

Of eight bushels of corn starting from Iowa or Illinois for Liverpool, from six to seven bushels are consumed in freight, so that the consumers get but one. Give the people of Great Britain, by cheapening freights through the construction of the Georgian Bay Canal, four or five bushels of the eight instead of one, and England would at once appreciate the importance of her Canadian colonies. I therefore sincerely believe that the imperial government could well afford to advance all the capital to build this great continental thoroughfare, and not only make money, but feed her people sumptuously by the operation.

III. I find I have incidentally given my views in favor of the Georgian Bay route. I may add that by it there would be little if any more close canal navigation than by the Welland; the route is some three hundred miles shorter, and the navigation by the Detroit river and over the St. Clair flats would be avoided. For the passage of ocean vessels and steamers with manufactured goods in bulk bound inward, and grain and provisions also in bulk outward bound, the Ottawa cannot be compared with the Georgian Bay route, for the hundreds of miles of close canal and river navigation, in my judgment, make it available only for barges, while by the other, vessels of a thousand tons burthen can pass directly from the producer to the consumer, and thus the commercial necessities both of England and America be fully accommodated.

In regard to the cost of transit by the different routes, I beg leave to refer for facts on this branch of the subject to the tables in the reports of Messrs. Mason and Tully. In regard to the extent and the resources of the North-West, its present industrial and commercial status, and the vital necessity of greatly increased facilities of transit for our products to the ocean, I beg leave to solicit the attention of the Honorable Committee to the report of the Committee on Statistics to the National Canal Convention held in this city in June last. Of that Committee I had the honor to be a member, and as the facts and statistics there presented are accurate and comprehensive, I submit them as exhaustive of the subject. You will find the report commencing on page sixty-three of the published proceedings. I also solicit your attention to the memorial by a Committee of Congress to