

flats,—showing an increase of 7 feet, the width of the channel having been increased to 300 feet.

4. On 16th November, 1865, the ship "Ocean" was taken from Sorel to Quebec, drawing 19 feet 8 inches, there being at that time 10 feet 6 inches on the flats; and on 1st December following, a test-trip was made from Montreal to Sorel, (in the absence of a suitable vessel,) by lashing spars alongside a steamer to the required depth of 20 feet, thus passing through the Lake while there was a depth of 11 feet (the average point of low-water) on the flats. The experiment was deemed satisfactory,—demonstrating that the result of all the labor since 1851 was an increased depth of 9 feet, and that at low-water there is a channel 20 feet deep from Montreal to the sea.

5. The important work thus accomplished has cost \$1,225,000; of which amount the Provincial Government paid \$900,000,—the remainder (\$325,000) coming out of the harbour revenues. The quantity of silt taken up and deposited on the flats at over a mile from the dredged channel was about 4,500,000 cubic yards.

A WINTER-HARBOUR.

It is not advantageous to the commerce of Canada, that her merchants are dependent for a way to the ocean during five months every year through United States' territory; seeing there is no guarantee that the privilege of transit in bond may not be capriciously withdrawn. The question of a Winter-port on the River St. Lawrence has, therefore, been engaging public attention, and several places have been mentioned as suitable. It is believed by some that a convenient Winter-port would not be much if any farther from Montreal than is Portland. If that hypothesis be correct, a continuation of the Grand Trunk Railroad beyond River du Loup would soon give Canada the entire control of her own import and export trade throughout the year,—an arrangement the value of which can hardly be over-estimated either in peaceful or troublous times; and the Provincial Government will doubtless provide for a satisfactory solution of the important question.

LIGHTS ON THE RIVER ST. LAWRENCE.

It has been deemed important to re-produce here a description of all the Lights on the River St. Lawrence, from the harbour of Montreal to the sea. The list includes nearly all the changes that have been made since the British Admiralty list was published in 1865.

The numbers prefixed to each light correspond with those in the Admiralty list. F. means fixed or steady; Rev. means revolving,—the light gradually increasing to full effect, and then gradually decreasing to eclipse. The bearings are all magnetic; measurements are in English feet, yards, and nautical miles; and the distances the lights are visible, are calculated from a height of 15 feet above the horizon at high water.