

"TORONTO, December 23, 1880.

"JOHN LEYS, Esq.:

"Dear Sir,—In answer to yours informing me that it has been reported in Ottawa that I am a director and a large shareholder in the Grand Trunk Railway Company, I have to say once for all that I am in no way interested in the Grand Trunk, and I am not either a shareholder or a director in it, and what is of far more importance to the people of Ottawa, the Grand Trunk Company has no share or interest directly or indirectly in any way whatever in the Toronto and Ottawa Railway Company. Since we obtained control of the charter on first June last—a little over six months—we have expended a large sum of money in making surveys, and our engineers are now definitely locating the line east and west from Peterboro'. Any one acquainted with railway construction knows the importance of plenty of time being taken to find the very best line, a matter which is of very great importance in our case, because we shall have to compete with an old established line. I desire now to say that on the completion of the location of the line—which is being pushed rapidly forward—and on the municipalities granting the aid asked for, we will go on at once with the construction of the road, and will run it as an independent line."

"I hope the people of Ottawa will not allow themselves to be deceived by stories set afloat by rival railway companies interested in blocking our road; and regretting very much that illness alone prevented me from being with you,

"I am sincerely, yours,

"W. GOODERHAM, JUN.,

"President Toronto and Ottawa Railway."