

PUBLIC WORKS.

CANADA.

The Public Works of Canada consist principally of Canals, built for the purpose of overcoming difficulties in the navigation of Rivers, also of Harbors and Piers, Lighthouses, Beacons and Buoys, Slides and Booms, Roads and Bridges, Parliamentary Buildings, Custom Houses and Post Offices. The cost of these, being the chief cause of the Public Debt, will be found in the Balance Sheet of the Province, elsewhere printed. The Province is not the owner of any Railway.

Canals.—The St. Lawrence navigation is 2,385 miles long, and eight Canals, of which seven are Canadian and one American,—have been built to make it practicable for all its length. The following table shows the various distances and the size of the Canal Locks :—

	Natural Chann'l. miles.	Canal. miles.	Number and dimens'ns of locks in feet.	Feet of water on sills.	Rise of lockage in feet.
Straits of Belle Isle to head of tide water, (Three Rivers)	900				
To the Lachine Canal, (Montreal).....	86	see note			
Lachine Canal.....	....	8½	{ 5 200 x 45 }	9 ft.	44½
To Beauharnois Canal.....	15½				
Beauharnois Canal .....	....	11½	{ 9 200 x 45 }	9 ft.	82½
To Cornwall Canal.....	32½				
Cornwall Canal.....	....	11½	{ 7 200 x 55 }	9 ft.	48
To Farran's Point Canal.....	5				
Farran's Point Canal.....	....	½	{ 1 200 x 45 }	9 ft.	4
To Rapide Plat Canal	10½				
Rapide Plat Canal.....	....	4	{ 2 200 x 45 }	9 ft.	11½
To Iroquois Canal.....	4½				
Iroquois and Galop's Canal .....	....	7½	{ 5 200 x 45 }	9 ft.	15½
To the Welland Canal, (head of Lake Ontario)....	236½				
Welland Canal (Lake Ontario to Erie).....	....	28	{ 27 150 x 26½ }	10½ ft.	206½ 330
To Sault St. Marie Canal (head of Lake Huron)....	625				
Sault St. Marie Canal, (United States).....	....	1	{ 1 350 x 70 at top & 62 at bottom }	12	536½ 12
To Fond du Lac, (Lake Superior)	397				
Total.....	2,312½	72½	No. 57	....	548½

The Burlington Bay Canal (Hamilton) ½ mile, no locks, 138 feet broad, may be said to be connected with the St. Lawrence navigation.

The Ottawa and Rideau Canals complete a second (interior) line of navigation from Montreal to Kingston, (on Lake Ontario.) Their united length is 143½ miles, of which the Rideau Canal is 126½. The total lockage is 578½ feet, of which 446½ belong to the Rideau. Of this some 177 feet is fall, the difference rise. The distance by this route from Montreal to Kingston is 249½ miles.

NOTE.—A channel 11½ miles long has been dredged through Lake St. Peter, so that vessels drawing 20 feet can go up to Montreal. Two locks on the Lachine Canal have 16 feet on the sills, and three on the Welland are 200 x 41 feet.

The St. Ours Lock and the Chambly Canal connect the St. Lawrence and the Hudson, *via* the Richelieu river and Lake Champlain. Distance from Montreal to New York, 456 miles.

The following table shows the dimensions of the largest vessels which can pass through the various locks on these several lines of Navigation.

	Length in feet.	Breadth in feet.	Draught of water when loaded.	Tonnage.
St. Lawrence Canal.....	186	44½	9	600
Welland Canal.....	142½	26½	10	400
Ottawa Canal.....	95	18½	5	100
Rideau Canal.....	127	31½	5	250
Chambly Canal.....	114	23	6½	230
United States.—Champlain Canal.....	89	13½	4	70
United States.—Erie Canal.....	102	17½	7	210

It may here be noted that the distance from Quebec to Liverpool, *via* Belle Isle, is 3060 miles; *via* Cape Clear, 2910.

Light-houses.—There are now 116 Light-houses connected with Canadian Inland Navigation, viz.: From Straits of Belle Isle to Quebec, 20; between Quebec and Montreal, 32; West of Montreal, 52, of which 3 are on the Ottawa; in charge of private individuals and Companies, 12.

Harbours.—These are almost all transferred to private or railway corporations.