

Price paid on the Erie canal for transporting one barrel of flour, 130 miles,	s. d.
On the St. Lawrence, from Prescott to Montreal, 130 miles,	1 3
	2 0
Making a saving of, per barrel,	0 9
Again, price paid from Cleaveland to Prescott, 50 ⁰ ..	2 1
At the same rate, 130 miles, 7d.	
Add tolls, 7 1-2	1 21-2
Making a saving on present prices of, per barrel,	0 101-2
In case the St. Lawrence was finished, it would afford an immediate revenue, as follows :	
500,000 barrels of flour, at 7 1-2d,	£15,625
20,000 tons merchandise, at 10s.	10,000
	£25,625
Of this navigation, 90 miles is in Upper Canada, the proportion of which would be	£17,740
Besides lumber of every description, not an article of which would descend the natural channel—and effect the following saving to the province from present prices, which are 2s. per barrel of flour, and 75s. per ton merchandise :—	
500,000 barrels of flour, at 10d.	£20,833 6 8
20,000 tons merchandise, at 55s.	55,000 0 0
Insurance 1 per cent.	12,500 0 0
	£88,333 6 8

I adduce these statements to prove my former position, that the Welland and the St. Lawrence must be the cheapest conveyance to the ocean. The argument adopted by the hon. and learned member from Lennox and Addington is, if you extend aid to this object and the St. Lawrence, you will have no means for any other object—it will absorb all the revenues of the province. This would be correct if the province had only a limited credit, say £2,000, and you give half to the one and half to the other, you would of course have nothing left. But so long as the credit of the province is unlimited—if you feel satisfied those objects will ultimately repay the interest from tolls—it will not check any other improvement, on the contrary will promote them; and the only effect that can be produced by the argument, is to enlist the feelings of those interested in other improvements against these undertakings. Again, he expresses the greatest alarm, at the amount of our public debt—let us see how far he has grounds for his anxiety. The amount of our public debt is £258,133 6s. 8d.; there is only required annually from the revenue of the province to pay for the improvements, the sum of £5,942 2s. 6d. and on the whole debt £7,096 2s. 6d.; and in case they repay the principal, the whole debt will be reduced to £19,233 6s. 8d. He fears it will be the means of preventing emigrants from coming to the country. I would ask, where would they go to find a country so free from debt in America, all of which owe millions to our thousands. The hon. and learned gentleman says too, that his constituents in Lennox and Addington have no interest in, and are in no way benefitted by this Canal. This argument is equally fallacious. Does not the increase of wild land in the western country create a similar increase in the east? Will they not get their supply of lumber, gypsum, and many articles from lake Erie cheaper, as well as sharing in the general increase of the province?