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can be moored alongside the new cross-wall. If that is the meaning of the sentence I am commenting on, I do not think this will satisfy the public mind to have a wet dock that will not accommodate more than two ships drawing 28 feet of water in any portion of it.

The sentence seems to have that meaning if we compare the letter in question with the report of Mr Boyd which is appended to it and which I have here. According to that report, there are only from ten to eleven feet of water alongside the Louise Embankment, which, with a 12 feet rise of the tide would give only 22 feet. I think all the calculations should be based on that tide as we ought not to make our calculations on the highest tide that occurs.

If we take a 12 feet tide as a basis, this would give, as I said before only 22 feet alongside that immense wall which is now constructed. I think every one must admit that 22 feet is entirely too little to accommodate the present shipping or the shipping which we expect to receive in that dock. They have now a channel between Quebec and Montreal for ships drawing 25 feet of water. We were some time ago invited to come down in the steamship *Peruvian*, when means were taken to show that there was that depth of water there, and as every one knows, the Harbour Commissioners of Montreal are taking steps to have the channel from Quebec to Montreal able to let ships go up drawing  $27\frac{1}{2}$  feet of water.

If we cannot accommodate ships of this draught when they can get it in Montreal, we might as well close up those works at once, as the ships will certainly not stop at Quebec, but go on to Montreal. I think it would be a waste of money to spend it on works that cannot accomodate such steamers.

There is the new wail which it is now proposed to build and