

compelled, as at present, to make in the first instance a very considerable retrograde movement to the East: in the event of War, it would, in addition to innumerable other advantages, enable the co-operation of Flotillas of Gun boats, and other craft, for the defence of the shores of the Bay and Presqu' Isle Harbor, and their respective vicinities, either towards Cobourg and Port Hope on the West, Wellington to the South east, or Picton, Bath and Kingston eastward; and from the central position of Presqu' Isle Harbor between Kingston and the head of the Lake, the contemplated canal would cause it to become a powerful link in the Naval or Military operations of the country should an exigency arise, besides being a great saving of money for transport. During the last War, numerous brigades of boats with detachments of troops, and munitions of war, had to pass by the route of the Bay of Quinte and for want of a canal were obliged to be hauled across the Isthmus of Murray at an enormous cost, altho' the Isthmus is only a mile and a quarter broad at the Carrying-place, four pounds having to be paid for every boat and a dollar for every wagon load, besides the cost of a great many old, or worn out horses and cattle, that were conveniently put into teams employed there, either to be killed, or injured, in the service of the Government, and so to be paid for out of the Military Chest. But the expense was not the worst part of the business, there was the delay, which, under ordinary circumstances, might be

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