

When I drew up this system, there was one circumstance mentioned which I greatly regretted to find expunged, as it gave us much trouble. This was the clause that 'no sub-contractors would be allowed on any account whatever.' Vagabonds were hired to perform jobs by contractors; and these thought the Government entitled to look after them,—just as if they would have any thing to do with those they did not know. Sub-contractors are the worst animals that can ever come upon a public work. However, the system did good; the sharks of storekeepers were held at bay, and poor labourers were not devoured.

The Rideau Canal, when constructed, will be perfectly different from any other in the known world, since it is not ditched or cut out by the hand of man. Natural rivers and lakes are made use of for this Canal, and all that science or art has to do in the matter, is in the lockage of the rapids or waterfalls, which exist either between extensive sheets of still river water, or expansive lakes. To surmount this difficulty, dams are proposed, and, in many instances, already raised, at the bottom of the rapids, or sometimes at their head, or even, as the case may be, in their middle, by which means the rapids and waterfalls are converted into still-water. These dams are of various

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