

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 713 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).....	71
Three Rivers to Montreal.....	86
Lachine Canal.....	8½
Lachine to Beauharnois.....	17½
Beauharnois Canal.....	17½
St. Cecile to Cornwall.....	32½
Cornwall Canal.....	11½
River and Farran's Point Canal.....	16½
Rapide Plat Canal.....	1
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 Ste. Marie.....	47
Sault Ste. Marie Canal.....	1
Head of Sault Ste. Marie to Pointe aux Pins.....	7
Pointe aux Pins to Duluth.....	390
Total	2,384

DISTANCES TO LIVERPOOL.—Add to this table the 2,521 statute miles' distance from the Straits to Liverpool, and it gives a total navigable length of 4,618 miles from Duluth, the extreme head of Lake Superior, to Liverpool.

DIFFERENCE OF LEVELS.—The difference in level to be overcome, to where tidal influence ceases, is about 600 feet. Of this, the Canadian canals, with a total number of 53 locks, overcome a height of 522½ feet. The one-mile long Sault Ste. Marie Canal, built by the United States, has one lock, lifting 18 feet.

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.—The canal route from Montreal to Ottawa and Kingston has a total length of 216½ miles, with 69 locks exclusive of the Lachine Canal, and a lockage of 530½ feet. The new works on this route give 9 feet water in locks 45 x 200 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 feet 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 Iles d'Or Lakes of Cape Breton. It has a lock 48 x 200 feet, with a depth of 18 feet and a breadth of 55 feet.