

TO THE COMMISSIONERS
For the Improvement of the Navigation
OF THE
River St. Lawrence,
FROM LAKE ST. LOUIS TO LAKE ST. FRANCIS.

DETAILED REPORT
Of the Survey and Examination
OF THE RAPIDS OF THE
RIVER ST. LAWRENCE,
FROM
Lake Saint Louis to Lake Saint Francis,
FOR THE IMPROVEMENT OF THE
NAVIGATION,
ACCOMPANIED BY PLANS, SECTIONS, &c.,
UNDER ACT GEORGE 4, CHAPTER 27,
OF THE
PROVINCIAL PARLIAMENT
of Lower-Canada.

THE principal impediments to Boats with their full cargoes ascending these Rapids, are shoals—shallow places along the Coast near the Beach, where the rapids are too strong in the offing, and shallow strong rapids at several points where boats crews, the power of 2 to 4 horses, or a strong wind with waves are required at each boat to tow her up, after having on account of these impediments discharged about four-fifths of her lading at the Cascades, thence to be transported by land six miles to the Cascades—and although it is there again reloaded, yet obstructions of the same nature again present themselves in ascending to Lake Saint Francis, and are only overcome by the same tardy and expensive means as are used to get up the comparatively light boat from the Cascades to the Ottawa.

And whereas the removal of such obstructions along the rapids and the making of such improvements therein as will enable Durham Boats as well as Bateau's to ascend without discharging any particular portion of their cargoes, is the main object of your Commission—it becomes our duty to point out the objects along the whole coast which tend to obstruct, impede, and render both difficult and dangerous to boats thus ascending those Rapids with loads—the several places at which they occur—their magnitude—the best mode of obviating them—and by an estimate, what expense would probably be incurred in fulfilling