

I want to know the date of the agreement—how long this money will have to be paid? But this is not all—after seeing £ 625 charged for the half-year ending 30th June, 1867, I of course expected to see a similar sum put down for the half-year ending 31st December, 1867, making a total of £ 1,250 for the year; instead of which in the Report for that *half-year*, page 24, the amount put down for royalty on steel rails is £ 1,374 19s. 5d. Surely gentlemen this wants a little explanation. But I have something more extraordinary still to add. As I have stated my attention was first drawn to this subject on reading over the proof sheets of Captain Tyler's Report, and I felt much obliged to this gentleman for his remarks; but strange to say when this Report was issued to the Proprietors, this paragraph had disappeared.

Of course I do not know by whose orders this was done, but I contend that it was the duty of the Chairman to see that this information was not withheld from the Proprietors.

I now pass on to another subject. The Grand Trunk Company have a lease of the Buffalo and Lake Huron Line; under the agreement it is their duty to maintain and keep in a good and efficient state the railway and rolling stock; without any consultation with the Buffalo Company they have thought it right to take up a portion of the 56 lbs. and 60 lbs. rails on that line substituting rails weighing 75 lbs. In this proceeding the Buffalo Company have not interfered, believing that the Trunk Company knew best whether the amount of traffic passing over the line made this course necessary.

Captain Tyler in his Report speaks very disparagingly of the quality of some of the rails used on the Grand Trunk Railway, which were worn out in a very few years. On the other hand I find in the proof sheets of his Report, he says, by way of contrast, "on the line between Stratford and Buffalo* there are T rails weighing only 56 lbs. to the yard, which have been already thirteen years in use." This would seem to throw

* A part of the Buffalo and Lake Huron line.