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ing the safe transit of timber over the Chaudière Falls, but appropriated a sum of money for carrying it into effect. The following is the letter, which is given in full :—

FALLS OF CHAUDIÈRE,
26th September, 1826.

MY DEAR SIR PEREGRINE,

I have thought it my duty to meet Lieut.-Colonel By here upon the spot where his great operations on the Rideau Canal will commence. I am much gratified in seeing every thing favourable and even encouraging to it, but as he will himself see you soon, I leave it to him to explain the enquiries and the progress he has made.

At present I write hastily upon another subject concerning the civil affairs of the two Provinces in which I hope my views will correspond with yours.

You are already well acquainted with the wild rocks and falls of the river at this place, that the rafts of timber suffer more losses in being dashed over—that lives are frequently lost in this operation and that there is a branch on this front of broken rock by which a smooth trough of water can be made to pass these rafts in perfect safety at all times.

Colonel By has to-day examined the place with me and roughly calculated that £2,000 would perfectly accomplish the whole. It is now too late in the season to do it all, but yet enough may be done to great public advantage for the opening of the river in next spring.

Considering the report of Mr. Shirreff that the duty on timber collected by him this summer amounts to £3,000, I have no hesitation in applying at once £1,000 of that to the work proposed and that sum in proportion to the total collection for each Province.

In thus promptly deciding on the work, I know I incur responsibility, but in my station, I consider it my duty to do so, and I ask your concurrence to the proposal. All proper steps shall be taken to have the sanction of His Majesty's Government.

I return to Quebec to-morrow and shall feel pleasure in hearing from you upon this subject.

I have, &c., DALHOUSIE.

His Excellency,
SIR P. MAITLAND,
&c., &c., &c.

(*Series C., Vol. 42, p. 95.*)

A similar letter, of the same date, was written by Lord Dalhousie to Lieut. Colonel By in which it was stated that he was to "consider this work as altogether distinct "from those which you have in charge on the Rideau Canal" his services in this respect being specially rendered to the two provinces and to be acknowledged and the letter ends with the words: "From having conversed [on] the matter fully together, I "leave it wholly to your judgment and execution" (*series C. Vol. 42 p. 99*). A branch canal through Dow's swamp to connect the Ottawa river with the Rideau Canal was advocated in a memorial to the Colonial Secretary in 1835, asking for various improvements, this branch canal being the first to which attention was directed in the memorial. The benefits that it was urged would flow from this measure were that Government would thus have possession of the key of the whole navigation, that entrance to the Chaudière Lake being secured steamboats from Montreal would be enabled to reach Fitz Roy harbour, where another cut of one mile would be necessary to extend the navigation still further. The ultimate object, as stated by the memorial was to "Continue the navigation to Lake Huron in the direction of Lake Nipissing and the French "River, the distance from Montreal by that route is 450 miles and being once opened