

THE GRAND TRUNK RAILWAY

FROM
HALIFAX TO QUEBEC.

THE Colonies of Nova Scotia, New Brunswick, and Canada, having requested Her Majesty's Government to ascertain by exploration and survey, the practicability of constructing a Trunk Railway from the eastern coast of Nova Scotia to Quebec, traversing New Brunswick, some very intelligent officers of the Royal Engineers were appointed to that duty, and commenced their labours in the summer of 1846. The necessary explorations were completed at the end of the year 1847, and the Report of Major Robinson, R. E., the principal Commissioner, dated Halifax, 31st August, 1848, has been submitted to H. M. Government, and transmitted to the several colonies interested.

It is here proposed to give a digest of that Report, in concise form, for general information.

The Report commences by stating, that three principal lines or routes for a Trunk line of Railway, present themselves for consideration; and that by combining portions of two of these lines, two other routes may be formed.

The route No. 1, is designated "the mixed route," by railway and steamboat—and is thus described:

1st. Commencing at Halifax and crossing the Province of Nova Scotia to a port in the Bay of Fundy, from thence by a steamer to St. John, in New Brunswick, and then by Fredericton along the St. John River, to the Grand Falls.

From the Grand Falls by the best practicable route across to the mouth of the Riviere du Loup, on the St. Lawrence, and by the right bank of the St. Lawrence, to Quebec.

The distance by this route would be as follows:

	Miles.
Halifax to Windsor,	45
Windsor to Annapolis,	85
Annapolis to entrance Bay Fundy,	11
Across Bay Fundy to St. John, (by Sea)	45
St. John to Fredericton,	65
Fredericton to Woodstock,	62
Woodstock to the Grand Falls,	71
The Grand Falls to the mouth of the Riviere du Loup,	106
Riviere du Loup to Quebec,	110

Total distance Halifax by the St. John River to Quebec, 600

The route No. 2, to which a decided preference has been given, is called the "Eastern, or Bay Chaleur route," and is thus described: