

Emerson has for the most part been confined to ballasting, about one-third of the required quantity having been put on the line. An iron superstructure has been ordered for the main opening at Rat River station houses, and platforms being erected at the several stations between Selkirk and Emerson are well advanced, and temporary arrangements for water supply during the winter have been provided.

The line between St. Boniface and Emerson is being operated by Messrs. Upper & Co., under lease with the Government.

#### SUBSIDIZED LINES.

The subsidized portion of the Canada Central Railway, according to the Order in Council, extends from Pembroke to such point as may be selected by the Government as the eastern terminus of the Canadian Pacific Railway, at or near the crossing of the Nipissing Road, at the south-east corner of Lake Nipissing. The surveys are now sufficiently advanced to establish the length of the adopted line between these points, which is found to be about 142 miles. The total subsidy is limited to \$1,440,000; Starting from Pembroke, the line follows a north westerly course, and at no great distance from the Ottawa River, to the valley of the Mattawan River, at the 94th mile; then westerly to the proposed terminus. The grading and bridging has extended as far as the 62nd mile, and the track is laid and ballasted to the 43rd mile. In addition to the rails laid, there is a sufficient quantity on the ground for about 42 miles more track.

#### GEORGIAN BAY BRANCH, 50 MILES.

The work on this contract proceeded very slowly during the early part of the season, and up to the end of July last the work done by the contractors was almost exclusively confined to clearing portions of the line. The contract was cancelled by the Government on the 14th August last. A certificate for the total quantity of work performed under the contract has been issued.

#### EXTENSION WESTERLY FROM RED RIVER.

Tenders were received on the 1st August, for the construction of 100 miles of railway west from Winnipeg, and the contract (No. 48) was signed on the 19th of the same month. By the terms of the contract, 50 miles of the line are to be completed by the end of April, and the whole distance by the 19th August next. The grading over this section will be very light, and the work will, for the most part, consist of track-laying and ballasting.

#### WORK OF CONSTRUCTION IN BRITISH COLUMBIA.

Tenders were received on the 17th of December last, for the grading, bridging, tracklaying, ballasting, &c., between Emory's Bar, on the Fraser River, 5 miles below Yale, to Savona's Ferry, on the North Thompson River, a distance in all of 127 miles.

The work is divided into four sections, to be completed as follows:—

Emory's Bar to Boston Bar, 29 miles, by 31st December, 1883.

Boston Bar to Lytton, 27 miles, by 30th June, 1884.

Lytton to Junction Flat, 28½ miles, by 31st December, 1884.

Junction Flat to Savona's Ferry, 40½ miles, by 30th June, 1885.

#### RAILS.

During the summer contracts have been entered into with manufacturers in England, for the supply of fifty thousand tons of Bessemer steel rails, with the pro-