

the chief of the party informed me that he had had a very pleasant interview, a few days before, with our surveyors in their camp on one of the islands above. He further told me, to my astonishment, that our engineers had pointed out to him several mistakes, and on going back to correct their survey he found that everything which had been said by our engineers was strictly correct, and that the fault had been in his own men, who had been careless in throwing the line and plummet. He said: We have been taught also a useful lesson by your engineers, who employ long poles when the water is swift, and in that way they get a more accurate measurement than by line and plummet, which are apt to be carried away, and to make the water appear deeper than it is. I have looked over the plans issued by the United States, and I find there is a perfectly safe and wide channel of more than a mile and a half shorter from Brockville than any of the channels now employed by our people. I would like to know what has become of the report of the survey made by our engineers at that time. I have looked in vain for it through the public documents. I have appealed to Mr. Page's engineers, and they told me they had no authority to give me any information; that whatever report was made, was made to the chief engineer, and that if he did not give it to the country they had no authority to give it; and they would not enlighten me in any way. But the fact is as I have stated. I have studied carefully the plans of the United States engineers, and I find that we can have a safe, wide channel, comparatively, in place of the tortuous and insufficient channel we have now, in no place less than 20 feet of water, and in places even 200 feet. A survey of Lake St. Francis was made in the year 1834 by Mr. Thomson, and the result of that survey, made under the authority of the Government of Upper Canada, showed that all the way from Cornwall to Coteau there was a channel nowhere less than 20 feet. And to-day vessels are grounding every little while upon the shoals in Lake St. Francis when within a few feet of a channel 1,200 feet wide, no less than 20 feet deep, and in the majority of places 80 feet deep. Why is that? Because the engineer has not issued a chart of that channel and pointed out where the wide and deep and safe channel is. I might go further and might keep on until 6 o'clock pointing out the laches in connection with this Cornwall Canal, but I think I have shown enough to prove to the Government and to the country that the closest enquiry should be made before any money be expended upon the con-