

Point. On the north side by the mainland, which describes a semi-circle four-fifths of a mile in depth, presenting a cliff of red sand stone about forty feet in height, and on the south by the Bay des Chaleurs, which here forms an open sheet of water, fourteen miles across, unimpeded by islands, reefs, shoals or any other obstructions. The distance from New Carlisle to Paspébiac Point, is three miles and three-quarters, and the depth of water on a line from point to point varies from six to eight fathoms. Over the anchorage ground, the depth of water varies from four and one-half to six fathoms, and vessels of war anchor there almost every summer.

Paspébiac Bay is free from ice, as well as Bay des Chaleurs for thirty miles above. Whatever ice may be formed in Bay des Chaleurs, or brought in by easterly gales, is kept on the south side of the bay by the currents, and the prevalent land breeze; and the climate is milder than at Quebec or Montreal.

There is a great deal of shipping from Paspébiac, as may be ascertained from the returns of the Custom House of New Carlisle; there being a direct trade with the Mediterranean Ports, Brazil, England, the United States, the West Indies, Newfoundland, Halifax, Prince Edward Island, Quebec and Montreal.

Paspébiac Bay is the place of resort for all vessels navigating in the bay and at the entrance of the gulf, against gales of easterly winds; and by an outlay of a few thousand dollars, it could be made a safe harbor of refuge against the south and south-west gales which at present are very often disastrous.

As respects the relative distances, the following table shows that while Liverpool is nearer to Quebec via Cape Race and Paspébiac by about 197 miles than either Halifax or Portland, the water voyage through the Straits of Belle Isle would be shortened by railway connection to Quebec via Paspébiac some 287 miles:—

		Miles.	
1.	Distance from Liverpool to Cape Race.....	1,970	
	" Cape Race to Paspébiac.	490	
	" Paspébiac to Quebec (by land)	411	
		—————	2,871
2.	" Liverpool to Belle Isle	1,878	
	" Belle Isle to Quebec.....	737	
		—————	2,515
3.	" Liverpool to Belle Isle	1,878	
	" Belle Isle to Paspébiac.....	440	
	" Paspébiac to Quebec (by land).....	411	
		—————	2,729
4.	" Liverpool to Cape Race.....	1,970	
	" Cape Race to Halifax (by water).....	463	
		—————	2,433
	" Halifax to Quebec (by land).....	635	
		—————	3,068

The distances are taken from Mr. Fleming's report of 1864, given on a line from Liverpool to Shippegan, in which the measurements are almost identical with those to Paspébiac.

The foregoing statements, I feel convinced, sufficiently establish the primary advantages of selecting Paspébiac as a harbor of refuge and a winter port, and I have the honor to urge upon the Government the desirability of making, as early as possible, an official survey of that locality, with a view to determining its capabilities, and to ascertain the estimated cost of rendering the same available in such an important and necessary public improvement.

I have the honor to be, Sir,

Your obedient servant,

(Signed,)

THEODORE ROBITAILLE.