

Mr. DANIEL. A good tailor?

Mr. PUGSLEY. No, a good all round man, who will do what he is called upon to do—faithfully and well.

Mr. DANIEL. I may say that this celebrated tailor was kept on inspecting considerably after the work was done, according to the statement of the gentleman who then represented Kings county in the House.

Mr. PUGSLEY. If that was so, it would be very unusual and ought not to take place. I do not think it has taken place in recent years.

Mr. R. L. BORDEN. You cannot have too much of a good thing; and if he was as good an inspector as the minister says he was, his services were probably as valuable afterwards as before.

Mr. PUGSLEY. I think my hon. friend from St. John is relying upon his imagination when he makes the statement he does.

Mr. HENDERSON. My recollection is the same as that of the hon. member for St. John, that the inspector was kept on after the work was done.

Mr. DANIEL. I was not relying on my imagination, but on the positive statement of the former member for Kings, which statement will be found in 'Hansard'.

Mr. PUGSLEY. Will the hon. gentleman tell me what that has to do with the wharf at Cabano?

Mr. DANIEL. Not the slightest.

Mr. R. L. BORDEN. It has to do with the general principle we were discussing of carrying on these works by tender or day work. The minister was relying on inspection, and I observed that it depended on how good the inspection was. I would not consider it consistent with efficient administration that a tailor should be selected for the inspection of an armoury.

Mr. PUGSLEY. The question of the inspection of this work does not come up now. Our effort is always to get practical men, and I think we succeed in getting them. I have not heard complaints in recent years in regard to inspectors.

Cap à l'Aigle—repairs to wharf, \$2,400.

Mr. PUGSLEY. This is to provide for repairs to the wharf, as recommended by the resident engineer, Mr. Decary. The total estimated cost is \$2,400.

Mr. R. L. BORDEN. When was the original wharf built?

Mr. PUGSLEY. In 1881 and 1882. It was widened in 1901.

Mr. R. L. BORDEN. Is it a free port, or are tolls charged?

Mr. PUGSLEY. As it has not been transferred to the Marine Department, no revenue is derived from it.

Mr. LEMIEUX. I know this place well. It is in the county of Charlevoix, and is one of the summer resorts in the St. Lawrence. The government have a steamer plying between River L'Ouelle, St. Irénée, Cap à l'Aigle, Murray Bay and the terminus of one of the branch lines of the Intercolonial railway. It is at the request of the Richelieu Navigation Company that this vote is put in the estimates.

Mr. R. L. BORDEN. On what principle does the government act in transferring or not transferring wharfs from the Public Works Department to the Marine Department?

Mr. PUGSLEY. There has never been any principle.

Mr. R. L. BORDEN. Is it not time that there should be one?

Mr. PUGSLEY. It is, but it is a difficult matter to work out. It is now engaging the attention of the Minister of Marine and Fisheries and myself. I may say that this is not a new difficulty; it has existed under all governments since confederation. Suppose I transfer this wharf to the Marine Department. It would at once begin to collect tolls. The farmer who takes half a dozen bags of potatoes to the wharf has to pay toll. He goes home and brings a barrel of flour, and on that he has to pay toll. All the tolls in the course of a year do not amount to much, but they are a burden on the farmer. In several cases I have hesitated on this account to make the transfer. We are endeavouring to work out some plan under which we would charge a yearly fee to the steamboat owners, so that the farmers would not have to pay any toll. We may work out a solution of the difficulty on some such basis as that.

Mr. R. L. BORDEN. I think it is desirable that that should be done, because, admitting the existence of what the minister calls a hardship to farmers, it is still rather inequitable that farmers in some parts of the country should be subjected to that hardship, while farmers in other sections are relieved of it. I therefore think some general system should be adopted, and what the minister suggests seems to have some merit in it. It should not be allowed to continue in its present state of confusion.

Mr. HENDERSON. In my county fishermen who land their fish on the wharf have to pay wharfage dues, which was