

By Mr. Geoffrion:

Q. Are you able to explain now to the Committee whether these first tenders were opened or not?—A. I cannot tell you, Sir, I was not Secretary at the time and I do not know anything about it.

Q. Have you ascertained whether you have these tenders which were then before the Board of Harbour Commissioners among the papers which you have brought up?—A. The only tenders I have seen are those which I have brought with me. I have not been able to examine them closely. They are there, so far as I can identify them.

Q. You say you have not seen the other set of tenders?—A. I have seen only one set of tenders.

Q. Which you have brought here?—A. Yes; but I do not know whether they are the first or the second set.

Q. Have you any entries in your minutes, or in any papers in your possession that would show where those tenders would be now?—A. Not that I have seen.

Q. You have not seen any?—A. There is nothing in the minutes, or anything on record that I have gone through.

Q. You were not acting Secretary-Treasurer then?—A. No Sir.

Q. You have not seen any record or entry in the minutes to explain where they are?—A. No. It might be possible for it to be there and I might not know it. The examination which I made was pretty quick.

Q. Do you know, or can you ascertain by the records in your possession, whether a new contract was entered into by the Quebec Harbour Commissioners in connection with the dredging of the harbour some time in 1887?—A. Yes, Sir, there was.

Sir JOHN THOMPSON—Is the contract put in as an exhibit?

(Contract with Larkin Connolly & Co. for the building of the Lévis Graving Dock and supplemental contract for completion of the Graving Dock filed as Exhibit A.)

By Mr. Geoffrion:

Q. Will you ascertain whether any tenders were called for that contract in 1887?—A. There were no tenders called. I would prefer to get the minute book and then I could read the entry.

Q. What entry do you find in connection with that contract in the minutes?—A. I find the following in the minute of 10th May, 1887:

“Read a letter from Mr. Henry F. Perley, Chief Engineer of the Quebec Harbour Works, transmitting a copy of a correspondence exchanged between himself and the contractors, Larkin, Connolly & Co., in relation to the dredging to be done in the wet dock, harbour works, a portion of which he states it is desirable should be done during the ensuing summer, and recommending that the offer of Messrs. Larkin, Connolly & Co. to do the work at thirty-five cents per yard be accepted, as he considers their price to be fair and reasonable, and suggesting that the expenditure in dredging during the year be limited to \$100,000.”

At the same meeting the following minute was made:

“*Resolved*, That a contract be signed with Messrs. Larkin, Connolly & Co., agreeably with their tender, for dredging the basin of the new harbour works; provided, first, that the dredged material be placed and levelled on the Louise Embankment or on such other locality belonging to the Harbour Commissioners or that may hereafter be acquired by the Commissioners; second, that the actual contract be confined to work this summer limited to an expenditure of \$100,000; third, that after the conclusion of this season the Harbour Commissioners are to have the power to cancel this contract without claim for damages of any kind or compensation whatever, the price in tender for dredging being thirty-five cents per cubic yard.”

Q. I see the resolution of the board was that this work at 35 cents was to be continued that summer?—A. Yes.