

The summit level of this system is at Upper Lake Rideau, but several of the descending reaches are also supplied by waters which have been made tributary to them. The following description gives the sources of supply.

From the summit, the route towards Ottawa follows the River Rideau and that towards Kingston follows the River Cataraqui. The whole duty of keeping the water to its level is thrown upon the reserves, given in detail below.

They may be divided into three systems, viz :

1. The summit level, supplied by Lake Wolf system.
2. The eastern descending level to Ottawa, supplied by River Tay system, discharging into Lake Rideau.
3. The south-west descending level to Kingston, supplied by the Mud Lake system, discharging into Lake Openacon.

(This last was formerly known as the Devil Lake system, from a lake of that name emptying into Mud Lake. The dam at the outlet of Devil Lake having, however, been removed, and the canal from the height of land entering Mud Lake direct, the present name has been adopted.)

Lake Openacon receives the waters of Buck Lake and Rock Lake.

All these waters on the descending level, supplemented by those of Lake Loughboro, flow into Cranberry Lake, which discharging through Round Tail outlet, forms the River Cataraqui ; this river, rendered navigable by dams at various points, affords a course of navigation to Kingston.

The navigation stopped at Kingston Mills on 21st November 1879, and recommenced on the 27th April 1880.

At Ottawa navigation stopped the 23rd November 1879, and recommenced on the 27th April 1880.

The water levels were fully maintained and navigation was uninterrupted during the seasons of the fiscal year 1879-80.

General repairs were made to the various works on this system, their efficiency being fully maintained.

Some needed improvements to the basin at Ottawa have been carried out and business has been thereby facilitated.

The iron mines in the district of Hull on the north shore of the Ottawa river are being developed, and it is expected that the increasing trade in iron ore will considerably add to the traffic of the Canal. (App. 9, page 164.)

RICHELIEU AND LAKE CHAMPLAIN.

This system, commencing at Sorel, at the confluence of the Rivers St. Lawrence and Richelieu, 46 miles below Montreal, extends along the River Richelieu through the St. Ours' Lock to the Basin of Chambly, thence by the Chambly Canal to St.