

## Department of Public Works.

The departmental dredge "Ontario" operated in this harbour between the 3rd September and 6th October, 1892, on a shoal between the piers, making two cuts 800 and 490 feet in length respectively, 50 feet wide over all, giving a depth of 12 feet at low water. A turning basin was also made in the harbour with a depth of 11 feet.

Work was resumed on 6th May, 1893, on a shoal outside of the piers and in the harbour, the depth of water obtained being 12 feet, and up to the close of the fiscal year 33,420 cubic yards of clay, sand and mud were removed.

### DREDGING IN THE RIVER DETROIT.

The River Detroit connects Lake St. Clair with Lake Erie, emptying into the latter a little below the town of Amherstburg, and 18 miles below the city of Detroit. It is an important water-way, the whole of the shipping from the upper lakes making use of it.

On the 23rd July, 1892, the dredge "Ontario" was taken to Anderdon, and on the 25th it commenced dredging alongside of the docks and out to the main channel, making two cuts 660 feet long, 45 feet wide, and one cut 190 feet long, 25 feet wide, all to a depth of 12 feet. The work closed on the 25th August, and resulted in the removal of 7,520 cubic yards of clay, 3,860 cubic yards of clay and stone and 560 cubic yards of boulders.

On the 25th August, the plant was taken to Amherstburg and worked for one day in front of the coal dock, taking out 240 cubic yards of clay.

Work at Amherstburg was resumed on the 13th October in front of the docks, and continued until the 10th December, when work closed for the season, the quantity of material removed being 13,710 cubic yards of clay, boulders and gravel. Two cuts, 1,075 feet in length each, two of 700 and one of 195 feet (all adjoining), were made. These cuts are 23 feet wide each and 16 feet deep at low water.

On the 28th April, 1893, the plant resumed operations at Amherstburg, levelling off the ridges in several of the cuts made the previous season, 660 cubic yards of clay being removed.

The work done at this place has proved of great utility to the large number of steamers, both Canadian and foreign, that make Amherstburg a coaling station. Further work is, however, required at points in the neighbourhood to give safe navigation to the deep draught vessels which pass up and down in large numbers.

### DREDGING IN THE RIVER SAUGEEEN.

The Saugeen River empties into Lake Huron at the village of Southampton, 143 miles above Sarnia. The mouth of this river forms a small harbour much used by fishermen and small craft.

The water at the mouth being shoal, to make it safe for the entry of fishing boats a dredge was put to work on the 22nd August. It worked for 72 hours and removed 2,250 cubic yards of clay and stones at a cost of \$576.

### DREDGING AT THORNBURY.

Thornbury is situated on the west side of Georgian Bay at the mouth of the Beaver River in the county of Grey, 13 miles west of Collingwood.

Between the 2nd August and the 21st October, 1892, the dredge "Challenge" was working at this place. Operations were commenced at the entrance of the harbour, 3 cuts 300 feet in length being made, leaving a channel 100 feet wide and 14 feet deep at low water. Four cuts were also made between the piers 275 feet in length each, with a total width of 100 feet, to a depth of 14 feet at low water. The ground for new piling in the inner portion of the harbour was prepared.

The following quantities of materials were removed during the period above named, viz., 2,190 cubic yards of hard-pan, 2,160 of gravel and 4,590 of sand, or a total of 8,940 cubic yards.