

Government

As these facts may not have been present to your mind when writing to the Trustees, and as they know nothing of them, I deem it my duty to point them out to you and I shall send a copy of this letter to them in order that they may know the different treatment accorded to them in this matter, as in many others, from that given to Canadian companies.

I have the honour to be, Sir,

Your obedient servant,

(Signed) A. D. PROVAND.

OTTAWA, APRIL 20th. 1901.

To the Right Honourable Sir Wilfrid Laurier,  
Prime Minister.

Dear Sir,

CHIGNECTO RAILWAY.

At one of our interviews the Hon. Mr. Fielding said he wished we would make our claim on the government through the Exchequer Court, but I replied that we had not put forward any claim on legal grounds, but on those of morals and equity.

Since then however I have ascertained that in 1890, a claim arising out of a contract to construct parts of the Cape Breton and New-Glasgow Railways, was made on the government by Messrs. Stewart and Jones and was referred to a Sub-Committee of the Council and afterwards, by agreement of the parties, to the adjudication of the Hon. Mr. Justice Burbidge, sitting as a Commissioner. These particulars are taken from reports to the Privy Council, approved 26th. July and 20th. August, 1892.

I beg to bring the foregoing case (which was one of several) under your notice, as it may furnish a precedent for referring our claim to the same judge sitting as a Commissioner to ascertain and report the facts on which the Government would be free to act or not as they might deem fit.

Such a reference might be accepted by the Trustees for the investors provided that suitable terms of reference were agreed upon. I shall be happy to hear from you on this suggestion.

I have the honour to be, Sir,

Your obedient servant,

(Signed) A. D. PROVAND.

OTTAWA, 30th APRIL, 1901.

Dear Sir,

I have the honour to acknowledge the receipt of your favour of this day, and, in answer, I have again to refer you to my letter of the 20th. March last.

I have the honour to be,

Yours very sincerely,

(Signed) WILFRID LAURIER.

A. D. Provand, Esq.

Rideau Club,

Ottawa.