

As has been said the project of an Imperial guarantee failed, and it was therefore left to private Companies, with the assistance of the Provincial guarantee, to carry out the various sections of the Trunk line. Accordingly, the Great Western Railway Company and its friends, applied in 1852 to Parliament for authority to make a Railway from Hamilton, their then Eastern terminus, to Toronto, which was granted; the Act of Parliament containing the following words in the 2nd clause, viz:—  
 “The said Railway shall be held to *form part of the Main Trunk Line of Railway*, and the said Company shall accordingly, upon complying with all the provisions of the law in that behalf, be entitled to the benefit of the guarantee of the Province, to the extent and in the manner by law provided.”

Here then is the Great Western Company carried Eastward as far as Toronto “as part of the Main Trunk Line,” and upon turning to the Grand Trunk Act itself, it appears that it authorizes that Company to make a line of Railway from Montreal to *Toronto*, thus carrying out the intention of all preceding Acts, both of Parliament and the Government, of making the Great Western Railway a part of the Main Trunk Line.

The proceedings which took place at the time that the Grand Trunk Act was before the Railway Committee of the House of Assembly, must next be set forth, as bearing in conjunction with what has since taken place, a very important part of the present statement.

The present Prime Minister of this country proceeded to England, after the passing of the Act of 1851, as to