

In the absence therefore of real facts, it may not be too much to estimate the cost of the Canal in its present state of completion, at One Million Sterling, as many important charges are not included in the grants, particularly the expenses of the Corps of Royal Engineers and the four Companies of Sappers and Miners. When the length of the Canal (126 miles,) the nature of the ground and the roughness of the country is considered, this sum appears not to have been high; at any rate no Canal in Europe or America, of the same size, was ever completed for any thing like that money.

The enemies of the Lieut. Colonel, (and every good or great man has his enemies,) have not scrupled to accuse him of peculation and favoritism: of the former crime not a tittle of evidence worthy the name can be adduced; like other men of original genius, his mind soared beyond his means, ample as they were, leading him to incur expenses, which had not previously been calculated upon, laying thereby him open to the attacks of his traducers; but it cannot be shewn, that one shilling of the public money was pocketed by him: of the more venial offence he must plead guilty; being a Scotchman, he favored his Countrymen, but not exclusively; and when it is recollected, that the competitors for his favor were mostly either Scotchmen or Americans, and that some of the latter had failed in their contracts, and if successful would carry with them to a foreign land the fruits of their labors, it is not much to be regretted that he was somewhat partial.

The Rideau Canal is not a canal properly so called; but rather a succession of raised waters by means of dams, with natural lakes interspersed.— One end of it empties into the Ottawa, half a mile above the falls of the Rideau, intersecting the up-