

Vanderburg is paid so much per month for travelling expenses Mr. Ellis is paid nearly as much more, and he could not very well check Mr. Vanderburg under the circumstances. Although the country pays Mr. Ellis \$300 a year for horse hire, Mr. Ellis charges the country with a large sum for horse hire paid to Mr. Foster, a livery man in St. Catharines. It is hard to tell how much Mr. Foster was paid—I do not believe the Department even knows. It was mixed up with the accounts of that gentleman of leisure, Walter Chatfield. At pages 1556 to 1559 of the evidence you will see Mr. Vanderburg's statement about measuring plank. You will find it interesting reading. At page 286 Thomas O'Neil, a foreman, describes how a dry wall was built at Neelon's mill and McCordick's tannery. The wall is about 200 feet long, and this man, O'Neil, worked at the spoke factory and at the bridge across the race, and got his pay at the canal office. He also swears that he returned to the canal office as work done for the Government the expense of liquid refreshments—lager beer. Mr. J. B. Smith certified to the list, knowing that this represented an expenditure for beer and not for work done. If it was thought necessary to furnish men with lager beer, why was it not properly returned? Why should it be concealed in this way? But the fact is, the employes on the canal paid for their beer by returning time to the Government for work which was not done. I would like to call your attention next to the fact the we have a storekeeper on the Welland Canal, Mr. W. W. Wait. There is about as much use for a storekeeper on the canal as there is for the fifth wheel to a waggon. It costs more to deliver the goods on the canal than their original value, and there are teams going along the canal all the time in the employ of the Government, which could deliver any good required. I had Wait's books before me, and such a set of books I never saw. I had him under examination three times, and he could not make anything out of his own books. The first time he was examined I asked him why it was necessary to build weighs scales there? I was of an inquiring turn of mind, and I wanted to know everything. He told me that he weighed 20 tons of scrap iron that was on its way to Wilson's foundry. I said to the commissioner, if he would follow this scrap iron further he would see it grow

smaller and beautifully less, as it did. The Government pays Wait \$1,020 a year, furnishes him a house and a piece of land rent free. Mr. Wait in his evidence, at page 628, says that he ordered people to vacate land at Lock 6 for the personal benefit of Mr. Ellis. As I said before, this storekeeper is a useless official; he is not wanted at all; he is only a bill of expense; and he is not the only one—there are several of them. Such officials should be dispensed with; idle men we do not want. Now, on the subject of the detention of vessels on the canal, I would ask you to read the evidence of Capt. James C. Hume, at page 448. His steamboat was detained in the canal for over an hour by getting on the bank, the canal not being properly lighted. Here, you see, a loss was sustained by the owner of the vessel through the turning down of the gas. If Mr. Ellis is to get free gas and free fuel, and a handsome testimonial, he must make some return to the gas company, though the business of the country should suffer. I want now to direct your attention to a case of tyranny on the canal. Martin Nestor, at page 338, says. "I was threatened to be discharged from the canal by Mr. Smith and Mr. Ellis because I was unfortunate, and got into debt through sickness in my family. I was told I would be discharged if I did not pay so much a month. By an order of the judge I was paying \$2 or \$3 a month, and Mr. Ellis wanted to stop \$5 or \$10 a month from me at the canal office." And they did stop it. They were not satisfied that this poor man, who had got behind through sickness and death in his family, should pay so much under the order of the court, but they wanted to deduct a further sum from his wages. Mr. Dunn said that Mr. Ellis would not be satisfied unless the money was paid to him, when Nestor wanted to pay it on the judgment. Mr. Ellis forgot the time he was in difficulties himself, when he sent his broker Smith around among the employes of the canal to raise funds to get himself out of trouble. He was not satisfied with the order of the judge compelling Nestor to pay so much a month on the judgment, but used his power as Superintendent of the Welland Canal to tyrannize over this poor man. Another case of tyranny is stated by John Clark, whose evidence will be found at page 483. Clark was a bridge-tender and a lock-