

the further interviews had with your representatives, I am encouraged to believe that we may be able to prepare such a lease as will be satisfactory to the Government and to you. I hope to be able to make a further communication to you on the subject at an early day.

Yours faithfully,

(Sgd.) W. S. FIELDING,
Provincial Secretary.

HENRY M. WHITNEY, ESQ.,
81 Milk St., Boston.

RAILWAY TO LOUISBURG.

The next correspondence has relation to the construction of a railway from Sydney to Louisburg. It is within the knowledge of the House that some years ago an English coal mining company which had invested a large amount of money in Cape Breton, built a railway from the Reserve mines to the port of Louisburg. That railway was operated for a time, but in consequence of disaster which came to the company, the road, which was a narrow gauge one, fell into disuse. One of Mr. Whitney's ideas is that he may build a railway to Louisburg and ship coal in the winter. The idea that Louisburg shall be a winter port has been the dream of many people in Cape Breton, and it must be gratifying to these people that as respects making it a coal port in winter Mr. Whitney has faith in their views. The letter referred to is as follows :

BOSTON, May 16th, 1892.

HON. W. S. FIELDING,
Provincial Secretary, Halifax, N. S.

DEAR SIR :

I am informed that your government has power under certain conditions to grant a subsidy of \$3,200 per mile of railway constructed, to aid in the construction of any line of railway within the province of Nova Scotia approved by the Government.

In case myself and associates determine to construct a line of railway between Sydney and Louisburg, in the Island of Cape Breton, by an approved route, would your Government consider favorably the granting of said subsidy to aid in the construction of such line ?

I should be glad to hear from you at your earliest convenience.

Yours truly,

(Sgd.) HENRY M. WHITNEY.

To this I replied as follows :—

PROVINCIAL SECRETARY'S OFFICE,
Halifax, May 19, 1892.

DEAR SIR :

I beg to acknowledge receipt of your letter of 16th inst., in relation to subsidy for a line of railway between Sydney and Louisburg.

In reply I beg to state that our Government have long viewed with favor the project of connecting the coal fields of Cape Breton County