

they require a quicker draught, which we always obtain by 'especially widening the bars ; they make more ashes, and much more dirt, to the great prejudice of the machinery ;—but these faults I merely mention in comparison, for there cannot be a doubt of the general fitness of the Coal of any of these provinces for all purposes of Steam Navigation ; and that, next to the best British Coal, the Cape Breton mines produce a species equal to any yet known. It is only a matter of marvel that, having such fuel within five hundred navigable miles, and at such a price, the St. Lawrence Steam Vessels should continue the practice of burning wood,—one of the lamentable results, I fear, of the estranged position of the Canadas and these Lower Provinces, whose commercial knowledge of the immense resources they possess, in relation to each other, appears as limited as if they were placed on opposite sides of the Atlantic ; but who must, ere long, and by means of this very Coal, either on land or by sea, be brought into that amicable relationship which will eventually establish them in a rich and prosperous union :—this may you live to see, and to remember that such was the conviction of.

Yours very faithfully,

JOHN N. NOTT,
Commander.

To the Agent of the
GENERAL MINING ASSOCIATION,
Halifax.