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on the contrary he felt more convinced that it was highly desirous to complete it. Besides, he was convinced that in a very few years it would become a profitable work; it was with this view that he had been in favour of using the credit of the province. Were they to consider the mere actual ordinary revenue, it would be imprudent to invest so large a sum in the work; but knowing as they did, that the moment the work came into operation, it would produce a revenue to the country instead of being a burthen to it, and that in fact it was only lending the credit of the province—viewing it in this light—(and it was the light in which it should be viewed,)—he thought hon. gentlemen should be less strenuous in their opposition. He differed from the opinions of those hon. gentlemen, who considered the usefulness of the Canal as extending only so far as the conveyance of goods between the two lakes was concerned. It had already reduced the rate of freightage on lake Erie nearly 50 per cent., and every 6d. reduced from the cost of transportation was so much added to the value of the productions of the country. So far from believing that the work would absorb all the means of the country, he felt fully convinced that it would ultimately pay for itself. He agreed, however, with the hon. gentleman from Lanark, that in all cases ways and means should be provided in the first instance, in order to be prepared against all contingencies, and for this purpose he would join him in his view of a small tax at Quebec, whether we get Lower Canada to join with us or not, whatever way it was it would meet with his concurrence, and he hoped the hon. member would bring forward a motion on the subject. His mind was decidedly made up to support the work, and would vote a sum of money to complete it so that the publick might see that it was our determination to carry the work through.

Mr. CLARK said, the subject under discussion was of so much importance, that he could not refrain from saying a few words. It has been said, this measure had been dragged before the House, and by the hon. member for Haldimand. It originally came before the Legislature as all other measures do, and the House was not dragged into it, as has been insinuated. The shafts of malevolence had been hurled against his worthy and excellent friend, but he enjoys a conscious rectitude of conduct which all the attacks made upon him, would not be able to disturb. He well recollected the support the Canal received from a talented and eminent individual who once graced a seat in this House, and who now stands high under the Government. He, (Mr. Clark,) felt proud in having been associated with him upon this matter. Commissioners have been at various times appointed to examine the Canal, who have reported favourably. He lived in the neighbourhood, and had every opportunity of seeing the utility of the Canal, and with all this evidence he could not consent to abandon it. He hoped the resolutions before the Committee would be supported by a large majority.

Mr. Speaker McLEAN.—I have listened with great pleasure to all the arguments upon this question, but after all I have heard, I am in favour of the resolutions. We ought certainly not to involve ourselves in an immense debt, until we could see the means of paying it; but in the instance of this Canal, the means were before us. Arguments are adduced, as if nothing was to be got in return for the expenditure; certainly, if means were not advanced to complete the Canal, a return for the expenditure already incurred could not be expected. We must complete the work and pay off the debts of the concern. We are partners in this Canal, to all intents and purposes; we are a part of the Company, and are bound to pay our share of the debts, but if our partners cannot pay their share, we