

Local Railway Items from Area Papers - L'Orignal and Caledonia Railway

03/10/1871 Ottawa Free Press L'Orignal and Caledonia

We are informed that a renewed interest is being evinced in the proposed Caledonia and L'Orignal Railroad. It is thought likely that the Hon. Mr. Foster will be appointed of the position of President of the Company.

11/08/1874 Ottawa Citizen L'Orignal and Caledonia Caledonia Springs

CALEDONIA SPRINGS.

A Railway Enterprise - Proposed Tramway from the Springs to L'Orignal

(Correspondence of THE CITIZEN)

Caledonia Springs, 10th. The Messrs. Gouin and Captain Bowie, the present proprietors of the Caledonia Springs, commenced building on the old site this morning. The plans of the last hotel have been accepted and the building will be the same size. The great drawback is the want of a railway or tramway from L'Orignal to the Springs. The present proprietors will find it expensive to build and improve the grounds, consequently they cannot contribute more than a fair proportion towards the construction of the road, and look to the Councils of L'Orignal and Caledonia, the Steamboat Company, and private individuals, irrespective of locality, for assistance. It is therefore proposed -

1. To form a company, to be called the L'Orignal and Caledonia Railway (or Tramway) Company, with a capital of \$5,000, in \$100 and \$50 shares each.

5. [sic] The right of way (66ft. wide) to be secured and the road to be graded and ballasted, and in every other respect so constructed as to be used as a regular line of railway to connect with any other lines in the country, by using heavier iron and steam engines.

3. For the present it is proposed to ballast the track with gravel to allow the horses to run upon, and use horse cars either on wooden rails (but I think this will be abandoned - I mean - wooden rails) or on strap iron or flatted stringers, horizontally, or on a light I, or other iron rail about 1/3 or less, the weight of the ordinary rail used, as may hereafter be decided upon by the company; or, if thought advisable, a light engine with rails a little heavier can be placed on at once.

4. The object is to secure a road which may hereafter form part of a railway connection with the Northern Colonization Railway by a branch to Hawkesbury, and crossing there by bridge and to connect with the Coteau and Ottawa road by extending it through Caledonia Flats to the town hall in Kenyon, which is less than ten miles from the Springs; and a line has been surveyed from the Springs to L'Orignal, and a good, easy line founded, the distance being under 7 1/2 miles. Or connections can be made in any other direction with the Coteau road.

5. When the road is built, which can be in running order before the hotel is ready, about the 1st or 15th June next; and visitors find they can run from L'Orignal to the Springs in: forty-five minutes, or less if steam is used, the banks of the river in the vicinity of L'Orignal will be lined with summer residences (as no prettie place can be found on the Ottawa River than the banks above and below L'Orignal) by parties from Montreal, Ottawa, the eastern townships, Vermont and elsewhere; they can get the water from the Springs in the evening to be taken at the houses before breakfast, and run out on the cars, take the baths and waters during the day, lunch or dine at the Springs and return to the banks of the Ottawa in the evening, thus enjoying the advantage of the river air scenery, &c, the want of which is so much felt here - at the Springs. Those who can would rent bouses or board at L'Orignal and assist to build up the village. And young people visiting the Springs with their invalid friends, could run out to the river during the day to fish, &c.

A public meeting will be held at L'Orignal at three p.m. on Friday, the 14th instant. for purposes connected with the proposed railway.

12/10/1874 The Times, Ottawa L'Orignal and Caledonia Caledonia Springs

Work on the L'Orignal and Caledonia Springs Railroad has been suspended for this season, owing to difficulty experienced in getting a right of way through some farms. The enterprise will be resumed, however, early in the spring and pressed forward vigorously towards completion.

15/01/1875 Ottawa Free Press L'Orignal and Caledonia

By reference to an advertisement in another column it will be seen that a meeting of the Provincial directors of the above company will be held at the Russell House on the 21st. inst. at 4 p.m. for election of officers etc.--

22/01/1875 Ottawa Citizen L'Orignal and Caledonia

Account of provisional meeting of directors held in Ottawa.

