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MEMORANDUM

BY

The Directors of the Northern Railway of Canada

IN REPLY TO

"A BRIEF STATEMENT RELATIVE TO THE BARRIE SWITCH."

A pamphlet entitled "The Barrie Switch," having been circulated in the legislature, professing to give the history and correspondence connected with that question, but omitting some of the most important transactions and documentary records relating to it: the directors of the Northern Railway feel it their duty to submit a more perfect and accurate narrative of the whole matter: observing, that throughout this vexatious controversy, they have been guided alone by a desire to fulfil the duties attaching to their position as trustees, under, and responsible to, the law.

The construction of the Northern Railway was commenced in 1850, and the company was entitled to government assistance in the form of guarantee.

The inhabitants of the town of Barrie had been amongst the most active originators of the railway, and we find their interests protected by the 1st clause in the original charter, which directs that the railway shall be constructed from Toronto "to some place on the southerly shore of lake Huron, and touching at the town of Barrie, or at some point or place on the shore of lake Simcoe, and in as direct a line as may be convenient."

The present "Barrie station" is on the water's edge of lake Simcoe, and within seventy-five yards of the town of Barrie, and therefore complies with the stipulations of the act above quoted.