

CONCLUSION.—RECOMMENDATION.

It would be easy to elaborate an argument in favor of the immediate removal of every obstacle from what will, evidently for years to come, be a great Summer-channel of commerce,—the Ste. Marie River ; but the merchants and businessmen of Canada are quite able to appreciate the statements submitted for their consideration without special pleading. It is not likely that, when the facts are considered, they will allow the water-way that leads up to Lake Superior to be impeded by physical obstructions, or their internal commerce imperilled by risk of foreign interposition ; I have, therefore, pleasure in submitting this Report, which is almost entirely a *resumé* of particulars bearing upon the question.

Permit me, in conclusion, most respectfully to suggest that you bring this subject before the Dominion Government, by memorial or otherwise ; and that it be brought also to the notice of the different Boards of Trade.

I am, GENTLEMEN,

Your Obedient Servant,

WM. J. PATTERSON,

MONTREAL, 1st March, 1882.

Secretary.