

Niagara Falls. Between the lakes there is a difference in level of 326 feet. This is overcome by the Welland Ship Canal, which crosses the Niagara peninsula ten miles west of Niagara Falls. It is some twenty-seven miles in length. The first canal was built by a private company between 1824 and 1833 and had a depth of seven-and-a-half feet. This canal was later taken over by the Government of Upper Canada and deepened to 9-foot between 1842 and 1850. Its completion coincided with the completion of the St. Lawrence Canals in 1848 and permitted vessels 140 feet long, of twenty-six-foot beam and nine-foot draught to ascend for the first time from Montreal to Lake Erie. Construction of the third Welland Canal was begun about 1873 and com-

pleted for fourteen-foot navigation in 1887. It required no less than 26 locks to accomplish the three hundred and twenty-six-foot lift from Lake Ontario to Lake Erie. In 1913 work was begun on the Welland Ship Canal. Construction was suspended in the autumn of 1916 because of the First World War, but was resumed after the cessation of hostilities and completed in 1932. The lift from lake to lake remained the same, but accomplished with only eight locks as against 26 in the fourteen-foot canal. Several of these eight locks are 859 feet long and one is 1,380 feet in length. All are 60 feet wide with thirty-foot depth over the lock sills. The available depth was 25 feet, although about seventeen miles of the canal was 27 feet deep.

*The St. Lawrence Canal at Coteau du Lac, built by the Royal Engineers in 1781*

