

ment by Messrs. Fairbanks and Bainbridge, the gentlemen recently appointed to act in its behalf as agents in London, and the Directors will be much gratified if it should be in your power to give their exertions your favourable recommendation, and to explain those views which from your residence here you may have been enabled to form on these subjects.

The interest you have shown on several occasions in favour of the commerce of the province, induces us very respectfully to prefer our request, that you will be pleased to transmit the memorial of this Board to their Lordships, in such way as you may deem most effectual for its success, and with your sanction of the object of the Company, and accompanied with a reference to those agents for any explanation that may be required.

By order, and in presence of the Board,

(signed) *Mich. Wallace,*

Halifax, 16th May 1829.

*Charles R. Fairbanks,* Secretary.

To the Right Honourable the Lords Commissioners of the Admiralty.

The MEMORIAL of the Directors of the Shubenaccadie Canal Company of Halifax, Nova Scotia,

Most respectfully sheweth,

THAT your Memorialists, on the part of the Company over whose affairs they preside, are desirous of bringing under the notice of your Lordships the nature and objects of the undertaking in which they have engaged.

The port of Halifax, most favourably situated for the prosecution of commerce and the fisheries, and as a military and naval station acknowledged to be of the first importance to the colonies, has hitherto been deprived of the abundant resources of the interior. The interval which separates the capital from the fertile shores of the Bay of Funday is too great to permit, in any quantity, the transport of heavy articles by land carriage, and the voyage round the western extremity of the province is long and dangerous; these impediments had long directed attention to the facilities for opening a water communication through the centre of the province, and accurate survey having established the practicability of uniting the harbour with the basin of Mines, at a moderate expense, this Company was incorporated in 1826 for the purpose.

Your memorialists beg to state, that the space from sea to sea, by the canal line, is about 60 miles, principally occupied by large lakes and the river course of the Shubenaccadie: that the extent of artificial works is very limited; that the navigation is constructing of a depth sufficient for sea-going vessels, drawing eight feet of water, and of about 100 tons burthen; that contracts have been entered into for the principal and most difficult parts of the work, at an expense of 33,000*l.*; that these are so far executed, that nearly twenty miles of the navigation will be opened during the present season, and should sufficient funds be obtained, your memorialists have every confidence that the whole line will be completed within the two following years. An inspection of the accompanying Map fully shows its importance; while the operations hitherto have most fully confirmed the impression of the practicability of this work. The public conviction of its usefulness has been manifested by a donation of 15,000*l.* from the local legislature, and by subscriptions from individuals here to the amount of 18,000*l.* currency of Nova Scotia, of which nearly the whole is paid. In its last session also, a further aid of 1,500*l.* per annum for ten years, was granted by the Assembly to promote the objects of the Company, and although the shareholders have never expected immediate remuneration, yet, considering the rapid growth of the province, and the abundance and variety of articles for which water-carriage is required, they entertain well-grounded hopes of eventually realizing an ample revenue. Nevertheless, under the present circumstances of the colony, it is not possible to obtain here the whole funds required to complete this navigation.

If your memorialists rightly appreciate the importance of being able from Halifax to communicate with St. John's, New Brunswick, within, at furthest, sixty hours, and of conveying from thence to any point on the Bay of Funday, within the same or less time, and with ease and certainty, either troops, military stores or assistance, and of maintaining, in time of war, should it again unfortunately occur with the American States, an intercourse with the interior of this and the sister provinces,

safe