

PREFACE.

THE lively interest which has been excited among the Working Classes throughout the country, upon the subject of the construction of the Halifax and Quebec Railway, and the extensive scheme of colonization in connection therewith, as well as the approval which the plan has met with from many noblemen and gentlemen, has induced the promoters of the undertaking to republish the following Report and Letters, which have already appeared in the Morning Chronicle, together with some additional matter, as a means of answering to some extent the numerous inquiries which are constantly being made respecting the present position and future prospects of this undertaking.

Two questions have been put to the promoters of this Association, the reply to which will briefly place before the public the principles and objects which are so desirable to be carried out, and the discussion of which has been the origin of the able report and letters of Mr. Doull, their Engineer.

The first question is,—“What does your Association propose?”

In reply to this question it is first necessary to state, that the immediate and ultimate objects of the promoters are to open an extensive field on which to employ the surplus labour of the United Kingdom, and thereby to promote the social elevation of the industrious classes.

To effect these objects, it is proposed to raise a capital of £3,000,000. sterling, and to allot £500,000. of such capital stock, in shares of £5. each, to be vested in Trustees for the Working-Class Section, and such capital stock to be applied for defraying the expense of constructing a Railway from Halifax, in Nova Scotia, to Quebec, in Canada, under the superintendence of such Commissioners as may be appointed by Her Majesty's Government and the Colonial Legislatures for that purpose.

The Legislatures of Canada, New Brunswick and Nova Scotia, having together, in furtherance of such work, offered a free breadth of way for the whole extent of the Railway, as well as blocks for stations, and a grant of about 4,800,000 acres of land, along both sides of the line, as well as to guarantee £60,000. per annum to make good any deficiency which may arise in paying interest on the capital.

It is proposed to survey such land in connection with the Railway, to