

Letter from S. Fleming to Mr. George Lowe Reid, Chief Engineer Great Western Railway of Canada, the Detroit and Milwaukie, of Michigan and other Railways, relative to an examination and report by the latter of the Pictou Railway.

RAILWAY OFFICE,
Halifax, Nova Scotia, May 6th, 1867. }

G. LOWE REID, Esq., C. E.

Sir,—I am much gratified to learn that you have been so good as to leave your other engagements, at my urgent solicitation, for the purpose of making a professional inspection of the Pictou Railway, in this Province.

I am anxious that you should make as thorough an examination of everything connected with this new line of Railway as the time at your command will allow, and I now place in your hands the contract, the specification, and the plans under which the work has been executed, together with all letters and reports referring thereto which were written by me to the Railway Commissioner and the Government while I held the office of Chief Engineer. These latter documents I conceive are necessary to enable you to arrive at the true meaning and spirit of the contract. You will also be furnished with a complete descriptive list of all the structures on the line, together with the plans of the buildings, the wharves, and the ferry-boat (now building in England) for Pictou harbor, as well as all other information respecting every portion of the work which you may deem necessary.

You will find that although the Railway is not completed, the great bulk of the work is done, and in reporting your professional opinion thereon, I shall be glad if you will refer to the following points:—

1. The Engineering character of all the works which are connected with or form the "road-bed" of the Railway.
2. The character of "the Permanent Way."
3. The character of the Station Accommodation.
4. The character of the Water Service.
5. The character of the Terminal and Harbor Service at Pictou.
6. How far, in your opinion, the spirit and meaning of my official reports, the plans, specifications, and contract have been carried out.