

the work, so that every one may be kept strong, healthy, and cheerful. There is a melancholy peculiar to Canada, which must be combated. People who labour under it must be encouraged with soothing language, good treatment, and now and then, as circumstances require, a little assistance, gratis, as a stimulant.

“It shall always be ascertained if contractors pay their workmen’s wages, and a certain sum of money shall be kept out of the contractor’s hands to meet this special purpose.

“The whole of the works on the line of the Rideau Canal shall be commenced, if possible, nearly at the same time; the period allowed to complete the undertaking being short for a work of such magnitude, in such a situation, and under such a climate, where people cannot work to any great advantage more than one-half of the year. All contractors ought to be bound to remain in person on the works they engage to execute; for unless they do so, the works, in all probability, will suffer by their absence, and they themselves be much injured by such inattention.

“By such a system, it is expected, with all dependence on the kindness of Providence, that the Rideau Canal may be constructed.”

---