

That your memorialists would also call your attention to the fact that the Revenues of the Trust are all required for the due maintenance and improvement of the Harbour, the payment of the interest on the Harbour debt proper, and of the interest to the Government on the above mentioned loans, which latter sum now amounts to \$71,200 per annum, and on which account nearly \$400,000 has been paid to the Government out of revenue during the progress of the work.

That were the Government to assume the debt and the further deepening of the channel, your memorialists would be enabled to abolish the tonnage dues, which in 1880, the year before the reduction of tonnage dues already referred to took place, amounted to \$78,765, and which if accomplished would be an important concession to the shipping interests of the Dominion.

Your memorialists are aware that the Government is having the Channel between Cap la Roche and Quebec carefully examined for suspected obstructions, and they urge that a similar examination be made at Crane Island, below Quebec, where deep draught vessels can only pass at certain stages of the tide, and that such improvements as may be found necessary should be made.

That your memorialists view with considerable anxiety the action of the New York State by their recent vote in proposing to entirely abolish the Tolls on the Erie Canal, which will no doubt be carried into effect, and be a direct blow at the St. Lawrence Route; they would therefore respectfully urge your attention to this subject.

Your memorialists would further call special attention to the fact that at the American Seaports, with which the St. Lawrence must compete, the approaches to the Harbours are improved entirely at the cost of the United States Government and without charge against the Harbours. Within the past few years there has been thus expended by them over \$15,000,000 for the Ports of Boston, New