

Lawrence at and above Lachine, under the now apparent jurisdiction of the Board of Harbour Commissioners, the following gentlemen present be a deputation to wait on the said Board to represent the serious grievance that exists under such sudden change of affairs from the practice heretofore enjoyed for over forty years, and to request that no further action or interference shall be taken until the case is represented to the government, especially as it is understood that the Harbour Commissioners are not at present prepared to give the lumbermen a proper place of safety for their very extensive business—the said committee to consist of Messrs. J. K. Ward, Jas. Shearer, G. G. Dunning, J. W. McGauvran and B. Grier.

The meeting then adjourned.

At a regular meeting of the Harbour Commissioners held on the 27th of the same month, a deputation consisting of Messrs. J. W. McGauvran, J. G. Dunning, J. K. Ward, James Shearer and B. Grier were admitted.

Mr. Young thought that an effort should be made to accommodate the lumber trade of Montreal, and if a moderate expenditure would accomplish this, he would be in favor of it. He had received a letter stating that there was a place at Isle Perreault where the trade could be accommodated, but on enquiry he had received information that the place was not sufficiently large.

Mr. McGauvran, on their behalf, stated the grievances of the trade on account of the position recently taken by the Board.

Mr. Dunning said that they had large quantities of lumber for sale, but much of it had to be kept moored above Lachine until such time as a sale should be effected. In Lachine the space for their accommodation was so small that no more than a tenth of the demand could be kept there. They asked the Board to use their aid to enable them to keep their rafts above Lachine until wanted. The interest of the trade was so large that in comparison with it the annoyance to those parties who had brought complaints against them were nothing.

Mr. Cramp said there could be no double authority in this matter. Either the Government should furnish all the accommodation needed or else they should give the Harbour Commissioners full control of the booms at present at Lachine, and also permission to make such further improvements as were needed, and also authority for collecting fees from the rafts using these improvements.