11/02/1875 Ottawa Free Press L'Orignal and Caledonia L'Orignal

During the last summer, when the project of a railway from this place to Caledonia Springs was first mooted, the people in general took the matter as a joke, but we are happy to inform them that what they then considered as a joke has now assumed a practical shape. The engineer in charge of the work (D.E. Haycock, Esq.) with his staff of surveyors, has arrived and commenced locating the line, and has advertised for Tenders for Railroad Ties, &c., to be delivered along the line before first April next. Mr. Haycock informs us that the road from here to the Springs will be in operation by the 1st of July next, and that it is the intention of the company to continue the line to connect with the Coteau and Ottawa railway at the village of Dunnegan, in the Township of Kenyon. The latter road, we understand, is to be pushed to completion with all possible haste; which event will give the people of this section communication with the cities of Ottawa and Montreal, on their own side of the river, without the necessity of crossing at unfavorable seasons to avail themselves of the facilities of the Northern Colonization Road, which is being pushed ahead with great energy. A stock book was opened here yesterday, Friday, at the law office of E.A. Johnson, Esq., and nearly \$2,000 subscribed in a few hours. The shares are only \$25 each. We hope to see our farmers and others in this section come forward cheerfully and subscribe their names to a project which must prove of interest to the welfare of this section of country, and of great personal benefit to its inhabitants. L'Orignal Advertiser.

27/02/1875 Ottawa Citizen L'Orignal and Caledonia

L'Orignal and Caledonia Railway. Messrs. Cockburn, Wright and Clemow were yesterday appointed solicitors for this company. We congratulate the company on their choice.

The Northern Colonization Road and the L'Orignal and Caledonia Springs.

Messrs. Millar & Butterfield, of L'Orignal arrived in the city on Monday, for the purpose of meeting those interested in the Northern Colonization and L'Orignal and Caledonia Springs Railroads, with a view of suggesting to the Government the propriety of establishing a ferry between L'Orignal and the depot of the Northern Colonization Railroad on the north shore of the Ottawa. All the parties interested have agreed as to the points at which the proposed connection could best be made, and it is expected the matter will be laid before the Government today. The above named gentleman from L'Orignal have also in view of the opening of a Bank agency at that point, and have made a proposition to the Bank of Ottawa, which will be submitted before the board of directors tomorrow; it is thought that the propositions made are of such a nature as to warrant the Bank in extending their operations to L'Orignal, which appears likely to become a place of some importance, if the railways are so laid out as to run through it. The inhabitants of the counties of Prescott and Russell are very anxious that the L'Orignal and Caledonia Springs road should extend its line to the Nation River above Pitch Off, from whence there is thirty miles of navigation to the High Falls to connect with the Coteau Landing Railroad. Two Gentlemen have already signified their intention, in case such extension is made, to establish a steamer to run in conjunction with the trains. It may be well to mention that the directors of the L'Orignal Road regard the scheme with favour as it would then place their enterprise under the category of those railroads which are entitled to aid from the Ontario Government. At an interview with the Government yesterday, the latter expressed themselves favorable to the establishment of a ferry at a point to be settled upon at a future date. The people of L'Orignal will give the use of their wharf and probably about \$500 on account of the first years working expenses.

With regard to the extension of the L'Orignal and Caledonia Springs railroad to Nation River, the township's likely to be benefited thereby will probably give bonuses to the amount of dollars \$25,000 and perhaps more.

12/03/1875 *Ottawa Free Press**L'Orignal and Caledonia*

A meeting of the Directors of the Caledonia and L'Orignal Railway Company took place yesterday afternoon at the Russell House. The principal business of the meeting was the allocation of stock. A resolution was also passed instructing the Engineer to give contracts, as far as possible, for the erection of fences to the farmers, through whose property the line will pass, reserving however, one mile at each end, over which the Company will probably build ornamental fences. The capital is to be drawn upon at the rate of 10 percent every thirty days. The first demand will be made on 20th inst. This will give the Company the means to proceed with the immediate and rapid construction of the line.

07/05/1875 *Ottawa Free Press**L'Orignal and Caledonia*

It has been decided to commence the grading of the Caledonia & L'Orignal R.R. on Tuesday next. Mr. Haycock is at present in town, receiving instructions to proceed with the work immediately. Everything will be ready for the laying of track by 15th of June.

