

“lized, if not entirely destroyed by a *wrong location of the Inter-colonial Railway*,” an opinion with which we fully coincide, and to prevent this *wrong location* we are now striving.

At page 17, Mr. Lawrence, without knowing it, furnishes a strong argument in favour of the Northern Central, and against Western No. 5; if he thinks it makes for his line, we are willing to give it a wider circulation by quoting it; we merely wish the reader to observe how much better it applies to the Northern Central line than to his favourite, in all points that relate to the cheap maintenance of the road and expense of running it. “All of Canada to the westward of River Du Loup is interested in the adoption of this line, as their extensive and extending commerce requires, at all seasons of the year, the most direct route to and from the ocean. Commercial men, to secure the shortest possible road, would consider it economy to spend, were it necessary in its construction, a larger sum than would be required to build a longer and circuitous one, knowing that the saving in time, freight, fares, running expenses, and maintenance, would far more than compensate for the extra cost.”

At page 18 Mr. Lawrence throws a sop to Halifax and then says:—“Its people are too *patriotic* to sacrifice such an important *stragetical* point for any consideration, or to tax the two Western Provinces with additional mileage for any advantage they might derive from the selection of a Central or Northern route.” This was very ingeniously done, but Mr. Lawrence forgot that at page 20 he used every effort to persuade his readers that the time had passed for any necessity of regarding either strategy or the military character of the road.

Mr. Lawrence says, page 23 of his letter: “Two of the objects of the Intercolonial Railway are to consolidate the Provinces and open up new fields for settlement. As No. 5, would not only better accomplish these than any other of the Western routes, and that without sacrificing any interest of the country; and at the same time should be unexceptionable to the British Government, its claims from a Colonial, as well as Imperial point of view, are greater than Nos. 1, 2 or 3. If any of these is