

two others came on near the last of the month. On the 8th day of August, a regular train commenced running to Kemptville daily. The first 26 miles of track from Prescott was laid by the Company. The work was very well done. A contract was made with Messrs. French & Co., in the month of August, for the whole of the balance of the track-laying, and for other works on the line.—Very great delay was experienced in receiving the iron. Several large cargoes were lost, and the re-shipping of other iron occupied much time. The utmost exertions were made both by the Contractors and the Company to secure the opening of the road through before the closing of the season, but it was not till the 20th December that the track reached the East bank of the Rideau River, opposite the City of Ottawa. The difficulties experienced during the latter part of 1854 were very great, and it was only by concentrating all available means upon the track, and such works as were indispensably required to put the track in running order, that the Company was able to get the road in a condition to be opened for business.

A contract was executed in 1854 by the Northern N. Y. Railroad Company, for establishing and maintaining a Railway Steam Ferry, between their Depot at Ogdensburgh and the Depot of this Company at Prescott, and on the faith thereof, an agreement was made for a first class iron vessel, fit to perform the service. Owing to that road passing out of the hands of the shareholders, the contract became worthless; and, rather than incur the outlay under the circumstances, the builders of the vessel were settled with in October last, by allowing them 340 shares stock for their damages, and a release taken, indemnifying this Company from further obligations in respect to the vessel.