

ford (Georgian Bay) have been examined for the purpose of improvements being made.

**Piers, Quebec**—The steamboat descent at Les Aboulements has been lowered, and its sides protected by planking. Some repairs have been made to the piers at Malbaie, Berthier (en Bas) and L'Islet. The pier at River Ouelle has been thoroughly repaired, and those at River du Loup (en Bas) and Rimouski repaired where necessary. The Coteau Landing Pier is finished.

**Piers and Harbours. N. B.**—At Quaco, a breakwater 500 feet long and 70 wide, has been built on the East side of the creek. Two breakwaters are in process of construction at Richibucto of 1,200 and 1,600 feet long, confining the waters of the channel. A pier 300 feet long, 25 feet wide and 30 feet high is being built at Stony Creek to deflect the current of the Petitcodia. The works at Herring Cove are being prosecuted.

**Nova Scotia.**—A breakwater 431 feet long on the E. side of Liverpool Bay is nearly completed, forming a harbour of refuge. Works are being prosecuted at Yarmouth to protect the lower part of the harbour from the roll of the ocean. A wall has been built to protect the exposed portion of Little Hope Island, lying on the route to the United States. The breakwater at Port William, S. side of the Bay of Fundy has been lengthened. The breakwaters at Margaretville, Oak Point (mouth of the Avon) and Meteghan, have been repaired and improved. At Gt. Lanook Island, Mahore Bay, a public landing and breakwater have been constructed. Great improvements have been made in Amherst Harbour, Magdalen Island. When the operations are concluded, there will be a straight channel 150 feet wide, with a depth at low tide of 9 or 10 feet, and at high tide of 13 to 14. If the channel is then buoyed out, vessels can enter at any time without danger.

#### SLIDES AND BOOMS.

These slides are constructed for the passage of lumber, where impediments to navigation exist and no canal connects the navigable waters. The booms form bays at the entrance and discharge of the slide, to receive the timber.

The works on the river *Saguenay* consist of a slide, 5,840 feet long, with a boom of 1,314 feet and a dam, pier and bulkhead. They cover a distance of about six miles, where the Lake St. John passes into the *Saguenay*. Some of them require renewal. There are a number of works on the river St. Maurice and its tributary, the Vermilion river. Most of these were much injured by a spring flood in May, 1873, and have required considerable repairs. On the Ottawa and its tributaries there are 73 stations, the most distant, that at the mouth of the river Des Quinze being 389 miles from the mouth of the Ottawa. On the main stream there are 2,000 feet of canal, 3,835 of slides and 29,855 of booms. The works admit of the passage of more than 1½ millions of logs. The Superintendent states, that from the greater area of cleared land, the streams carry off the water in the spring more rapidly, and that a more extended area of boom enclosure is necessary. The works have all been kept in good repair, and some additions completed. On the River des Prairies, the pier at Sault au Recollet has been put in order. On the Gatineau,

which is 400 miles long, on the N. shore of the Ottawa, and drains an area of 9,000 sq. miles, the Government works are all on one station, about a mile from its confluence with the Ottawa. There are 3,071 feet of canal and 4,138 of booms. The works have been kept in working order, but much additional accommodation is required. On the Madawaska, 240 miles long, on the S. shore, draining an area of 4,100 sq. miles, there are 15 stations, 1,750 feet of slides and 18,179 of booms. The works have been kept in good repair. On the Coulonge, N. shore 160 miles long, draining 1,800 square miles; there are three works, containing 2,518 ft. of booms, and 10 support piers all in good repair. The Black River is 128 miles long, draining 1,120 sq. miles on the N. shore; on it are 1,139 ft. of booms and 873 of slide. The slide bottom has been repaired and strengthened. The Petawawa is 133 miles long, draining 2,200 sq. miles on the S. shore. On this, there are 31 stations, giving 5,577 ft. of slides and 11,140 of booms. All are in serviceable condition, and a new slide is being constructed near Lake Traverse. The River du Moine, on the N. shore, is 120 miles long, draining 1,600 sq. miles; it has 300 feet of slide and 800 of boom in good repair.

The *River Trent*, discharging into the Bay of Quinte, Lake Ontario, has a chain of rivers and lakes connecting with each other for 190 miles to Lake Scugog. Of the whole distance 152½ miles is navigable. At Chisholm's Rapids the works, except the lock, are in fair repair. At Runney's Falls and Healey's Falls they are useless. At Campbellford and Middle Falls in good repair. At Hastings the works have been repaired, but additional ones are necessary. At Whillars Rapids injuries have been received by spring freshet. At Buckhorn, repairs are necessary, and at Little Lake, Bobcaygeon and Lindsay the works are in good order.

#### ROADS AND BRIDGES.

The *Metapedia Road*, from St. Flavie, on the Lower St. Lawrence, to the Restigouche River, has been maintained in good repair.

The *Temiscouata Road*, connecting the Provinces of Quebec and New Brunswick, 67 miles from River du Loup to the boundary line, has been repaired throughout, and much of the second growth of timber cleared away from the ditches and land adjoining.

The *Huntingdon and Port Louis Road* is 8 miles long, from Port Louis, on Lake St. Francis, to Huntingdon, and is kept for defensive purposes, and repaired.

The *Union Suspension Bridge* at Ottawa was painted and improved.

#### PUBLIC BUILDINGS.

##### ONTARIO.

In the *Houses of Parliament*, Ottawa, the Lantern Tower is completed, and works to improve the ventilation are progressing. The Library Building is much advanced. A part of the mansard roof story in Eastern Block is being converted into offices; a new building in connection with Public Works' Office is being constructed; the enclosure of the grounds is completed; the iron superstructure placed in position, and the work of laying out the grounds is being prosecuted.

*Post Office, Ottawa.* This building will include also the Custom House and Inland Revenue Office, and is rapidly advancing.