From the declaration of Paul Leroux, trader at Cascades, 20th March, 1873.

That, in his opinion, the enlargement of the Beauharnois Canal would not prevent the ice from accumulating at the head of the canal, and would not be a remedy to the shorter period of navigation by that canal, as it is retarded every year by the longer period during which the ice remains at the head of the canal; while on the north side the same obstacle would not be found. It has happened often that when communication was closed on the south, it was opened on the north side; and that travellers coming from the west, who could not go down by the canal, on account of the ice at Valleyfield, had to land on the north side, reach Cascades by land carriage from Coteau Landing, and arrive at Montreal by a steamer from Cascades, no such obstacle would have been met on the north side, while it was experienced sometimes for ten days on the south.

That the deepening of the channel at the head of the present canal would not prevent the ice from accumulating hereafter, and would not, therefore, cause an earlier opening of the canal, while no such obstacle would be experienced on the north side, as no ice remains there at the latter end of the winter, and as the Cascades Bay is clear of ice sooner than any of the extremities of the present canal.

That the entrance into the channel, leading to the canal, is difficult; the water is not deep, and accidents have often happened which were not generally noticed.

That the entrance into the channel leading into Cascades Bay is straight, over eighteen feet deep, and from three to four hundred feet broad.

That deponent resides at Cascades, in the Parish of Vaudreuil, since about forty years, and knows the whole place perfectly well. That there is no such a place known as *Pointe a la Glace* (Ice Point), as was stated. That the shoals make no obstacle to the navigation, on account of the great breadth of the channel, which would render quite easy the access of vessels to the canal if constructed there.