

REPORT
ON
THE LINE OF ROUTE
BETWEEN
LAKE SUPERIOR AND THE RED RIVER SETTLEMENT.

In reporting as to the best means of opening a line of communication between Lake Superior and the Red River Settlement, I beg to be permitted, in the first place, to refer briefly to the operations of the Red River Expedition, carried on for several years under my direction, as it will, I doubt not, be satisfactory to the Government to know that the suggestions which I have the honor to submit are not the expression of mere theoretical views, but the result of long-continued investigation, under official instructions from the Canadian Government.

The earlier Reports of the Expedition were printed by order of the Legislature, but those sent in during the last year of its operations have never been published. The present Report will contain all that is believed to be of immediate importance in these documents ; that is, in regard to the subject under consideration.

The following Maps are annexed for convenience of reference :—

1. A Plan, on a scale of two miles to one inch, showing the country between Thunder Bay and Lac des Mille Lacs, Dog Lake line of road, position of dam, &c.

2. A Plan of the Lake Region, on a scale of four miles to one inch, showing the country between the Height of Land and Fort Frances.

3. A Plan on a scale of ten miles to one inch, showing the country between Fort Frances and Fort Garry.

4. A Map, in profile, showing the relative altitude of the Routes by Pigeon River and the Kaministiquia.

Plan No. 3 might be lithographed at small cost, and I think it would be advisable to have it published, as it is the only correct one of the section which it exhibits.

The Red River Expedition consisted at its outset of three distinct parties, receiving their instructions from three different Departments of Government. One of these was under my direction, one under Mr. Napier's, while Mr. Gladman, a retired officer of the