

No. 12.  
Sir George Arthur  
to the Marquis of  
Normanby.

September 25, 1839

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of the St. Lawrence canal at Cornwall as the scale upon which this most important communication shall be completed, and I am quite sure that any reduction in this scale would be most injurious to the best interest of these provinces both in a military and commercial point of view.

With regard to the estimated expense of the work, I am unable at present to say what the total amount will be, as I have not yet had time to make up all the necessary calculations. I have, however, taken all the rough notes and memoranda required for the Welland, and I am inclined to believe that to put the whole work into a complete, permanent and proper state, with locks for large steamers, having the chamber 200 feet long, 53 feet broad, with 9 feet of water on the mitre sill, will require from 700,000*l.* to 800,000*l.* sterling; but I am not at present able to speak positively respecting it. I am preparing a very full Report, in which I propose to enter at large into the whole subject, and I am using every exertion in my power to have all the necessary plans, estimates, &c., completed and ready for delivery to his Excellency the Governor-General, in time to enable him to transmit them to England before the next session of the Imperial Parliament.

I have the honour to be, &c.,

(Signed) GEORGE PHILLPOTTS,  
Captain Royal Engineers and Lieutenant-Colonel.