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## QUEBEC HARBOUR COMMISSIONERS' REPORT FOR THE YEAR 1883.

(Under the 38th Victoria, Chap. 55, Sect. 14.)

QUEBEC, 9TH JANUARY 1884.

To the Honorable A. W. McLELAN,  
Minister of Marine and Fisheries, etc.,  
Ottawa.

SIR,

In compliance with the provisions of Section 14 of the 38th Victoria, Chapter 55, I have the honor to report as follows on the doings of the Quebec Harbour Commissioners for the year 1883 :

*Arbitration in re Contractors for the Harbour Improvements' claim  
in settlement of their Contract.*

In my report for the year 1882 I gave the particulars concerning the award made by the Dominion Board of Arbitrators in favor of Messrs Peters, Moore and Wright, in final settlement of their claim in connection with their contract for the construction of the Harbour Improvements and I stated that the award was then under the consideration of the Commissioners.

Since the Commissioners, acting under legal advice, have notified the contractors that, considering all the circumstances of the case, they had decided not to recognize the award of the Dominion Arbitrators as valid and therefore would decline to pay the amount demanded under same.

The contractors have in consequence resolved to open the case *de novo* and, instead of suing the Commission for the recovery of the Arbitrator's award, they have instituted an action for the sum of three hundred and fifty two thousand four hundred and thirty seven dollars and twenty cents—\$352,437.20—representing their new claim in settlement of their Contract.

### *Change of Engineers*

For various reasons, more particularly on account of their long absence from the works and of the difficulty of communicat-