

opinion as to the most desirable route for instrumental examination, with such other information as to probable cost, traffic, and revenue, which an ordinary exploration of the country would enable me to furnish.

In complying with this request, I will first dwell generally on the proposed location of the line, and afterwards devote some consideration to the other topics indicated.

To make the explanations more clearly understood, a large map of the county is submitted, with the several lines and positions marked thereon.

An examination of this map will shew the extremity of Long Point, Picton, the Carrying Place, with Trenton, Smithfield and Brighton stations of the Grand Trunk Railway, as principal objective points to be considered.

The first point to which the investigation will be directed, is the consideration of the most facile place for connecting with the Grand Trunk Railway, both in reference to cheapness of construction, shortness of line, and future possible extension from the junction, in a northerly direction, through the counties of Northumberland, Peterborough, or Hastings, into the interior of the country, opening up and developing its rich mineral, agricultural, and forest industries, and at the same time attain a connection with the Canadian Pacific Railway.

An examination of the country between the Carrying Place and Trenton station of the Grand Trunk Railway, *via* Trenton village, shews that a connection may be had in that direction, but of a somewhat expensive character, owing to the cost of right of way in passing through the village, and some difficulties which would be encountered between it and the station. This route would, however have the advantage of connecting that important village and its population of 2000 with your line. Being an extensive emporium for the lumber and timber brought down the River Trent, it would, no doubt, prove a good feeder to your road for the American traffic *via* Long Point, during certain months of the year, when the navigation is interrupted.