

so that every person in the country may be advised of the powers and privileges conferred by a Railway Charter. With this view Your Committee have prepared a series of Clauses, which they beg to submit to Your Honorable House, and which, if approved, may form the basis of a General Railway Act. After this Act has passed the Legislature, its enacting Clauses may, by a simple reference to it, become incorporated with and form a portion of every Railway Charter hereafter granted, unless when otherwise specially provided in the particular Act of Incorporation.

After a full consideration of the subject, Your Committee have come to the conclusion that the interests of the Province will be best consulted by the construction of a grand Trunk Line of Railway, extending from Quebec to Windsor on the River Detroit, and connecting with any line which may be constructed between Halifax and Quebec. This great line is considered by the people of Canada as a Provincial undertaking, and should be taken up as such,—as it will in the opinion of Your Committee, in conjunction with our magnificent chain of Water Communication, secure for Canada a large portion of the Trade and Commerce of Western America. The magnitude of the proposed line of Railway and the consequent expense of construction is such that its completion will be postponed for an indefinite period, if left to private enterprise, even though assisted by Government under the provisions of the Guarantee Act. Your Committee are therefore glad to learn that the Government