

statement as that. At Dalhousie the dredging was done in front of and beside the wharf of the Dalhousie Lumber Company of which the minister is a stockholder, while other work was neglected.

Mr. PUGSLEY. What other work was neglected?

Mr. CROCKET. The dredge was employed month after month in 1908 and in 1909 dredging at the wharf of the Dalhousie Lumber Company, while the dredging at the deep-water public wharf was neglected to the detriment of the public interest.

Mr. PUGSLEY. I just wish to tell my hon. friend—and if the hon. member for Restigouche (Mr. Reid) be here, he will corroborate me that no other work of equal or greater importance has been neglected. I know that the Dalhousie Lumber Company ships from fifteen to twenty five million feet of lumber every year. They have a large mill and employ quite a large number of people. I do happen to know that they have an enemy there, a man who tried to block their enterprise from the time they started, and who is allied politically to the hon. member for York. He is possibly the man from whom my hon. friend has been getting certain information, but I can assure the committee that it has never been brought to my notice that any dredging of any kind in the harbour was of more importance to the public interest generally than the dredging done since I have been Minister of Public Works.

Pointe du Chêne, New Brunswick—repairs to and stone slope along base of breakwater, \$3,000.

Mr. PUGSLEY. This is the point of connection between the railway and the island steamers. This is work which has to be done every year.

Mr. CROCKET. How much was spent last year?

Mr. PUGSLEY. I have reason to suppose that the whole \$5,000 has either already been spent or will be spent by the 31st March next. That is the estimate of the chief engineer.

Quaco harbour—part reconstruction and extension of east pier, \$15,000.

Mr. PUGSLEY. This includes reconstruction of the head block of the pier at the east side of the entrance, also an extension of the pier, and a further length of sixty feet of crib-work.

Mr. FOSTER. What will be the whole cost?

Mr. PUGSLEY. About \$50,000.

Mr. FOSTER. What is the business done there now?

Mr. CROCKET.

Mr. PUGSLEY. General business—lumber, fish, manufacturing, and this is required as a harbour of refuge.

Mr. CROCKET. Is the work under contract?

Mr. PUGSLEY. Yes, to Charleson and Burns of Ottawa. The amount of contract is \$32,900.

Mr. CROCKET. How much has been paid on account?

Mr. PUGSLEY. There was expended to the 31st September, 1909, \$25,633.

Richibucto Cape—breakwater wharf, \$5,000.

Mr. PUGSLEY. This is for building a breakwater about six miles above the mouth of the river. The breakwater is 375 feet long, of which 225 feet is 15 feet wide and 150 feet is 20 feet wide; pier head 200 feet long on the inside face, and 30 feet long. The inside face is 25 feet in width. Crib-work estimated 220,000 cubic feet. Cost \$17,600 when completed. Total estimated cost with contingencies \$20,000. The expenditure last year was \$9,080, we expect to spend this fiscal year \$5,000, and are asking \$5,000 more, making a total of \$19,118.

Mr. FOSTER. What public purpose will this work serve?

Mr. PUGSLEY. It will afford safe anchorage and give a landing place at a point nearest to a very valuable fishing ground. It will be the best harbour of refuge in that vicinity. It is also the centre of a good farming country. The yearly catch of lobsters is about \$15,000 to \$16,000 and herring about \$12,000. There are forty-one boats engaged in the fishing industry, and they require a harbour of refuge.

Mr. CROCKET. Was not the work done last year, completely washed away?

Mr. PUGSLEY. I have no intimation to that effect.

Mr. CROCKET. My information is that the whole work done last year was completely washed away by a storm, and furthermore that the work done the year before was washed away last year.

Mr. PUGSLEY. The hon. gentleman is misinformed entirely.

Mr. CROCKET. I have a letter to that effect. The work of last year was completely destroyed by a storm, and every year's work is regularly swept away the following year, so that this expenditure is simply a waste of public money. This letter was written very shortly after the storm occurred. If the department wants to construct something, it would do better to