

REPORT OF A. C. MORTON, ESQ.

CHIEF ENGINEER.

ENGINEER'S OFFICE,

MONTREAL, 29th July, 1846.

TO THE

HONORABLE GEORGE MOFFATT,

President St. Lawrence and Atlantic Rail-road Co.

SIR,—I have the honor to submit a brief statement of the surveys made for your road up to the present date, with some general observations relative to the work and the character of the country through which it passes.

At the date of my last Report, the surveys for the southern route had been closed and the Engineers engaged in this service transferred to the northern route. The surveys of this route were commenced simultaneously at the St. Lawrence opposite Montreal and the St. Francis near Melbourne by the two Resident Engineers in the service of the Company, and these lines have been united at the Village of St. Hyacinthe.

The preliminary surveys for the St. Lawrence division have been extended to St. Hyacinthe, and the final location of the road made between the latter point and the Richelieu River. That portion of the line between the Richelieu and the St. Lawrence may be considered an approximate location, and will require but a few days to perfect the surveys.

It was deemed important in the present state of the water in the St. Lawrence to make the requisite examinations with a view to determine the most favorable point for the terminus of the road, and the Resident Engineer of this division is now performing this service. On the completion of this survey the location of the road between the St. Lawrence and the Richelieu will be resumed, and the whole line to St. Hyacinthe, a distance of 29.70 miles, will be prepared for contract at an early date.

The location of this division of the road has so far advanced as to enable me to present some of its leading features. It is straight from the St. Lawrence to the southerly side of Montarville mountain, a distance of $10\frac{11}{100}$ miles; thence, after curving slightly to the North, it is straight to