

Lastly we come to Professor Macoun, who, when giving evidence before the Colonization and Immigration Committee, at Ottawa, said, in speaking of the region to the North of the Province of Quebec, and among other things of the country surrounding the Lakes Témiscaming and St. Jean: "The frosts are not more frequent there than in certain parts of Ontario. besides, these frosts are produced in the lowlands and not in the very unsheltered spots, as is most wrongfully believed. The plants which are found about thirty miles from Hudson Bay prove that the climate there is not more severe than that of Quebec." *Now the region which the Maskinongé and Nipissing Railway will traverse is one degree south of Lake St. John.*

THE MASKINONGÉ AND NIPISSING RAILWAY AS A COLONIZATION ROAD.

Here is what Mr. Dawson, the eminent M. P. for Algoma, said on the third reading of the Bill (on the 30th April, 1886):

"MR. DAWSON. Before the Bill is read the third time, I wish to make a few remarks. I think this is one of the most important Bills that has been put before the House this Session. The Railway will pass through a country with which I am well acquainted, from along the Mattawin, a tributary of the St. Maurice, the north of Lake St. Peter, and thence to Lake Témiscamingue and then South-westerly until it joins the Pacific Railway at or near Mattawan. This road will be a means of leading settlement to a very important country, where there is an immense deal of good lands and good timber. It is very important to Lower Canada especially, that some way should be found to draw settlement into the interior, and this road will be the means of drawing settlement from the densely populated districts of Lower Canada away back to the interior, and opening a field for colonization, thus preventing the people going to other lands to seek homes. If this road can be carried out, and I hope the promoters will be able to find the necessary capital, it will be one of the grandest and best schemes brought before the House this Session. I could not let this opportunity pass without expressing my opinion of the importance of this work, and I hope its promoters will meet with every encouragement from the Government."

The Honorable J. A. Chapleau agreed to give his powerful and warm support to the Maskinongé and Nipissing Railway. The following letter was written last year to a friend.

OTTAWA, 11th March, 1886.

"I take this opportunity of answering your letter of the 10th instant. Not only am I not opposed to the building of a railway from Louiseville to Mattawan and beyond; but I perceive in this construction of tributary railways the carrying out of my programme of 1831. This construction is of the utmost importance for our fellow countrymen and for the future of French Canada.

I see in the peopling of the north country the best auxiliary, the most powerful promoter of our national enterprises.

The Province of Quebec is the stronghold of our race, it provides the foundations of our nationality; and in order to give these foundations greater depth we must penetrate northward and there establish ourselves.

Never in the history of the human race have the northern people been