

Thus, and only thus, can the trans-Atlantic trade of Montreal be augmented independently of the growth of population in Ontario and Quebec.

To unite the Lake and River shipping with that of the coast will greatly benefit the maritime interests. Direct east and west traffic between the now widely severed provinces will be stimulated to large and healthy growth. A schooner, leaving Halifax or St. John with fish, lumber or ice can sail to the West Indies, dispose of her cargo and take on a cargo of sugar, tobacco, coffee or asphalt and carry it to New York: there discharge and take anthracite coal for Montreal; and at Montreal take on flour and provisions for her home port, catching four good cargoes in one trip.

THE FINANCIAL MEASURES.

It may seem a striking innovation to propose a bonded debt twenty times as large as the common stock: or, counting the debenture stock as bonded debt, twenty-four times as large.

A little reflection, however, will convince anyone that this is sound financiering. Practically all works nowadays are built with the proceeds of the bonds; and the bondholders get a majority interest of the stock as a bonus. The money paid on the stock is merely enough to cover the expenses of promoting the enterprise to that stage at which it becomes attractive as a permanent investment.

This being true, why make a vast stock issue? A large stock issue must make the enterprise more difficult to start, more speculative in its nature, and more likely to become the football of the stock exchanges; and must result in excessive tolls, levied in the attempt to raise the price of the stock and bearing on the producer with unjust severity.

The small stock issue together with the clause in the charter limiting the earnings of the common stock, insures the lowest possible tolls: tolls which will just pay interest on the actual money spent.