

TO THE PUBLIC.

WM. HY. SCOVIL, Esquire, late Chairman of the Railway Board, having published a Pamphlet, purporting to be a copy of correspondence between that Gentleman and myself, arising out of a statement made by me in my place in the House of Assembly, on the 29th March, 1858, to the effect, that the Commissioners had incurred a loss of £2000 by mismanagement in the purchase of Railway iron from Messrs. Naylor & Co., of Liverpool; and finding on perusal, that a part of that correspondence has been omitted, and that it is accompanied by certain notes and comments involving unfairly drawn inferences, I am compelled in self-defence to adopt the present means of supplying such omissions, and correcting any erroneous impression that may have thereby been produced.

The manifestation of unpleasant feeling which pervades certain portions of Mr. Scovil's letters and notes, is to me a source of sincere regret, and as I am not actuated by similar feelings, I will not further notice this matter.

With the assurance, that if the correspondence had been given in full, without any notes, comments or omissions, I would have been perfectly satisfied to have left the issue with the judgment of each individual reader, I now proceed to give the correspondence as it occurred.

[Extract from Letter, dated Saint John, N. B., 7th April, 1858.]

"I find under date of 29th March, at page 79 of the Official Reports of the House of Assembly, the following sentence in a speech of yours, viz :

"*'The late Commissioners had not bought iron through Messrs. Barings, but through a firm, Naylor & Co., by which they lost £2,000 by mismanagement.'*

"I cannot understand how this can be; will you oblige me by explaining how this loss occurred. Your early reply will oblige,

"Yours, &c.,

"WM. HY. SCOVIL.

"To the Hon. S. L. TILLEY."

"FREDERICTON, 14th APRIL, 1858.

"SIR—Your letter of 7th instant, reached me at Saint John a day or two since, and I now hasten to reply thereto. The loss of