

This canal was closed on the 4th December, 1874, and opened the 1st May 1875.

There was no interruption to traffic.

New gates were placed to locks Nos. 1, 2, 3, 4 and 5, and the old gates repaired.

The bridges in connection with the above have been repaired.

All the lock gates are now in excellent order, many having been entirely renewed.

They are now suspended from top of lock wall, by which means, friction rollers are dispensed with and gates are easily adjusted.

New working apparatus has been applied to several of the upper gates, which renders unnecessary the use of chain holes and drag chains.

The walls of the several locks are in good order, with the exception of Nos. 3 and 4 which require to be rebuilt. The various weirs and retaining walls have been repaired and where necessary built in cement.

Bridge No. 1, Wellington Street, St. Gabriel's bridge No. 3, Brewster's bridge No. 4 have been repaired. No. 6 bridge Lachine has been thoroughly restored and new suspension cables furnished. All the bridges are in good repair, except No. 5.

300 snubbing posts have been placed in position.

The slope wall, towing path and approaches put in good condition.

Considerable repairs have been made to wing dam Lachine. The wharves at wood basin, Brewster's bridge and Côte St. Paul have been repaired.

The flour sheds have been repaired.

The supply of water for driving the mills, owing to the low level at Lachine was short during the entire winter. (Appendix 3, pages 9, 10, 28-31.)

DREDGING.

The approaches to St. Gabriel basin have been deepened.

The dredge is now employed below Brewster's Bridge. (Appendix 3, page 11.)

NEW WORKS.

The new works for the enlargement of the navigation will contain locks 270 feet long by 45 feet in width between the gate quoins. All permanent structures to have a depth of 14 feet, with the view of finally establishing the Canal at that depth.

The contracts, as originally let for sections Nos. 1 and 2, have been cancelled and relet at the same prices to Messrs. James Worthington & Co.

The excavation for enlarging basin No. 2 was carried on during the winter months.

Progress has likewise been made in the Wellington basin.

The work has been performed in a satisfactory manner.