

and natural facilities. A great deal of capital had been made out of this question of the site. The Hon. President of the Council told the citizens, at the local elections last summer, that the election of Mr. Shehyn would contribute to the prosperity of the city in this respect. The election also of the member for Quebec Centre was brought about by promises that this work, as well as the fortifications and other improvements, should be undertaken and carried out. But there were many strange things in the world of politics. On this question the hon. member for Charlevoix and the President of the Council agreed together, and the member for Lévis and himself were also in unity thereon. The engineers referred to reported that the graving dock would cost £20,000 sterling less to construct at Indian Cove than at Diamond Harbour, and he hoped this House and the Government would be convinced that the south side was preferable for the undertaking. Besides, at that point an Allan Line steamer had been detained two weeks in April, and a great deal of expense had been incurred in repairing the *Napoleon III.*, which was damaged badly by the ice. The surveys of the mouth of the St. Charles River were not satisfactory. He hoped the Government would take the necessary steps for the appointment of the new Commissioners as soon as possible. The last Harbour Trust expired on the first of January, and the people of Quebec were anxiously awaiting their appointment. There might, however, be difficulties in the way of the Government in this particular. Some persons might be anxious to see certain gentlemen appointed, but the Government ought to settle the matter as early as possible. The Government had stated that no new surveys were to be made, but it was desirable that the information moved for should be furnished, so that members might know what progress had been made towards getting the graving dock. He trusted the Government would consult with the President of the Council on this matter, one on which that gentleman was well informed and held sound views. He also hoped his hon.

Mr. BLANCHET.

friend from Lévis would give him a helping hand in inducing the Government to listen to these reasonable demands.

Mr. ROULEAU thought that the question should be treated without any display of favouritism to contending interests. The reports of the examining engineers had all been in favour of Point Lévis, where the dock could be built at the least cost by a considerable amount. He trusted that the Government would show their liberality in this respect by ceding the land required gratuitously; and he observed that the Point Lévis site had the additional advantage of being accessible later in the autumn and earlier in the spring than the other location. The Board of Trade had declared that this site was the best; and now that the North Shore Railway was to be built, and several other improvements to be made, particularly in favour of Quebec, he deemed it but just that Point Lévis should have some consideration and justice despite the powerful influence exercised by Quebec. He hoped that certain papers were in error in announcing that the dock would be located at Quebec; and also, like the hon. member for Bellechasse, he trusted that these announcements had only been published with the view of carrying elections.

Mr. FRECHETTE stated that when this delicate matter came before the House for the first time, he had thought proper to abstain from taking any part in the discussion, though the constituency he had the honour to represent was deeply interested in its fair settlement. In the general interests of the country and navigation, he had thought it bad policy to endeavour to embarrass the Government in this relation. He had full confidence in the Ministry, and he was certain that they would be inspired by a spirit of justice when they came to give their decision, so important to the country in general and to his district in particular. He did not believe that they would be more successful in their object if they abused the Ministers; conflicting interests were at stake, and if a decision had not yet been given, this was due to a certain extent to the action of those who never