

loses much of its force on a more complete acquaintance with the facts of the case. The great width of the river; the rocky foreshore; the great and unnecessary depth of water in places close in shore, with strong currents at certain times of the tide; the rise and fall of tide, only serviceable at present for repairing slips and dry docks of small size; the need of some sort of harbour of refuge during the winter months, for late arrivals or vessels under detention, to protect them from dangerous ice floes and shoves, afford reasons ample enough to justify the construction of tidal harbours and wet docks, where suitable localities present themselves for the purpose. Therefore, to overcome the difficulties above alluded to, and also to provide access to deep water at all times of the tide for the carrying trade opened up by the North Shore Railway; the mouth or embouchure of the St. Charles River was selected for the commencement of works of improvement in this direction, and acting under a minute of the Privy Council of Canada, approved by His Excellency the Governor-General, in accordance with the provisions of the 17th section of the act 36 Victoria, chapter 62, the construction of certain works there was finally determined upon, and a contract was entered into, based upon the plans and specifications of Messrs. Kinipple & Morris, M. I. C. E., Engineers of Westminster and Greenock, with Messrs. Peters, Moore & Wright, Contractors, of Quebec. These works as at present in progress form the centre embankment of a scheme for double wet docks and tidal basins on either side of it, the embankment itself having a length of 3,500 feet by a breadth of 330 feet, extending from the Gas house wharf to the end of the isolated mole or breakwater already sunk in 50 feet of water, and known as the ballast wharf. On the south side of this embankment, (which it is suggested by the way should, with proper permission, be called "The Louise Embankment," after Her Royal Highness the Marchioness of Lorne,) along its entire length, a quay wall, having a