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979. In addition to this, the canals on the St. Lawrence system are the Welland, from Port Colbourne, on Lake Erie, to Port Dalhousie, on Lake Ontario, 26¾ miles in length by the enlarged or new line, with 26 locks, and a total rise of 326¾ feet; and along the St. Lawrence, the Galops, 75% miles in length, with three locks and a rise of 15¾ feet; the Rapide Plat, 4 miles in length, with two locks and a rise of 11½ feet; Farran's Point, three-quarters of a mile long, with one lock and a rise of 4 feet; the Cornwall, 11½ miles in length, with six locks and a rise of 48 feet; the Beauharnois, 11¼ miles in length, with nine locks and a rise of 82½ feet (the Soulanges Canal is being built on the north side of the river on the enlarged scale, to take the place of this canal, and will be 14 miles in length, with five locks); and the Lachine Canal, 8½ miles in length, with five locks and a rise of 45 feet.

980. The difference in level between Lake Superior and tidewater is about 600 feet. The total number of locks on this system is 53. The aggregate length of the canals is 70½ miles, and the total height directly overcome by locks is 533¼ feet. The greatest navigable depth is 14 feet, but that at present is only to be found in the Welland Canal, which was open for the first time for 14 feet navigation during the season of 1888. The greatest available depth in the other canals is at present limited to 9 feet, which makes that depth the limit for communication between Lake Ontario and the sea, but improvements are now being made with a view to having a uniform depth of 14 feet throughout the system, with locks 270 feet between the gates and 45 feet in width, and it is hoped that this general enlargement scheme will be completed in the course of the next three or four years.

- 981. By the completion of the ship canal through Lake St. Peter, vessels drawing 27½ feet of water can ascend the St. Lawrence as far as Montreal, by which means that port is now accessible to the largest merchant vessels afloat.
- 982. The other canal systems of the country are as follows:—The Ottawa, which connects Montreal and the city of Ottawa, and the Rideau, which, in conjunction with the Ottawa system, affords communication between Montreal and Kingston, a total distance of 246 miles. The lockage on this system (not including that of the Lachine Canal) is 509 feet, 345 rise and 164 fall, and the number of locks is 55. The Rideau Canal was originally built by the Imperial Government for military purposes. It