

For example, the shipments in 1842 were 688,907 bushels, which tripled

for 1847 gives	2,066,721,	the actual shipm'ts being	3,016,512
" 1852 "	6,200,163,	" "	" 7,645,894
" 1857 "	18,600,489,	" "	" 21,760,248
" 1862 "	55,801,467,	" "	" 75,210,499

At this period (1862) the late civil war interrupted the course of production and trade, by suspending immigration and withdrawing labor from agriculture for military service; but already, since the close of the war in 1866, the usual condition of progress has been restored, and the shipments from Chicago and Milwaukee (which had declined in 1864 to 59,291,248 bushels) had again advanced to 84,364,654 bushels. If three years be allowed, for lost time during the war, and the next five-yearly period, from 1862, be extended to 1870, a continuation of the same ratio of increase would shew, for the year 1875, when the Huron and Ontario Canal may be completed and open for traffic, the western shipments of cereals, at over 600,000,000 bushels—less than the half of which would (at the moderate toll of 80 cents per ton or about two cents per bushel—one-third of the toll levied on the Erie Canal) yield a handsome dividend on the cost of the canal, even if it reached the sum of \$50,000,000.

Of course, it may be said that the production of *wheat* cannot be expected to increase at the rate indicated, but wheat alone was not referred to, but cereals generally. It must be remembered that the chief cereal product of the West is Indian corn, the production of which, beyond the demand for local consumption, has been checked by the heavy expenses attending its conveyance from the interior to the lake ports, and thence, by Buffalo to New York and Liverpool, with transshipment at each point. It is considered that, out of the average market value of Indian corn at Liverpool, equal to about 70 cents of U.S. currency, in gold, only about ten cents reach the producer, the remaining 60 cents being consumed in freight, insurance, commission and other charges. The consequence is that there is no inducement to grow more than will meet the demand for local consumption, any surplus, beyond that quantity, being more