

## Public Accounts.

Q. There was a general conversation?—A. I am willing to take the responsibility. I am the one who suggested it.

Q. You are quite willing to take the responsibility. You are the one who suggested it, that some engineer should go over the work?—A. Yes.

Q. Did you make a suggestion of the gentleman? What gentleman did you recommend as a good man to go?—A. Mr. Roy, my colleague.

Q. Your partner?—A. He is not my partner.

Q. Did you recommend yourself, too?—A. Certainly, because I do not think they could have got a better man.

Q. So you had a meeting of the reform association in Montreal and you recommended to them that they should employ an engineer in the interests of the public, and then you also suggested that Mr. Roy should be a man to go, also the president of the reform club of Montreal should be another engineer. That is the fact?—A. Yes.

Q. The next thing happened you got a letter from the manager of the *Herald* asking you to accept this important situation?—A. Yes.

Q. You recommended yourself, too?—A. Yes.

Q. Was this work that you did gratis, or was it for consideration?—A. Have I got to answer that?

Q. Yes?—A. Well, we haven't been paid as yet.

A. Were you doing it as a voluntary work gratuitously or were you doing it for consideration?—A. I am very much afraid we have to do it for nothing.

Q. You will have your work charged to somebody?—A. In this work I have not made a charge for it.

Q. This is done in the interests of the reform party?—A. In the public interest.

Q. Have you any charge against any one for the work?—A. Not yet. No sir, I suppose that will be paid in a lump sum.

Q. Now, coming back to the timber matter, the timber question. I would like a little further explanation about that. Did you not say that there was no timber used for false works?—A. Yes, I think there must have been a great quantity. I know nothing of that.

Q. There was a great quantity but you cannot give any estimate?—A. No.

Q. Now, in false works wasn't there thousands and thousands of feet of platform work in the canal?—A. I tell you I know nothing about it whatever.

Q. Could it be got along without? Could the work be done without it?—A. I don't know, I wasn't there. I don't know anything about it.

Q. You came here as a professional man?—A. I have made my report and given my evidence. You are asking me questions outside my report.

Q. Have you any doubt at all that there were large platforms required to be constructed?—A. I saw photographs of those platforms.

Q. And thousands of feet of lumber were used in making platforms?—A. Yes.

Q. They would use up thousands and thousands of feet?—A. Yes.

Q. Are you aware that the cofferdams broke away a couple of times?—A. I have been informed they broke away.

Q. That would necessitate perhaps some more timber, would it not; some would be lost or destroyed and would require more fresh timber?—A. Yes.

Q. Then the temporary bridge, you made allowance for that all right. Wasn't there a great number of sheds required for the men to work under in the winter season, in the hard season of the year, were there not?—A. When I went over the ground the work was completed.

Q. As a matter of fact, were there?—A. I suppose it was necessary they should be there.

Q. Then that took up thousands of feet of material, didn't it too? That would take up thousands of feet too?—A. Yes, I suppose so. Yes, it is a case of supposing.

Q. Then there would be stuff for the roof?—A. Yes.

Q. And findings for those buildings and sheds. Now, all the stuff you have been able to give me any figures for is this 500,000 feet you have found actually in the works just now?—A. I made my estimate for the area. We went through the whole