

"The mouth of the river is narrow and the bottom hard and well calculated to build a lock; which is all that is wanted to complete the dock.

"The anchorage ground opposite the mouth of the river is good, and is one of the best harbours to be found in any part of the world, where vessels could ride with perfect safety while waiting to enter the dock.

"The water of said river, with other streams that might be brought into it, would give a sufficient supply to make up for any leakage there might be, as well as to drive machinery; to load and unload grain vessels; clean and prepare the grain for shipment, &c., &c.; by which means the work could be done at about one third of the expense, and in about one third of the time, that it can be done by the present mode of working, and besides the work would be done to much more perfection.

"Your petitioner begs further to state, what, in his humble opinion, would be some of the advantages of such a work in a public point of view.

"Your Excellency, as well as every other person who will take an impartial view of the subject, will see that when the great line of canals now in progress of construction are completed, Quebec, or some place near it, must be the great dépôt for vessels coming from above and exchanging their cargoes with sea-going vessels; nature has so ordained it and it cannot be resisted.

"Your Excellency is also well aware that our neighbours are making great efforts to draw all the trade of the upper country to themselves, and that unless we meet them with equal efforts, our trade will be lost, our canals rendered useless, and the revenue to be derived therefrom will go into other hands.

"Now, it is to prevent these evil consequences that your petitioner has in view, that, by safety, economy and despatch, the trade may be drawn this way, which will much benefit all classes of Her Majesty's subjects, and increase the revenue on the canals, &c., there being little doubt but that if proper encouragement is given, this will be the terminus of the great chain of water communication now opening up, to connect the sea coast with the great western world, and more particularly in the grain trade.

"Whilst some talk of protection and others squabble about free trade and the navigation laws, your petitioner has no doubt but that Your Excellency will agree with him in opinion, that it is far better to put our shoulders to the wheel, and by active exertions successfully to compete with our enterprising rivals, by at least imitating, if not outstripping them, in useful improvements to promote economy and despatch in trade.

"A great deal more might be said on this important subject, but your petitioner thinks enough has been said to draw Your Excellency's attention to it.

"The facility of erecting these works will be further seen by

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