Valley Railway Company, dated the 21st of March, 1883, setting forth that a charter has been granted to the Company by the Provincial Legislature of New Brunswick, and that this Legislature has further sanctioned the grant of a subsidy to the extent of \$3,000 a mile, in aid of the construction of their road, such road as contemplated, running from the port of Miramichi to Fredericton, a distance of about 102 miles. The Company ask that assistance may be afforded also by the Dominion Government;

That the portion of their road represented as being most desirable of construction, would run between a point on the Intercolonial Railway at the head of Miramichi Harbor and Boiestown, a distance of about sixty miles in the direction of Fredericton, and it is urged that this line would pass through a finely settled country, possessing numerous mills and having extensive lumbering interests towards the development of which the construction of the road would conduce;

That the matter having been referred to the Chief Engineer of Government Railways, he has reported, under date of the 20th ultimo, to the effect, that though