

their families, which so stupendous an excavation and other works, will necessitate, will bring an important accession to the public income, through the customs and excise.

When completed, the immense carrying trade which it will attract and accommodate, will be a constant source of profit to both Provinces of Ontario and Quebec, in the necessary expenditure of so large a fleet in its continuous passage through their entire length for repairs, outfit, provisions, ship stores, &c.

Ship building, and the cultivation of hemp and flax and their manufacture into cordage and sail canvas are interests of provincial importance which will be greatly stimulated.

The most important of its influences on Provincial and Federal prosperity will, however, be found in its powerful agency in the development of the vast region of Canadian and British territory north and west of Georgian Bay; rich in all the various products of the lake, the forest, and the mine, and presenting, for future ages, a lucrative field for Canadian enterprise and industry.

To the Federal Union this Canal will be of incalculable advantage, through its contribution to more intimate commercial intercourse with the Maritime Provinces of New Brunswick and Nova Scotia, to which their necessary supplies of breadstuffs will be furnished at greatly reduced charges of freight, while an extensive market will be opened for their coal, for the supply of steam vessels engaged in the carrying trade to the United States seaboard, and Europe.

As an important feature of the highway for commercial traffic through the Dominion, it will perform its part in the formation of the most enduring band of Union, and by its attraction of the products of the Western States to Canadian channels, and its development of our own West and North-West possessions, it will be an invaluable feeder to all Eastern viaducts of traffic, and especially to our projected federal work, the Intercolonial Railway.

Nor, in its federal relation, should its value be lost sight of, as an important link in the chain of communication between the Atlantic and Pacific Oceans, through British territory.