

THE CANADIAN CANALS.

St. Lawrence System.—The great lake and river system of Canada has been made continuously navigable for a distance of 2,384 statute miles, by a connecting chain of ten canals, comprising 71½ miles of artificial navigation. This system extends from the Straits of Belle-Isle to Thunder Bay, at the head of Lake Superior.

The following table of distances indicates also the respective positions of these canals, thus :—

	Statute Miles.
Straits of Belle-Isle to Father Point.....	643
Father Point to Rimouski.....	6
Rimouski to Quebec.....	177
Quebec to Three Rivers (or tide-water).....	74
Three Rivers to Montreal.....	86
Lachine Canal.....	8½
Lachine to Beauharnois.....	15½
Beauharnois Canal.....	11½
St. Cecile to Cornwall.....	32½
Cornwall Canal.....	11½
River and Farran's Point Canal.....	16½
Rapide Plat Canal.....	4
River and Point Iroquois Canal.....	7½
Junction and Galops Canals.....	4½
Prescott to Kingston.....	66½
Kingston to Port Dalhousie.....	170
Port Dalhousie to Port Colborne (Welland Canal).....	27
Port Colborne to Amherstburg.....	232
Amherstburg to Windsor.....	18
Windsor to Foot of St. Mary's Island.....	25
Foot of St. Mary's Island to Sarnia.....	33
Sarnia to foot of St. Joseph's Island.....	270
Foot of St. Joseph's Island to Sault St. Mary.....	47
Sault St. Mary Canal.....	1
Head of Sault St. Mary to Point aux Pins.....	7
Point aux Pins to Duluth.....	390
Total.....	2,384

Distances to Liverpool.—Add to this table the 2,234 statute miles' distance from the Straits to Liverpool, and it gives a total navigable length of 4,618 miles from Duluth to Liverpool.

Difference of Level.—Difference in level to be overcome, to where tidal influence ceases, is about 600 feet. Canadian canals, with a total number of 53 locks, overcome a height of 533½ feet. The mile long Sault Ste. Marie Canal, built by the United States, has one lock, lifting 18 ft.

Size of Locks.—The size of the locks in this system ranges from 200 to 270 feet in length by 45 feet in width. The depth of water is from 9 to 14 feet, and the Government intends to make the whole route fit for vessels of 12 to 14 feet draught of water.

Ottawa Canals.—There is besides, the canal route from Montreal to Ottawa and Kingston; a total of 246½ miles, with 59 locks exclusive of the Lachine Canal, and a lockage of 533½ feet. The new works on this route give 9 feet water in locks 45x200 feet.

St. Lawrence and New York.—Canal navigation is secured between the St. Lawrence and New York by means of the Richelieu River and Chambly Canal. This has 9 locks, with 7 ft. depth of water; and connects by Lake Champlain with the United States Erie Canal, and the Hudson River; a total distance of 411 miles.

Trent River Navigation.—Of the Trent River navigation, between Lake Huron and the Bay of Quinte on Lake Ontario, 235 miles, only part has been made navigable, chiefly for the passage of timber; and 155 miles' distance is available for light draft vessels.

St. Peter's Canal.—Finally, there is the St. Peter's Canal, cut through an isthmus half-a-mile wide, between St. Peter's Bay on the Atlantic, and the Bras d'Or Lakes of Cape Breton. It has a lock 48x200 ft., with a depth of 18 feet and a breadth of 55 ft.