

tainly not required for a district which has neither roads nor bridges, villages, manufactories, coal mines, wheat, flour, provisions, &c., for export—in fact, for a district without traffic—if we except those supplies which cannot reach the shanties unless at that season of the year when canals are useless.

There is a good proportion of arable land on the south side of the Ottawa above the Chats. The settlement of this region by immigration is much slower than that part of Canada west of Kingston, although from the demand for every description of agricultural produce caused by the lumber trade there is no better market for the farmer. A slow process of settlement is going on from the ranks of the lumberers; every year a few of the provident among this hardy race, having learned the way of the woods, select some promising lot discovered in their wanderings, take unto themselves wives, and permanently pitch their tents there. This neglect of the Ottawa by settlers is the result of the neglect of it by our Legislature, which has passed laws to tax all private lands, through the agency of the municipalities, for the general improvement—excepting their own. Parliament is the great proprietor on the Upper Ottawa, and Parliament therefore should contribute proportionally, or hand over its estate to commissioners to be sold for the relief of the country as it is now done in Ireland. The municipalities on the Upper Ottawa have taxed themselves, for railway facilities, to three times the extent in proportion to their means of any other municipalities in the country; in fact they have taxed themselves to an extent which none but men desperate from hope deferred would ever think of doing. The hopes of those who have undertaken to aid the municipalities in constructing these roads are based upon one item of commerce, the transport of sawed lumber, and also the carriage of the supplies which are now imported and which will hereafter be required for the manufacture of this article. But the immediate line of the railway will alone be able to manufacture the lumber; the want of