

SELECT STANDING COMMITTEE ON PRIVILEGES AND ELECTIONS.

In the matter of the Order of Reference of the 11th May, 1891,
to the Select Standing Committee on Privileges and Elections.

BRIEF OF COUNSEL FOR DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC WORKS.

THE RELATION OF THE DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC WORKS TO THE QUEBEC HARBOUR WORKS.

*An abstract of the material portions of the Acts bearing on this question
is given below :—*

1873—36 Victoria, chapter 62.—Quebec Harbour Commissioners reconstituted and given control of Quebec Harbour (section 15), and charged with the duty of making all necessary improvements (section 17). Section 17 also authorizes the Governor in Council to raise \$1,200,000, part to be used for redeeming old debentures, and the balance to be advanced from time to time to the Corporation to meet payments on account of improvements in Quebec Harbour, such improvements to be previously sanctioned by the Governor in Council on the joint report of the Ministers of Marine and Fisheries and Public Works.

1875—38 Victoria, chapter 56.—Governor in Council authorized to raise \$500,000 for the completion of the Graving Dock in Quebec Harbour (section 2). The size and dimensions, plans and specifications, and draft contract to be approved by the Governor in Council on recommendation of the Ministers of Marine and Fisheries and Public Works.

1880—43 Victoria, chapter 17.—Governor in Council authorized to raise \$250,000 to be advanced to the Harbour Commissioners to enable them to complete the Tidal Dock, which had been begun under the authority of the Act of 1873.

1882—43 Victoria, chapter 47.—Governor in Council authorized to raise \$375,000 to be advanced to the Harbour Commissioners to enable them to construct the Cross-wall and Lock. This Act is special, in that it provides that the plans of the works are to be prepared by the Engineers of the Department of Public Works, and that they are to be submitted to the approval of the Governor in Council, and that public tenders shall be called for, and that the contract shall be awarded by the Governor in Council.

1883—46 Victoria, chapter 40 ; 1884—47 Victoria, chapter 10.—Two additional sums of \$100,000 and \$150,000 voted, to enable the Harbour Commissioners to complete the Graving Dock, which was being constructed under the Act of 1875, above referred to.

1884.—47 Victoria, chapter 9.—An advance of \$200,000, authorized to be advanced to the Harbour Commissioners to enable them to complete the Tidal Dock.

1886—49 Victoria, chapter 19.—Governor in Council authorized to advance \$750,000 to the Harbour Commissioners to enable them to complete the Tidal Dock and Wet Basin.

1887—50 and 51 Victoria, chapter 41.—Governor in Council authorized to raise \$160,000 to be advanced to the Harbour Commissioners to enable them to complete the Graving Dock, and \$1,100,000 to be advanced to enable them to complete the other works.