

St. John, N. B., Quebec, Ottawa, Kingston, Belleville, Toronto, Hamilton, London, Stratford, Guelph, Windsor, in Canada; and Chicago, Milwaukee, Detroit, Toledo, and Oswego, in the United States,—from Corn Associations at Montreal and Toronto—from Corporate Towns and Public Meetings, and from sixty-four individuals—in all eighty-seven. The reply from the Montreal Board of Trade did not come in until the 2nd Feb. inst.

These replies when categorically given were all condensed and arranged by our Secretary's directions under their several appropriate heads, so as to show at a glance, both for purposes of contrast and comparison, the facts, opinions and recommendations, contained in the numerous and lengthy communications laid before us. Where not so given, the remarks if deemed important are added at the end of the questions relating to each work. These abstracts contain such a mass of valuable information relating to the commercial aspect of the enquiry that we consider it proper to submit them with this letter for the information of the Government.

Appendix A.

Tables showing the actual depth of water in the principal Harbours on the Inland Lakes, compiled from official returns, are also appended.

Ap. endix B.

Tables of distances by water, on ten different routes between Inland Lake ports and Atlantic sea ports, compiled by the Secretary from the best and latest authorities are likewise appended.

Appendix C.

These abstracts and tables, together with the various Surveys, Maps, Plans, Reports, Estimates and Documents, relating to the Canal System of the Dominion, and to the projected works and enlargements enumerated in the accompanying list, were laid before us at our second meeting in Ottawa on the 18th January last.

Appendix D.

We now propose to give a very brief historical sketch of the several canals to which our attention has been directed, describing their inception, and the progress and changes in them from time to time to adapt them to the ever-increasing demands of the trade. Then will follow a statement of our views upon the commercial aspect of the question, and the decision and recommendation respecting the works required for the further enlargement and extension of the Canal system of the Dominion, and the order in which they should be undertaken and proceeded with; and finally, the engineering features, showing the effect of the proposed improvements upon existing works, and their probable cost.

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