

rapidly as expected. During the past season the dredging of the Fly Bank Channel was resumed, and it is proposed to continue this work. Attached to the report of the Commissioners will be found a letter from Staff Commander Maxwell, of Her Majesty's Survey, in regard to the deposit of dredged material from the wet dock into the St. Lawrence, and also a report of the Harbour Master for the port of Quebec upon the same subject.

Attached to the report will also be found a report made by the solicitors of the Commissioners, in regard to the long existing restrictions to the loading and unloading of ships, caused by the action of the Quebec Ship Labourers' Benevolent Society. It will be seen by this report that while the Commissioners have not power by by-law or otherwise to regulate the cost of loading or unloading ships or regulating the rate of wages, the Commissioners have power to guarantee protection to ship masters and ship owners bringing vessels to their wharves, to hire persons to supervise the loading and unloading of vessels, and also power to engage as many persons as would be necessary for protection of their property, or of persons frequenting their wharves for business purposes from unlawful interference.

From the report of the Harbour Commissioners, Montreal, it appears that the receipts from all sources amounted to \$656,574.95, and the expenditure to \$531,789.93. The sum of \$254,507.05 was received from wharfage on goods and tonnage dues, and \$42,850.21 from local traffic, making the ordinary revenue \$297,357.26, showing an increase as compared with the previous year of \$16,210.74. The Commissioners state that the loss to harbour revenue from the coal vessels which discharged in the deep water basin of the Lachine Canal was about \$17,000. The sum of \$145,000 was received from the Dominion Government on account of new channel works, and \$172,000 from sale of harbour debentures. The sum of \$192,214.69 was expended on new channel operations, \$99,187.22 on Government interest account, \$115,730 as interest on debentures, \$207,000 for redemption of debentures, \$23,220.74 for harbour dredging, \$70,634 for harbour repairs, \$26,598.52 for harbour expenses management. From the Harbour Master's report it appears there has been an increase in the business of the harbour for the past year, the increase in sea-going traffic being 64 vessels and 61,074 tons, while the inland vessels show a decrease of 154 vessels and of 18,367 tons. The Commissioners report that upon the opening of the coming season of navigation they propose to proceed with the work of deepening the channel at Cap la Roche to 27½ feet at low water, for which a further grant of \$325,000 was made by Parliament at its last Session.

The report of the Harbour Commissioners for Three Rivers will be found in the Supplement, together with a comparative statement of the trade and navigation of the port. The receipts for harbour and tonnage dues, wharfage and moorage