

will *detract largely* from the business of the Grand Trunk line ; and “ must necessarily be *prejudicial in the highest degree* to your Petitioners undertaking ” ; also, what is really more alarming than all, “ that it must necessarily cripple your Petitioners power and means to afford *the best possible accommodation* to the general public of Canada, whom it is their duty and their interest to serve ” &c. And hence, the good people of Canada, and more particularly those who are so unfortunate as to reside in the barren and desolate region traversed by this North Trunk Line, must not expect hereafter to receive those great benefits which have been heretofore vouchsafed to them by the Grand Trunk Railway.

6th. After reminding the Government, that inasmuch as “ your Petitioners pay large sums for rating and municipal taxation, it will be an excessive hardship upon them to apply funds thus derived from themselves by such taxation, in promoting and fostering schemes which will *vitaly injure their property* ; ” the petition closes with the following *very modest demand*. “ Your Petitioners therefore humbly pray that no measure receive the sanction of your Honorable House, having for its object the promotion of any Railways on the North Shore of the St. Lawrence, which will *run in opposition to your Petitioners, OR INTERFERE WITH THEIR RIGHTS* ” ; and hence it is to be inferred that this most Honorable Government of the ancient Province of Quebec, will be summarily obliterated, or *wiped out*, unless it accedes to the demands of the Grand Trunk Railway, as set forth in this Petition.