

stantly harping upon the commercial view of the question, and leaving untouched the many more important bearings of the project so fully treated in that report, had it not been that the Report of the Railway Commissioners has had a very injurious effect upon the success of the undertaking. But even conceding to this report the utmost that can be claimed for it by its framers, the circumstances of the case are now so much altered by the very large concessions of valuable land, and a guarantee of money for a term of years, which the Colonial Governments have granted to promote the undertaking, that the report should no longer be looked upon as bearing upon, or materially affecting, the question of the construction of the railway under these altered circumstances.

Hoping to be permitted to recur to this important subject in a few days, I remain, Sir, your obedient servant,

ALEXANDER DOULL.

1, Morden Terrace, Greenwich, Aug. 17, 1850.

LETTER IV.

To the Editor of "The Morning Chronicle."

SIR,—Major Robinson has derived his approximate estimate for the construction of the Halifax and Quebec Railway from railroads which have been constructed in the State of Massachusetts. This State he considers, from climate, the physical features of the country, and other points of similarity, to afford the most accurate data upon which to base an estimate; and by making some abatement in favour of the Halifax and Quebec line, he considers £7,000. per mile amply sufficient: which for 635 miles would amount to the sum of £4,445,000., and allowing the ample sum of £555,000. for contingencies, the estimate would amount to £5,000,000. in round numbers, for a single line with the necessary stations and plant.

In consequence of the very great reduction in the price of iron, since the report has been drawn up, a very considerable reduction may now be made from the above estimate. Locomotives and all the necessary appliances for the efficient working of a railway are also now not only cheaper but in constant progress of improvement.

The Railway Commissioners substantially admit the va-