

These two questions are now being considered by the Government, and the Commissioners hope they will be dealt with in a proper spirit ; should all that has been asked for not be granted, it is to be hoped that at least such measures of relief will be afforded as to further relieve the shipping trade, and help to secure for the St. Lawrence Route a fair share of the traffic passing from the boundless West to the Eastern continent.

Under any circumstances it will be a great mistake to allow the fleet to go to waste, and the skilled workmen to be dispersed should it be afterwards found that it is advisable or become necessary to continue the work at some future time,

During last Session of Parliament the increased powers referred to last year were granted to the Commissioners enabling them to commute for vessels plying within the Harbour of Montreal as well as outside its limits, and also to make by-laws subject to the approval of the Governor-General in Council for the regulation of the traffic in the deep water channels, so that where two channels existed the new one should be kept for the deep draught vessels.

The By-laws have not yet been framed as certain parties objected, lest through stress of weather they might be forced into them or by currents,—in the meantime the Act has been of use in making known what is required and experience will probably soon show that the By-laws when drafted will not be so hurtful to the parties who feared that they might be too onerous.

The Railway tracks upon the wharves have been extended and preparations have been made so as to lay them down on Wind Mill Point ; it is unfortunate that so far the Commissioners have been unable to bring all the Railways now using the tracks into one common understanding. The views of the Harbour Commissioners are