

bulky freights had access to the foreign markets by the ocean, and to the States by way of canal at Sorel, and were not handicapped by paying heavy land freights by a grasping monopoly. Again at the same time, 1859, what was Ottawa? A small backwoods town (Bytown), that could only boast of one short railway, the Ottawa and Prescott road. What made her what she is to-day? Was it Her Majesty's decision in making Ottawa the capital of this Dominion? (All honour to her for it.) Well, certainly it helped greatly. But the commercial prosperity of Ottawa to-day is due to her central position, to the great water power when the first mills were established, by the enterprise and energy of a few far-seeing business men, whose eyes were open to the fact that Ottawa had canal communication with the outer world, and domestic and foreign markets, without being burdened by heavy land freights.

Now sir, what do we find to-day on the Ottawa river, from the capital up to the beautiful Temiscamingue Lake? Not one saw mill shipping lumber by water, for the simple reason that there is no canal connection with any market, and the two or three mills that we have, (for I think there are not over three in this whole length) have to compete with other mills, and at the same time pay excessive railway charges.

Where is the remedy for all this? Well, sir, I think it is to be found in the "Ottawa, Georgian Bay and Lake Huron Canal." Open this canal and an immediate benefit will be conferred on all the provinces of this Dominion, east of the Rocky Mountains. Immediately that locks are completed at the Deschene, Chats, Snows, Calumet and other rapids, saw mills will spring up like magic all along the Ottawa in both provinces of Quebec and Ontario, for the water power is unlimited, and farmers who are seeking out a precarious livelihood, will find a market for coarser grades of lumber, such as hop poles, ties, etc., etc., that cannot possibly pay railroad freight, and this will confer an immense benefit on the farmers, and cause such an influx of population, that will be simply wonderful, and will take up all

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