

House to the subject. The views however of your Committee generally, are, that a work of this description should not be on an exposed frontier, but should be, wherever circumstances will admit of it, inland. Could it be completed on a scale which would enable the Government to bring smaller sized Vessels of War *light* into the lakes, it would prove in the opinion of your Committee, the best barrier against the future hostile attempts of the United States of America that could be formed. Military protection, and Commercial facility, would thus be united; and the Province of Upper Canada, instead of being, as it is at this particular time, a dead weight upon the Government and Commerce of Great Britain, would be one of their most flourishing Colonies.

Your Committee therefore respectfully recommend to your Honorable House to pass a Bill appointing Commissioners:—

First—To devise and adopt such measures as shall be requisite to facilitate and effect a Communication by Canals and Locks between the Lakes Eric and Ontario,—and Lake Ontario and Montreal.

Second—To examine and explore the country, for the purpose of determining the most eligible routes for the contemplated Canals, to cause surveys and levels to be taken, and Maps, Field Books, and Draughts to be made; and to adopt and recommend proper plans for the construction and the formation of the said Canals, and of the locks, dams, embankments, tunnels, and aqueducts; and to cause all necessary plans, models, and draughts thereof, to be executed.

Third—To calculate and estimate the expence of the above operations.

Fourth—To devise and recommend Ways and Means for carrying the above purposes into effect.

Your Committee having given their ideas on this