

From the Seigniories, the Committee have no correct means of ascertaining the amount of passengers, as they generally use their own conveyances; they are, however, known to be numerous, and would doubtless be much increased by a more cheap and expeditious mode of conveyance.

The Eastern Townships likewise use their own conveyances to a very great extent. There are three tri-weekly lines of Stages, carrying on an average each 20 passengers per week, giving about 1,000 passengers, and at least an equal number use their own conveyances.

The Committee also believes that a very considerable number of Emigrants would choose Boston as their landing Port, were they enabled to reach Montreal by Railway. By leaving England in February, they could be actually established on their land in the month of April, thus giving them the advantage of one whole year over those who might land at Quebec.

A very considerable number of passengers now have occasion to pass from Lower Canada to New England during the year, of whose numbers it is difficult to form an estimate, but it probably exceeds 1,000 in the year, being 500 each way.

In forming an estimate on these data, the Committee are, to a certain extent, guided by the result of Railways in the United States, where the saving of time and expense has generally at once tripled the number of passengers. They would also draw attention to the fact, that the numbers above stated are *through* passengers, whereas a very great number of persons have occasion to pass short distances, as from Stanstead to Sherbrooke, to Melbourne, to St. Hyacinthe, to Montreal, and so forth, whose numbers would be increased in a much greater proportion, as journeys of this length now occupy two days, and occasion considerable expense, which would be avoided were the Railway in operation, as they could come and go in the same day. Having reference to these facts, the Committee have assumed that two trains should pass daily along the line each way, making four trips, and they estimate the number of passengers to average, during the trip, ten, as