

Mr. HAGGART. The item last year was "\$25,000, improvement of harbour, provided interested parties expend a sum of \$50,000." I have not heard that the hon. Minister has obtained the consent of the Governor General to change the amount, which is an increase, because the condition is struck out.

Mr. CHARLTON. The expenditure of \$50,000 was to be made for the purposes of the railway company, for building slips these being connected with the coal company's arrangement, which was entirely disassociated from the regular and legitimate work of improving the harbour for the admission of vessels. The two things were distinct. The object of the vote of \$25,000 is to make the harbour and construct piers and slips required to carry on that particular branch of business in the harbour.

The **MINISTER OF PUBLIC WORKS.** I do not think the point raised by the ex-Minister of Public Works is well taken.

Mr. HAGGART. How much money will be required to complete the work?

The **MINISTER OF PUBLIC WORKS.** I have not made up my mind in regard to the work. \$25,000 were in the Estimates last year, and I ask for that sum now. I am going to visit the place and see what can be done.

Mr. HAGGART. Will the hon. gentleman bring down the Governor General's consent to-morrow?

The **MINISTER OF PUBLIC WORKS.** If I want more money, I will bring down the Governor General's assent.

Mr. CLANCY. The hon. gentleman should be able to give us an idea as to what the expenditure will be in the future. This may be a very necessary work, but it is a very unusual proceeding to vote a certain amount simply because it has been promised before. The committee has a right to obtain some further information.

The **MINISTER OF PUBLIC WORKS.** All our plans have been changed. Parties interested were to spend \$50,000, and we were to contribute \$25,000 for certain harbour works. There are certain improvements to be made in order to obtain sufficient depth of water at the wharfs. Before undertaking the work I propose to have new plans prepared, and will give my best attention to the matter.

Mr. CLANCY. As the hon. gentleman is going to change his plans, possibly he may be able to cut down the amount required under the changed circumstances. It is all very well for the hon. gentleman to make promises, but the committee cannot be expected to pass money votes based on them. It is much to be regretted that while

the hon. gentleman admits that the plans will be changed, he is unable to state the probable expenditure. It is an unusual proceeding to ask votes of public money under the circumstances stated.

Mr. CHARLTON. I hope the hon. gentleman will not borrow trouble in regard to this matter. Here is a port on Lake Erie which requires to be improved. There is a new line there connected with two other lines of railway—

Mr. CLANCY. The point I was making was that the whole cost of the work should be stated. No one has raised any objection to the work proposed, which may be a very proper one. So the hon. gentleman will probably save time if he will not answer contentions which have not been put forward.

Mr. CHARLTON. It is estimated by parties interested that \$25,000 will be sufficient to open the port. Probably if any further sum is required, it will be a very moderate one.

Mr. HAGGART. The hon. gentleman will give us his promise on this work, as on the others, that it will be let by tender?

The **MINISTER OF PUBLIC WORKS.** There is no doubt about that.

Thornbury—Repairs to wharf..... \$1,000

Mr. WALLACE. I would like some explanation of this item?

The **MINISTER OF PUBLIC WORKS.** This amount is to complete the repairs of the wharf, which were commenced last year. We have all the material on hand.

Mr. WALLACE. Is some dredging required there?

The **MINISTER OF PUBLIC WORKS.** There is dredging required to give 12 feet of water.

Mr. HAGGART. This seems a small sum. Why do you not take sufficient to do the work properly?

The **MINISTER OF PUBLIC WORKS.** The engineers have reported this sum is sufficient.

Port Stanley, repairs to piers and dredging \$11,000

Mr. HAGGART. Give some explanation of that.

The **MINISTER OF PUBLIC WORKS.** This vote is required for the reconstruction of both entrance piers and dredging the entrance to the channel, and also in order to make a turning basin inside the harbour.

Mr. HAGGART. I hope the Minister will have this money spent and get the work done. It is the terminus of a railway and they are anxious to have it completed.