

to work for bread for his family, and incur the risk of being discharged. I did not do so; therefore, I do not offer any evidence on this point. I believe that hon. gentlemen will credit me when I say that men came to me and begged of me not to summon them, because they were afraid of being dismissed. In fact, in one or two instances they told me that they were threatened with dismissal if they had too much to do with me. I was a leper, who was going to destroy any one who came into contact with me. Men came to me who were employed by manufacturers on the canal, who were getting favors from the Superintendent, and begged of me not to call them as witnesses. What favors were these manufacturers getting? No doubt, they would be given a share of the pickings. This is all I will say on this charge. The 11th charge is: "In reply to Order of the House, did not give correct replies; says he could not." This is in reference to the arbitrary treatment meted out to owners of vessels. Last year, Mr. Ellis said, in regard to this matter, when I wrote a letter to the Department asking for information as to the number of vessels assisted with the diving apparatus and pumps, that he could not give a correct account of what he did do, as they did not keep the time. Therefore, he did not comply with the Order of the Senate. Of course, he could not, if it is true that he did not keep a record of the time. This is in reference to giving assistance to vessels; giving the diving apparatus and steam pumps to vessels, in competition with citizens of this country, who had provided themselves with means to render such assistance to vessels. Even since this investigation has closed they made use, at Port Dalhousie, on the Welland Canal, of the Government pump and diver. I do not know whether this service is to be paid for or not; I suppose it will be paid for now, because the thing is exposed. But before this, and while there was private plant which could have been secured to do the work, men went to the Superintendent, because they said: We can get the canal plant much cheaper, and if nobody is around we can get it for nothing." This, I think, it will be admitted, is not a very desirable state of things. When men invest their money, from \$20,000 to \$40,000, in plant, for the purpose of doing such work, it is not desirable that the Govern-

ment should be allowed to go into competition with them. But I believe the Superintendent of the Canal has got a rap over the knuckles for this; I believe he has instructions from the Department that he must not do it again. At the time of the investigation he swears: "I am of the opinion that I should give the use of the diving armor free of charge, if I choose to do so." Of course, the Superintendent is the man that is responsible to the people of this country for the proper administration of the canal, as he tells me in his letter of last year, and adds: "I must be a terror to evil doers. I have made a cast iron rule that once a man is discharged he can never get back again." He has disregarded this rule dozens of times. If a man disagrees with his chief, and is discharged, the power behind the throne can put him back, as I will show you. Mr. Ellis says that he should give the use of the apparatus to anyone he may think proper, if not instructed to the contrary; and he says also, at page 2322: "I allow Mr. Demare to send it to whom he likes." Mr. Demare does just as he likes; Mr. Ellis lets him. But here is the funny part of it: Mr. Ellis (page 2323) says: "When we make a charge we keep the time." That is to say, if Mr. Demare makes a charge he keeps the time. How are we to depend upon Mr. Demare or find out how much work was done? I found out a good deal last year by writing all over Canada and part of the United States. I wrote a good many letters last year, because I was bound to probe this question. I was satisfied that the Government was not being fairly dealt with in this matter, but of course Mr. Demare is the sole judge of whether a man is to have this apparatus free, or whether he will make a charge. If he lets a man have it free on condition of keeping the matter quiet there is no return made to the Government. There is no check on Demare at all; he is the sole judge of how this property is to be used. It is really amusing. What did they want a pump at all for. I tried to prove to the Department of Railways and Canals, when they were getting that pump, that it was unnecessary. They have had it five or six years now, with a man taking care of it, and as far as I know to-day, they have only used it once or twice on Government work, and then they had to send for a private individual with