

One half mile below the Myers shoal is Lyndoe island, the submerged point of the north-west end of which will require to be removed, and is that part between the shore line and the 16-foot depth contour. The slope of this point approaches mid-channel at a very abrupt angle. It will approximate 250 by 60 feet, with a minimum depth of that part nearest the shore of the island, of about 6 feet. The quantity to be removed will be about 2,005 cubic yards in place.

At Fiddler's elbow proper, about $\frac{1}{4}$ mile below the Lyndoe light, are five locations to be improved.

A part of the island known as Morris point will require to be removed to a depth of 16 feet low water. The part to be removed being that which lies on the channel side of the red line, part of which is above and part below the water surface. The material there will approximate 7,300 cubic yards in place.

To the south of Wood island there is a small island which will require to be removed. The quantity here will approximate 9,275 cubic yards in place.

To the north of Wood island are three submerged locations, all within a distance of one-half mile. These will require to be removed to the depth of 16 feet. These locations will approximate 3,300 cubic yards.

In mid-channel at the upper entrance to Brock's group of islands, and about $3\frac{1}{2}$ miles above the railway dock at Brockville, is the Hillcrest shoal.

This shoal will require to be removed to a depth of 16 feet at low water. It is approximately 300 by 130 feet, and contains about 3,500 cubic yards in place. We hope to obtain a depth of 16 feet at low water.

Mr. GEO. TAYLOR. Who has the contract?

Mr. PUGSLEY. Mr. Gilbert, who is connected, I think, with the Gilbert Dredging Company of Montreal.

Mr. GEO. TAYLOR. Has he sublet the work?

Mr. PUGSLEY. Mr. Gilbert, or the Gilbert Dredging Company, has lately assigned the work.

Mr. GEO. TAYLOR. He has assigned it to another contractor?

Mr. PUGSLEY. Yes.

Mr. GEO. TAYLOR. Was any work done except at Fiddler's Elbow last year?

Mr. PUGSLEY. The work done during the present fiscal year has been confined to the improvement of the channel through Fiddler's Elbow.

Mr. GEO. TAYLOR. All that was done there was the letting of a sub-contract to

Mr. PUGSLEY.

some persons to blow the top off an island down to low water mark.

Mr. PUGSLEY. I do not know as to that.

Mr. GEO. TAYLOR. I am passing it every day, and there was practically nothing done except putting in a few shots and blowing the top off the island. None of the other work was proceeded with, and I certainly think that the government, if it is the intention to deepen the channel, should let it to another contractor. This contractor fooled away all the summer, and did practically nothing.

Mr. PUGSLEY. Yes, the work proceeded very slowly, and a great deal of fault was found with the contractor. He was notified that unless arrangements were made for more speedily going on with the work, the contract would be cancelled. An arrangement was made, and after that, I believe the work went on more satisfactorily.

Mr. ARMSTRONG. When does the minister expect the work to be completed?

Mr. PUGSLEY. We expect it to be completed in 1911.

Mr. DANIEL. What is the rate per cubic yard?

Mr. PUGSLEY. \$3.95; it is all rock work.

Mr. DANIEL. What for the other?

Mr. PUGSLEY. There is no other, it is all rock.

Mr. DANIEL. This department is doing a very large amount of dredging all over the country, and I understand that the department has under its control some dredges. I would like to ask the minister how many dredges the Public Works Department has? I do not know whether it is the intention of the government to increase the number rather than to have so much of the dredging done by private contractors. We find all over this country that dredging is done at very varying rates per cubic yard, and I have no doubt that if the government did this work itself, it would be done very much cheaper. Where there is so much of this work to be done, I think that the government could get it more cheaply done if the department had its own dredges and did its own work. I would like the minister to give us an idea of how many dredges there are in his department, and where they are. Then we could judge whether we should advise the minister to have more dredges, so that his own department could do more of the work.

Mr. PUGSLEY. I am informed that a return which was asked for last session