

HARBOUR ENGINEER'S OFFICE.

QUEBEC, 31st December, 1887.

Sir,

I have the honor to submit, for the information of the Commissioners, the following with reference to the Harbour Works, &c, under any charge.

Harbour Works.

During the year which has passed a very large amount of dredging was executed in the Wet Basin, over the greater portion of the area of which a depth of 15 feet at low water has been attained; portions of the material excavated having been placed in the Louise Embankment and the Cross Wall.

A full depth of 25 feet at low water has been attained in the Wet Basin, except, in that part adjoining the Commissioners' Wharf on the western side, to utilize which it will be necessary to dredge to the depth stated, and to construct wharfing for the protection of the present wharf, which is founded on the original bottom.

Owing to an accident to the coffer-dam, which took place at the close of the working season in 1886, the whole of the summer of 1887 was spent in making good the damage done, and thus there was much delay in proceeding with the works in connection with the entrance through the Cross-Wall. The culverts have been completed, with the exception of setting the valves which have been supplied, under a contract, by Mr F. X. Drolet, of Quebec.

A commencement on the works of the South Wall, so called, was made in the portion between Leadenhall street and the Custom House Wharf, and a part of the wall and the outfall of the sewer, which is being built to intercept and carry off the City Sewage, was completed.

The gates are under way and will be ready to place in position as soon as the masonry in the entrance has been completed;—and, until they are placed, the coffer-dam cannot be removed, nor the Cross-Wall be completed.

Graving Dock.

I have to report that the works of the Graving Dock are in good order and condition, that they passed through the test of a "first winter" successfully; and that it is now known what