

which has also been certified to as having been received from Calixte Bastien like the former lots, and paid for at the rate of $16\frac{1}{2}$ cents per cubic foot amounting to \$15,438.40.

These several amounts when added together totals up to the very large sum of \$65,662.53.

Now, besides this discrepancy above shown, I wish to point out the fact that of the 216,448 cubic feet actually used in the boundary wall and construction works, at St. Vincent de Paul Penitentiary, the greater portion of the stone used therein has evidently been taken from the top or upper beds, usually known as quarry stripping, while about 75 per cent is flagging of from 6 to 10 inches in thickness, having irregular, defective beds, bad streaks or veins, and what is known as loose dries, to a very great extent rendering the material in question absolutely unfit for such work.

Notwithstanding that this defective and unsound stone was not of sufficient thickness to admit of its being dressed and set in the wall on its natural bed, as it should have been, it was dressed and set in the walls on its edge, as indicated on cross section and part elevation plans, which I prepared and annexed to the several bills of quantities supplied you.

I once again refer to the progress and final estimates, passed, which show that dimension stone in blocks were delivered as therein stated.

To show you how onerous were those progress and final estimates, I give on page 16 a detailed statement, giving the lengths, and showing the promiscuousness of the stone supplied.

Now by referring to the tenders received on the 4th August, 1893, and the report of the Honourable the Minister of Public Works on the 17th of January, 1894, to be found in the official file, marked "U" of the Department of Justice, it will be seen that tenders have been received for the supply of stone required for construction of boundary wall of St. Vincent de Paul Penitentiary.

That the stone required (120,000 feet) to be limestone in blocks, and (30,000) limestone for flagging.

It appears that Joseph Papineau, and Calixte Bastien tendered, the former at $16\frac{1}{2}$ cents for blocks, and $1\frac{1}{2}$ cents for flagging, while Mr. Bastien's tender is 17 cents for blocks, and 1 cent for flagging.

The contract appears to have been let to Calixte Bastien on the report of the Hon. the Minister of Public Works on the 19th January, 1894.

That although Mr. Bastien's price for the 30,000 feet of flagging stone said to have been required for construction of the boundary wall, was only one cent per foot, it is worthy of notice that not one foot of flagging appears to have been received, and passed by the officer in charge as such, nor does it appear that any works were in contemplation requiring such stone.

It is clear to me that not only this 30,000 feet of flagging, but an additional quantity of material sufficient to make up fully 75 per cent of the whole work has been received and used, not as flagging, but as dimension stone, and certified and paid for under that head.

WASTE OF MATERIAL.

In taking the quantities supplied you I have made allowance for all reasonable waste in stonecutting dressed to dimension sizes for such work as this. Had the stone supplied been dimension stone in blocks, as certified to by the officer in charge; and had it been cut to dimension sizes, then something more should be allowed for waste because of the fact that the stone was cut by convicts, who would be more liable to break it while dressing it to a particular dimension, thereby requiring it to be reduced to a smaller dimension, which would cause more than the ordinary waste in such work.

The facts, however, are, the stone was not supplied as certified to by the officer in charge, nor has it been cut to dimension sizes. Fully 90 per cent has been cut in promiscuous lengths, the dimensions and character of which I have already described.

There are places where 3 or 4 small stones with small filling between are substituted in place of one proper sized dimension block; and while this was being done the officer