14/05/1875 *The Times, Ottawa**L'Orignal and Caledonia**Caledonia Springs*

The first sod of the proposed railway between L'Orignal and the Caledonian Springs was turned yesterday forenoon at 10 o'clock at Treadwell Hill, just outside the town of L'Orignal. The ceremony was duly performed by J.N. Marston Treasurer and Director of the company in the presence of a large assembly. More.

19/05/1875 *Ottawa Free Press**L'Orignal and Caledonia*

The contractor is hard at work at present doing the grading for this railway and the iron will be negotiated for in a few days. The company may possibly effect arrangements with the Toronto & Nipissing R.R. for the purchase of some light rolling stock, which will be suitable for the purpose.

09/06/1875 *Ottawa Citizen**L'Orignal and Caledonia*

We are glad to see the progress that is being made in the grading of this road, and taking into account the few hands employed, it is evident with a stronger force the whole would be completed within the term contemplated by its projectors.

On and after the 12th instant the company will be in a position to exercise the powers given them by the General Railways Act, and can take possession of the land required by them for their road, when it is contemplated to put on such additional force as will prepare the way for the rails and rolling stock. It is to be regretted that many of the proprietors of the lands through which the road runs, are so obstinate as to refuse the company leave to take possession of the land required, thus retarding the work, when they must know that however distasteful to them possession after the date above mentioned can be taken without their leave. In a work in which all are deeply interested, the obstinacy of those objecting seems misplaced and we would urge upon owners the propriety of agreeing with the engineer in charge for the price of the land taken before they are forced to take such sums as disinterested arbitrators may award. - L'Orignal Advertiser.

21/08/1875 *The Times, Ottawa**L'Orignal and Caledonia**Caledonia Springs*

The railroad to Caledonia Springs. The L'Orignal and Caledonia Springs Railroad is now - thanks to the energy of Mr. Kavanagh, the contractor - so far as grading is concerned, in an advanced state, having all the laborious and difficult parts completed, the rest being easy of accomplishment, as the balance is over perfectly level ground. We perceive it is not only the intention of the company to run it to North Plantagenet but also to run it through the intermediate townships to Morrisburg on the St. Lawrence. More. (L'Orignal Advertiser.)

24/08/1875 *Ottawa Citizen**L'Orignal and Caledonia*

The Directors of the Caledonia Springs Railway propose continuing their line from the Springs to High Falls, connecting there with the Ottawa and Coteau Landing Railway. The survey has been made as far as the Nation River, and will shortly be completed to the point of intersection. It will pass through a wealthy farming community and several prosperous villages.

11/10/1875 *Ottawa Free Press**L'Orignal and Caledonia*

C. & L. O. Railway - Work on this undertaking has been stopped for this season, which is due principally to the difficulty in obtaining the right of way. It is the intention, however, to resume work early in the spring of the year, and to have the road in running order by the middle of June.

12/10/1875 *Ottawa Citizen**L'Orignal and Caledonia*

The contractor, Mr. Kavanagh, has suspended work on the Caledonia Springs Railway for this season owing to the difficulty experienced in securing the right of way from some of the farmers on the route. The work will be resumed early next spring, and will be completed to the Springs in time for next summer's traffic.

19/05/1876 *Ottawa Free Press**L'Orignal and Caledonia*

It is said that an endeavor will be made this summer to complete the Caledonia Springs Railway.

12/06/1876 *Ottawa Free Press**L'Orignal and Caledonia**Caledonia Springs*

Fifteen thousand railroad ties belonging to the old Caledonia Springs Company were sold at L'Orignal last week at public auction for \$400.

26/09/1876 *Ottawa Citizen**L'Orignal and Caledonia*

Work to resume. More.

26/09/1902 *Eastern Ontario Review**L'Orignal and Caledonia*

Now that there appears to be a big boom about a railroad being built into L'Orignal and an electric railway taking in L'Orignal, Caledonia Springs, Vankleek Hill and Hawkesbury. It will be interesting to read the minutes of a special meeting of the L'Orignal council a quarter of a century ago in which the same question was under consideration..