

## THE CANAL.

A writer in the Albany Statesman, gives the following information.

One horse can draw as much on a canal, as 60 can on a road. The expense of transportation will be consequently greatly reduced. I saw an advertisement of Mr. Henry B. Ely, Utica, wherein he offers to forward goods on the canal for 25 cents per cwt. for 100 miles, including toll, which is 5 cents a ton per mile, at least one quarter less than by land. But this I apprehend is too high; the maximum cost ought not to exceed three cents a mile per ton. I saw at Utica a raft of 440 tons of lumber, which had been floated on the canal for 20 miles, for about 50 dollars. It was drawn by four horses at the rate of 2 miles an hour. The conveyance of this timber by land would have cost at least 1600 dollars. The price of wheat at Albany, is now about 87 cents a bushel, and the land transportation at any considerable distance, costs at least 44 cents. A bushel of wheat can be conveyed on the canal, when finished, from Seneca river to Albany for 6 cents.

Gypsum is found all over the west; you can now buy it at Utica for \$1 50 to \$2 a ton. The great country lying on the Hudson can be supplied with this mineral for 4 or 5 dollars a ton. Salt will also be sold at Albany for 2s 6d or 3s a bushel.

Selected images from:

Newspaper article entitled “The Canal” [*Cooperstown*] *Otsego Herald*, July 31, 1820

These images from the collections of the New York State Library were digitized as part of a project to provide material about the Erie Canal for teachers.