

of the productions of foreign countries throughout their respective territories, and it is by no means a wild speculation to consider the early prospect of British goods and Canadian produce being permitted to pass through the United States. The saving in freight and insurance alone on a shipment from Boston, would nearly equal the cost of transport of flour from Montreal to Boston by Rail Road, while the English market would thus be attainable at all seasons of the year. It is also well worthy the consideration of the mercantile interest, how far they would be benefitted were they enabled to procure their supplies of British goods at all seasons of the year, and to what extent it would enable them to carry on the same amount of business with a reduced capital.

These are subjects of such very great importance, that the Committee do not at present venture to put forward any positive statement of their own on the subject, being confident, that even a remote prospect of such a trade being established, must tend to direct public attention to that work, without which it must remain ever unattainable. While they are assured that the Merchants of Montreal must readily admit the immense increase which would instantly accrue to the business of the Rail Road, by the establishment of such a trade.

The Committee have also not alluded to the very important object to be attained by this Rail Road, of completing the present mail communication with Great Britain. By an alteration in the date at which the English Mail Steamers leave Liverpool from the 3d and 18th to the 1st and 15th, the Merchants of Montreal could on the completion of this Rail Road generally receive and answer their advices, by the next packet from Boston, effecting a saving in time of fourteen days; an object not to be lost sight of in the consideration of the propriety of aiding the construction of the work now brought before the Legislature and the country.

By the foregoing statement it would appear that the Committee anticipate a trade in certain specified items, amounting to £54,705.