

and cost of transshipment at Whitby, Port Hope and Cobourg and it would be distributed all along the new canal at a lower cost than to-day. The coal trade is increasing every day.

"I think the building of the canal would open a large field for individual enterprise in a small way, that is in the building of small boats and establishment of small industries, etc., and there is no doubt that every summer it would attract great numbers of tourists who would make use of the canal as a means of getting to the back lakes with yachts, pleasure boats, etc., and before many years would expend hundreds of thousands of dollars in the country every year."

That, notwithstanding the present disadvantages of the District in matters of transport, there are already located on the waters of this route the county towns of Peterborough, Lindsay and Barrie; the towns of Trenton, Port Perry, Orillia and Midland, and the incorporated villages of Hastings, Ashburnham, Lakefield, Bobcaygeon, Fenelon Falls, Beaverton, Sutton and Holland-Landing, with a population aggregating 38,849; an assessed value of \$11,339,272 and contributing annually over \$60,000 to the Post Office revenue of the country; while the custom records for the Town of Peterboro' alone show exports \$407,176; imports \$358,629, and customs revenue \$59,320 in 1896.

Again: Although this internal water-way between Heely's Falls and Balsam Lake is still cut in two by the unfinished Peterboro'-Lakefield division and completely blockaded at both ends and its connection with the outer world entirely in the hands of one railway corporation, yet the local trade has already grown so large that in 1896 35 steamers with an aggregate tonnage of 69,333 tons found employment and passed through its locks 20,658 tons of forest produce and 21,186 passengers.

In the following diagram (which is drawn to a scale of 20 miles to inch) the dark lines show those portions of the route already navigable, or which will be so as soon as the divisions NOW UNDER CONTRACT are completed, and the dotted lines what is required to complete the entire route between the Georgian Bay and Trenton.

