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The stock of recovered anchors, chains, shackles, &c., unclaimed, was disposed of by tender. The results effected year by year are set forth in Appendix 10, pp. 52, 53.

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#### DEEPENING CHANNEL BETWEEN QUEBEC AND MONTREAL.

By Order in Council, 31st May, 1873, the Harbour Commissioners of Montreal are authorized to perform this work under the direct superintendence of the Department.

The original design was to increase the depth of 20 feet attained in 1865, to 22 feet at lowest water, the channel having a width of 300 feet.

During the season of 1878, work was carried on to attain a depth of 22 feet. On 18th November, 1878, a committee of investigation embarked on board the steamboat "John Young" with spars lashed to the depth of 23'.6". The vessel fitted to such depth passed as far as the Cap Levrard without meeting any obstruction. The 'Gauge' at Lake St. Peter indicating 12 feet, established the minimum depth as 22 feet at low water.

The Commissioners report that they are now continuing with all practicable despatch the deepening of the channel to 25 feet lowest water.

The work has been performed at Cap Charles, at Cap La Roche, at Cap Levrard, &c., at Champlain Point and village, at Fort St. Francis, at Lake St. Peter, at the Contrecoeur channel, Saint Mary, at Varennes, and at Pointe-aux-Trembles.

At Montreal Harbour, the main channel has been dredged to 25 feet. The total quantity of dredging done at all points during the fiscal year is 806,380 cubic yards. (Appendix 11, pages 56-59.)

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#### NEEBISH RAPIDS.

The Neebish Rapids are situated at the foot of Lake George, half way between Bruce Mines and Sault St. Mary, and extend over a length of 1,600 feet.

The design is to obtain a depth of 14 feet 6 inches on a width of 200 feet.

The deepening of the channel has been continued. (Appendix 5, page 39.)