

# Department of Public Works.

## *New Dredging Plant.*

- One elevator dredge for the ship channel. Sister dredge to the "Laval."
- One steel tug as tender to new dredge.
- One steel dipper dredge for the maritime provinces.
- Two steel hopper barges for salt water service.
- The above vessels were in course of construction at the end of the fiscal year.

## EXPENDITURE.

ACCOUNTANT'S STATEMENT:—The annual statement of expenditure by this officer appears in Appendix No. 1, commencing at page 3. It is full and comprehensive and gives, detailed in alphabetical order, the various sums expended under the authority of Parliament in each of the provinces, on the various services under the control of the department.

A summary of the amounts expended by each branch of the department, has already been referred to in the opening part of this report.

Appendix No. 15, at page 266, is another statement by the chief accountant showing in detail the various sums expended in necessary repairs, in order to preserve the public buildings "against the tooth of time."

## GRAVING DOCKS.

The increase in the dimensions of ocean-going ships, has been so marked of recent years, that graving docks, which a decade ago were considered sufficient to accommodate the requirements of the country for all time, may soon be found quite insufficient to receive the class of vessels that the past few years have been placed on the ocean, or are in course of being built. One of these monster carriers, at present under construction at Belfast, Ireland, is said to be 704 feet long. As before referred to in this report, Canada owns three docks, the Lorne, on the St. Lawrence at Lévis, opposite the city of Quebec, the Esquimalt, at a place of the same name, near the City of Victoria, on the Pacific Ocean, and a smaller dock at the city of Kingston on Lake Ontario.

The Atlantic dock at Halifax is owned and controlled by the Halifax Graving Dock Co., Limited. Its construction was secured by subsidies from the Governments of the United Kingdom, Canada, and the city of Halifax.

The dimensions of the docks are as follows:—

THE LORNE—Commenced by the Harbour Commission of Quebec in 1878, was assumed and completed by this department in 1889:—

	Feet.
Length.....	445
Width at coping level.....	100
do bottom.....	73
do entrance.....	62
Depth of water on sill at high water ordinary spring tides.	26½
do        do        do        neap tides.....	20½