

St. Lawrence Canals—West Bound Cargo.—Also, with the view of encouraging the importation of those commodities destined for the Western States, which provide the ballast cargo so greatly needed by the steamship lines on the St. Lawrence route, rough import cargo, such as the following to be free of tolls:—iron, including rails and iron plates, crates, salt, chemicals, hemp rags and waste, cement, fire clay and fire clay goods, whiting, stones.

The Council prays that you will favourably consider these representations, and submit the same to your colleagues in the Cabinet.

I have the honour to be, Sir,

Your obedient servant,

GEO. HADRILL,
Secretary.

The Council upon the opening of navigation soon became aware that these representations had failed of their object, the canal tolls remaining unchanged, but it was not until 11th July that the Government replied thereto, its letter being as follows:—"I am directed to acknowledge the receipt of your letter of the 24th March last, and in reply am to inform you that there will be no change in the tariff of canal tolls now in force for the present season of navigation."

DEEP WATERWAYS CONVENTION AT TORONTO.

In September the Council, in common with sundry individuals in this city, received from the Toronto Civic Committee on Deep Waterways a printed circular embodying an invitation for this Board to send delegates to a Convention to be held in Toronto from the 17th to the 20th of that month, for the purpose of discussing the best means of securing a 20-foot channel throughout the St. Lawrence route. As that Convention was not promoted or favoured by the Toronto Board of Trade, the Council did not hesitate to reply that, not being at present prepared to advocate the enormous expenditure incident to the proposed deepening of the canals to a uniform depth of twenty feet, the Montreal Board of Trade would not be represented at the Convention. Although the Toronto Board of Trade consented to send delegates on the occasion, the Council of that Board subsequently adopted a report upon the proceedings of the Convention, expressing disapproval of its methods, and your Council considers that its decision not to be represented thereat was fully justified.