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SHUBENACADIE CANAL.

NOVA SCOTIA, although possessing an immense sea coast, being surrounded on all sides by water except at the narrow isthmus which affords a land passage to New Brunswick, and having her shores indented by bays, and harbours innumerable, yet is singularly deficient in the means of internal navigation. Her rivers are scarcely deserving of the name, being in general, insignificant brooks, connected with arms of the sea which runs a few miles inland. The want of navigable rivers will be readily acknowledged to be a serious disadvantage to a country; the means of transporting heavy burthens, are almost as necessary to the prosperity of a land, as the power of producing valuable articles. Mines of immense value, forests of ship timber, agricultural districts of great fertility, may be possessed, but if divided by thirty or forty miles of wilderness, marsh, or mountain land, from the mass of the population, they become almost of as little consequence to the inhabitants as if they were in an other hemisphere: but suppose a river traversing the productive districts, and communicating with the populous, and the magical difference will be apparent, to all who are acquainted with civilized and artificial life. Many parts of Nova Scotia, are, no doubt, vastly lessened in their relative value by the want of means of communication with them, and for most such parts there is no remedy, but—that which the lapse of many tedious years will alone produce—dense settlements, and good roads intersecting every few miles of the country. An effort is now making to supply the Province with one navigable river of immense value: a river which will cross the country at about its centre, dividing it pretty equally into S. W. and N. E. sections; connecting the waters which wash the North and South shores of