

Mr. GRAHAM. I think there will be no decrease in manual power. The benefit will result in improved lighting and operation, but we must continue to have two men night and day at each lock gate, one on each side.

Mr. LANCASTER. To make it clear, I would say that the canal has been lighted by electricity for several years so that is not included in the new vote, the electric operation of the gates is the only new feature this year.

Mr. GRAHAM. This is to complete payments on the whole system.

To remove centre piers and rebuild bridges at Queenston street and Homer road crossing, \$30,000.

Mr. GRAHAM. This is taking out a pier and making one wide passage instead of two narrow passages.

Mr. FOSTER. Will this complete it?

Mr. GRAHAM. No, a year ago there was an appropriation of \$70,000. This year we will spend only \$30,000 but it will take \$70,000 eventually, I think.

To make survey of the canal, \$15,000.

Mr. GRAHAM. This has been going on for some time. There was no complete survey or plan of the canal lands but it was necessary to have a plan showing the boundaries which should be properly marked. The survey was more extensive than it was thought it would be and more work had to be done. There are four parties at work. The survey had never been completed.

Mr. FOSTER. What has been spent on it so far?

Mr. GRAHAM. About \$27,000. The estimate for the whole work is about \$47,000.

Mr. HAGGART. How long have you been at it? Since about 1870 thirty years ago I think.

Mr. GRAHAM. This work has been going on about two years. With the old canal there is about seventy miles of length. You have to mark the boundaries and there are many questions of water power, &c., in reference to the old canal.

Mr. HAGGART. There was a vote for it in my time.

Mr. GERMAN. If there was a vote many years ago to do the work the money must have been uselessly expended because there was no delimitation of the boundary limits of the Welland canal that any one could discover and there was great difficulty continually between the owners of adjacent lands and the government officials in regard to the true boundaries of the land as they should and did exist. It was thought necessary to define exactly the true bound-

Mr. FOSTER.

dary lines along the whole government property and this is being done.

Mr. LANCASTER. I agree that there was that difficulty, but I do not think it is yet cured. Hardly a week goes by without somebody wanting to know where their land ends and the canal property begins. There are not fences or lines of demarcation that ought to be there.

Mr. FOSTER. Do I understand that this vote is simply to pay the cost of marking the boundary lines between the government property and individual private property on each side?

Mr. GRAHAM. That is a great part of the work.

Mr. FOSTER. Who is doing that work?

Mr. GRAHAM. It is being done under Mr. Weller, the chief engineer of the canal.

Mr. FOSTER. That canal is about 27 miles in length.

Mr. GRAHAM. The new canal and the old canal together are about 70 miles.

Mr. FOSTER. Does it require \$47,000 to run lines for 70 miles to show the boundaries between government property and private property? It seems a most expensive survey.

Mr. GRAHAM. It does seem expensive; but, as my hon. friend from Lincoln said, it is not simply a question of running a line; it is more difficult than that. The chief engineer says there is no time being lost in the work.

Mr. FOSTER. Does Mr. Weller employ outside engineers?

Mr. GRAHAM. Yes, he has a surveyor and a staff of several men under him.

Mr. BERGERON. There must be in the registry office certain papers showing the land that was transferred to the government when the canal was built, and from these there should be no difficulty in finding where the lines should run. I do not understand that parties of surveyors should be engaged for that purpose. Have these parties anything to do with finding out whether the old canal or the new canal should be deepened?

Mr. GRAHAM. I do not know what has been done in the last couple of years. I only know that I have asked Mr. Weller, in his work of marking out these lines, to get any information he can as he goes along.

Mr. FOSTER. It is almost incredible that such an amount of money as this could be spent in delimiting the boundaries of this canal. It is not a new country; we have been in possession of the land for a great