

Plans, which afford a satisfactory detail of this work, accompanied by copy of a letter addressed to me by Colonel By on the occasion. In this communication you will perceive the views entertained by this officer, both to facilitate the settlement of the lands in the neighbourhood and on the banks of the Canal, and for the gradual developement of the Ottawa and the country above the Chaudière Lake.

Correspondence
relative to the
Canal Communi-
cation in Canada.

He appears to consider that the increase of the lumber trade would pay a very ample interest for the sums expended in these improvements, and that this trade requires only these facilities of transport to be increased in any proportion; the red pine particularly appearing to be inexhaustible in that direction. He wishes to convert the timber channels at the Chaudière into locks, which he calculates would cost £. 20,000, and that the revenue of these locks should be applied to forming others at the Chat Rapids, and so on gradually, whilst the resources of this great river should encourage the experiment. He supposes also that these operations would terminate in the establishment of a permanent communication between the Ottawa and Lake Huron, which would certainly be a result of extraordinary importance to these provinces. We know that these communications, though interrupted, do exist, both in the line towards Lake Simcoe, and in several directions towards Lake Huron. The north-west traders are well acquainted with the route from this lake through French River by Lake Nipissing, to the Mattawoen, where the Ottawa abruptly turns to the north. On this subject a paper was put into my hands at By Town, detailing a journey of discovery undertaken to ascertain these objects; and as a record of future reference in case the matter of it should ever be under discussion, I venture to lay it before you for their Lordship's information. It is an account of a journey to the Rapids of the Deux Rivières on the Ottawa, where the river separates the high lands of Upper and Lower Canada, and from thence to Penetanguishine, on Lake Huron, and is another proof of the imperfect information we possess of the extensive country so near our own settlements.

I have the honour to be, Sir,

Your very obedient servant,

R. J. Routh,

Commissary General.

No. 128.—LETTER from Lieut.-Colonel By to R. J. Routh, Esq.
&c. &c. &c.

SIR,

Royal Engineer's Office, Rideau Canal, 10 July 1830.

I HAVE the honour of inclosing, agreeable to your wish, for the information of PLANS. the Lords of the Treasury, Three Plans to accompany your Report to their Lordships on the state of the works of the Rideau Canal, when I had the pleasure of showing them to you in June last; and I beg to state that the bridges erected across the Ottawa, at the falls of the Chaudière, cost only £. 3,316. 18. 3 $\frac{1}{2}$.; their tolls are let for £. 200 per annum Halifax currency, and their construction caused a saving of upwards of £. 40,000 at the commencement of these works in the masonry of the locks, as the very persons who are now building the locks at 1s. 1 $\frac{1}{2}$ d. per cube foot, declared they could not be built for less than 4s. per cube foot before I commenced building the said bridges, on account of the difficulty of communication.

The Timber channel, which I formed in the winters of 1826 and 1827, by order of the Earl of Dalhousie, cost £. 2,000 H. C.; this sum was paid by the two provinces out of the duties collected on the timber, which amounts to between £. 4,000 and £. 5,000 per annum; and I am happy to state that this trade is so rapidly increasing, that although Mr. Wright has formed another timber channel on the Hull side, to pass which the lumberer has to pay 5s. per crib, there is more timber collected on each side of the river above the falls than can be passed this season, which plainly points out the necessity of something more being done to prevent this trade being shackled by individuals.

The Diagram shows the land purchased for the use of the Rideau Canal, and the Crown and Clergy reserves on the borders of the Canal, which I recommend