

ing to the shores of Lake Huron, Michigan and Superior, true as to Lake Erie so long as we have no canal leading from it into Lake Ontario and partially so as to Lake Ontario. A proper improvement of the navigation from Lake Huron, via the Ottawa river and of the Welland and the St. Lawrence canals as far down as and including most of the Beauharnais locks, and the construction of a suitable canal from the latter to Champlain, connecting at Caughnawaga with the St. Lawrence, will enable them to offer facilities for the transmission of produce from the great lakes to the seaboard, which, although it may be surpassed by the route through lake Ontario and the Erie Canal, will be of great importance to us.

An investigation of this subject shows that all that portion of Northern New York, and New England, that can conveniently be reached from the shores of Lake Champlain, will obtain the products of the West by this route at full one-fourth less cost of transportation than is now paid by the indirect channels through which these products are now obtained.

This being true, it will be seen that great advantages will accrue to the trade of the upper lakes from the opening of the Ottawa Route and its connection, and that of the St. Lawrence with lake Champlain.

But to realize all that is needful from this connection, Montreal must give up all expectation of being placed nearer to it than the description we have given of it will permit.

She must give up the struggle to bring the main route to her own doors, thus adding 90 to 180 feet to the lockage or 180 to 300 feet nearly in a round trip, but in so doing she will only be removed from it a distance of 10 to 14 miles with 46 to 114 feet of elevation to be overcome in that distance. The saving of the amount of lockage stated upon the St. Lawrence and Ottawa routes is all important in view of the amount of tonnage which will pass over those routes, and Montreal must consent to give them this advantage, and be content with so much of the trade to and from a foreign market as will find its way to and from the sea by the lower St. Lawrence.