

of an increase, so as to bring the revenue to at least a par with the expenses. The improvement of the river St. Lawrence will also be placed under one control, and should be steadily persevered in, until the navigation is opened to Montreal for lake craft. There is hardly any thing that could give such relief to the trade of the Province as this, which would save transshipment, avoid monopoly, and reduce the rates of freight both up and down the river to a third or fourth of their present amount.—The first thing in importance is to perfect the grand, direct channel of communication, and then construct branch lines as fast as the country can perform them. The rapid increase in the trade of the Province demands an extraordinary effort to facilitate its progress, and without it trade will force itself into other channels.

As to the advantage of improving this grand channel of our internal trade, it hardly admits of a question. During a debate in the Assembly of Lower Canada, in February, 1834, the following remarks were made by Mr. Neilson on the proposition before the House to vote £240,000 for the improvement of the navigation between Lachine and the Upper Canada line: "As to the advantages of such an improvement of the navigation, all were agreed upon it. It was throwing open the whole course of the St. Lawrence to steam-boat navigation. It might appear at first sight, that the result would be more advantageous to Upper Canada than to this Province,—but that was an error; we are too near to each other, and too closely connected, not to receive advantage from any thing that improved her condition.—He thought, therefore, that if a loan could be obtained he would approve of the undertaking." It is here justly remarked, that the Provinces are too closely connected not to receive mutual benefit from every improvement. In fact, Canada is naturally and commercially one, and ought never to have been divided.

By the 30th section of the re-union Act, the time and place for holding the first and every other session of the legislature are left to the Governor's discretion, but the 32nd section of the Act provides that the first session shall be held at some period not later than six calendar months after the time at which the Provinces shall have become united.

By the 21st section of the Act, the cities and towns entitled to return members to the

Assembly must be bounded and limited as shall be set forth and described by the Governor's Letters Patent, within 90 days after the re-union; and such parts of any such city or town (if any) as shall not be included within the boundary of such city or town respectively by such Letters Patent, shall be taken to be a part of the adjoining county or riding for the purpose of being represented in the Assembly.

By the 24th section, writs for the election of members are to be issued within 14 days after the time of sealing the instrument convoking the parliament, and the writs are to be returnable within 50 days at farthest from the day on which they bear date; if a vacancy occur, a writ for a new election must issue within six days after notice hereof to the proper officer.

By the 25th section, the Governor is to fix the time and place for holding the elections, giving 8 days notice thereof.

By the 26th section, the legislature may alter the law relating to elections, but by a majority of two-thirds of each house.

The 31st section enacts that there shall be a session of the Legislature every year, so that 12 months shall not intervene between the last sitting of one session and the first sitting of the next, and that each Assembly shall continue 4 years, unless sooner dissolved by the Governor.

It will be seen from this summary, that there must be a session within six months, but the precise time is left for the Governor to determine. Before it can be held, however, the cities and towns must be bounded, and the Legislative Council must be constituted.

The success of this great measure, and the prosperity of the united Province will depend in a great degree on the spirit of moderation, good feeling, and general confidence diffused among the people, and actuating both them and their representatives. We have now the means of placing our affairs on a firm and satisfactory foundation, and entering on a course of prosperous peace that shall richly repay our efforts, equal or exceed our most sanguine expectations, and render every Canadian proud of his country. The main-spring of past disorders is removed, and no sane man would return to the poisonous fount, or again sow the dragon's teeth of mutual hate and destruction. A nobler spirit will exalt and enrich the province, and all will share and rejoice in its felicity.