

DOWNING STREET, }  
September 30th, 1826. }

SIR,

His Majesty's Government having granted the Sum of Twelve Thousand Pounds, in aid of the expense of constructing the La Chine Canal in Lower Canada, upon condition that all Boats and Vessels with Public Stores should be permitted to pass without the Payment of any Toll or duty; and considering that the Welland Canal, now in progress on the Niagara Frontier, will afford great facility in forwarding Stores to Lake Erie and the upper parts of the Province of Upper Canada, and that by constructing the Locks of the width of twenty-two feet, it would become a work of much greater public utility. I am to desire that you will acquaint the Directors that His Majesty's Government would be willing to afford the same degree of assistance towards the expense of the Welland Canal which was given to that of La Chine, which was about a ninth of the estimated sum required in its completion; and as the estimated expense of the Welland Canal is One Hundred and Forty-seven Thousand Two Hundred and Forty Pounds, the Sum to be contributed by the Public for the privilege of forwarding Government Stores, &c. would be Sixteen Thousand Three Hundred and Sixty Pounds.

In the event of the Directors agreeing to this proposal, it is necessary that a Provincial Act should be passed, in which the Company shall engage to construct the Locks of the Canals of the width of at least twenty-two feet, and securing the use of the Canals to all Vessels and Boats, the property of His Majesty; and also to all other Boats and Vessels, when engaged in carrying Government Stores, without the payment of any duty or toll, in consideration of the Sum of Sixteen Thousand Three Hundred and Sixty Pounds; to be paid in four equal annual instalments, or sooner, if the Canal should be completed at an earlier period.

I have the Honor to be,

SIR,

Your most Obedient,  
Humble Servant,

(Signed)

BATHURST.

*A True Copy.*

MAJOR GENERAL SIR PEREGRINE MAITLAND, K. C. B.  
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