

rence, and also that it would divert trade from its natural channels. The first point was one for men of science to determine, and it had been actually referred by a Committee of the House to eminent engineers for their opinions thereon. Messrs. Page and Keefer had expressed themselves against the scheme, fearing that the construction of the bridge would cause Lake St. Francis to rise, and, perhaps, cause an inundation in the surrounding country. Mr. Shanly had, however, taken a different view. Under the circumstances, he believed that the bridge scheme would be deferred for a year. Quebec was interested in not having the connection made. Two routes from Ottawa already exist, and this third one was intended to divert trade over American territory. It would thus seriously interfere with the North Shore and Intercolonial Railways, upon which a large amount had been invested, which was a very heavy tax upon the country, and he thought it was nothing but right to see that these natural outlets were protected to a certain extent. Through the influence of Mr. Dobell, over 50,000 white fish fry had been secured for Lake St. Charles and Lake Beauport, which had been deposited there, the Board merely paying the expense of the messenger who brought them down. He had been informed that white fish would live and thrive in the same waters with trout. Mr. Wilmot had suggested that the St. Charles might again be made a salmon river, but it was feared that the water was too impure, owing to the acids and sawdust which found their way into it from paper and saw-mills, and that it would force manufacturers to too great an expense to prevent these impurities from flowing into the river. The President then quoted from a recent article in the *Journal of Commerce*, to show that the opinions of that paper coincided with his own views, expressed at the annual meeting of the Board, respecting the unfortunate condition of the English trade. This year is stated to have been even worse in the commercial affairs of England than the year