

should make the round trip from Toronto to Pictou in about 21 days, consequently, if a good share of return freight could be secured the trade would pay tolerably well. Those craft would be well suited to navigate the lower St. Lawrence.

The present locks of the Welland Canal admit vessels 144 feet in length, 26·2½ beam and drawing 10 feet of water. The best carrying propeller through from Chicago carries to Kingston about 17,200 bushels (560 tons) wheat, but from Kingston to Montreal 4,500 bushels. This class of craft will carry to Montreal about 400 tons weight. Cost of building and completing ready for freight, \$26,000; running expenses each day, \$47. At present several vessels of this class, but not all so large carrying, can be purchased reasonable at several of our lake ports. Those vessels also can be made suitable to navigate the lower St. Lawrence between Pictou, Sydney and Halifax, or other coast ports.

I am, Dear Sir,

Respectfully yours,

WM. POWER,

*Ship-builder.*

#### IN CONCLUSION.

In bringing these remarks and statistics to a close it is only necessary for the reader to consider the immense mineral resources of the Dominion, the large and increasing domestic demand for coal and iron products, and the facilities for their development and transportation to market to be able to appreciate their national importance. It must be apparent to all that the supplying of the home market with our own coal and iron resources, would build up our commerce and give Canada an increased carrying trade, diversify industry and furnish employment to the people according to their tastes and capacities. A writer remarks:—"The history of all countries abundantly demonstrates the fact that no nation has long lagged in the race of commercial advancement, which adopted a policy for the development of its coal and iron industries."

Under the protection given our industries the field offered for enterprise and the investment of capital is inviting. It remains for Canadians to buckle on their armour and become co-operators in the development of their industries and the consequent prosperity of the country.