

"The distances by the various routes may be presented in a tabular form, and it may be mentioned that the distances here submitted considerably those given by Major Robinson and others;—but I have not been able to find any exact case for comparison, and which I deem absolutely correct, and therefore, to insure a safe estimate, may account for this. Major Robinson estimated the distance from Montreal to Quebec at 535 miles. By adding the length of the Quebec and River du Loup Railway to the above given, the distance by the same route would appear to be fifty miles longer—equal to about one-fifth of the whole distance. In the case of curvature (which I am convinced is ample) to prove greater than necessary, the estimate lessens the merit of erring on the safe side. Any possible error of this kind will not effect a comparison of the different routes, as, in this respect,