

CHIGNECTO MARINE TRANSPORT RAILWAY COMPANY, LIMITED.

*To the Debenture and Shareholders of the Chignecto Marine Transport
Railway Company, Limited.*

GENTLEMEN,

From time to time during the past four years we have held meetings, besides the Statutory Annual meetings, to consider the negotiations which have been proceeding with the Canadian Government, for the legislative reinstatement of the Company and re-enactment of the Subsidy, in order that we might proceed with the Railway and complete it.

It was in 1891 that the Contractors stopped the work of construction, and in 1892 I went to Canada for the first time to lay our case before the Government, to ascertain what assistance they would give, and to endeavour to make such arrangements with the Government as would enable the new Contractors to recommence construction and complete the work.

Since then I have been seven times to Ottawa—making eight visits altogether—to see the Canadian Government about the Company's affairs. We have had several interviews with Lord Strathcona and the Right Hon. Sir Charles Tupper, Bart., who have held the office of High Commissioner for Canada during the time the negotiations have been pending. We have also had interviews in London with the Right Hon. Sir John Thompson and the Hon. Mr. Foster, Premier and Finance Minister in the last Government, and with the Right Hon. Sir Wilfrid Laurier, Premier in the present Government. The Directors and a few of the largest investors were present at most of the interviews.

Stated briefly, the relief we have asked from the Canadian Government is, to re-enact the original Acts of Parliament reinstating the Company in possession of its charter and subsidy, and to grant us sufficient time to complete the Railway. We have further represented to the Government that if for any reason they decided not to reinstate the Company, in such case we should be entitled to compensation, and we have said that we should be agreeable to consider with them what amount