

Should the Board concur in the views above expressed, and defer the location of that portion of the line west of the point indicated upon the maps and profiles as the "West end of location," I shall have the honor to submit, at the earliest possible day, a supplemental report upon the remaining portion of the line, accompanied by such plans, profiles and other information as may be necessary to a full understanding of the subject.

#### IV. SURVEYS FOR THE PILES BRANCH.

A survey for the Piles branch was made quite late in the season of last year, by a party in charge of Mr. E. B. Temple, Assistant Engineer, upon the west side of the St. Maurice River, from the City of Three Rivers to the Grand Piles; the profile of which shows the country in that locality to be exceedingly rough and uninviting for the construction of a railway.

Another party was organized early in May of the present year, and placed in charge of Colonel F. C. Farjana, Resident Engineer, who commenced the surveys at a point near the crossing of the St. Maurice River by the present main line, and followed the valley of the river up as far as "Grand Mere," which point was reached about the 1st of July last, when the survey was suspended and the party disbanded.

On the first of the present month another party took the field, under the direction of Mr. L. P. Gauvreau, my Principal Assistant, with Mr. E. B. Temple, Assistant Engineer, as chief of party. This party commenced the surveys at the Grand Piles, and will run a line down upon the East side of the St. Maurice River, to its intersection with the main line, at some point near the crossing of the St. Maurice, with a view of using one bridge over that river, for both the main line and branch.