

another and deal with them, but I may here say a few words about this man Mossop who has been accused of giving me the information that has led to this investigation. You can readily understand how bitter these people are against Mr. Mossop. They have tried to destroy his character. If you believe the evidence of these self-interested parties you will say that he is a very bad man; but those who worked with Mossop speak very differently of him. However, that has nothing to do with the question. If Mossop was the worst man in this country, that does not excuse the mismanagement on the canal; and I may say further, that Mossop is to-day out of this country, trying to earn bread for his family, while the men who have mismanaged the canal are living on the public money.

I shall deal with these charges *seriatim*.

As to the first charge, I might say that I have paid but little attention to it; but there is one thing I have proved, and that is that the lock tenders were not thieves before Mr. Ellis came to manage the canal, as was stated by him in his letter to the Department, dated 6th April, 1889. The statement made by me, from my place in the Senate, as to the expenditure for fuel on the Welland Canal, is correct. If you will look through the Public Accounts and Sessional Papers of this country you will find that it costs as much (if not more) to furnish fuel for the Welland Canal as for all the other canals in the Dominion. And if you will take the trouble to do so, you will certainly come to the conclusion that we have a cold climate in the Niagara district. George Longlet, teamster, St. Catharines (see page 1542 of the report), says that:

“One-half a load of coal was delivered in the cellar under the lock house, at the north end of the house—that is Demare’s cellar. I was teaming for McCordick. There was coal in the bin where I put it.”

Now, if it had been a full load I should not have been able to prove anything. I had not time to follow it up. I gave as much time to the public in that investigation as I could afford, and that is why I was so anxious at St. Catharines that morning to close up the matter. I did not want to have to come here and trespass on the time of this House again, as I am now doing; but no other course is left to me, since the publication and distribution of Mr. Rykert’s pamphlet. It is alleged that the cellar of that house at Port

Dalhousie was built on a swamp. To my knowledge that house had been built on a rock foundation forty years before. I will touch on this question again before I get through. It was very convenient for these people, as you will see from the evidence, to find a swamp in the cellar when they wanted to cover up a job. The second charge is the expenditure of a large amount of money without authority from Parliament. I shall refer first to the construction of a bridge over Shiner’s Creek, at a cost of over \$1,000. This expenditure took place after I had called attention to the mismanagement of the canal. It took place without a report in its favor from the Chief Engineer, and without the knowledge of the Government. If Mr. Ellis had any self-respect he would resign his position, in view of the snubs he has received from the Department from time to time; but he hangs on like a burr, and he will not drop off until he is scraped off. Another work on which Government money was expended without authority was the building of the spoke factory bridge. The particulars of it will be found at page 533 of the evidence. The expenditure on that bridge for cement was \$84, and for stone \$91. I do not know how much labor was employed on it. I would refer you to the evidence of Steven Beatty, at pages 534 and 535 of the evidence. He shows it to be a township bridge. At page 754 of the evidence Mr. James McCoppen, president of the Stone Road Company, says that the Government had always refused to build or repair the bridge over Shiner’s Creek, the same place where Mr. Ellis built an expensive bridge without the least authority. This was done in April last. I want to impress that on your minds, because the Government took him to task and asked him why he was spending so much money. He never said a word about it, and when I questioned him before the commissioner as to whether he had reported to the Government what he was doing, he replied: “No; I did not think they would expect it.” I then asked him had he any authority for building it, and he replied that he had not. The Government at the same time asked him for an explanation. Now, what was his reason for hiding it from the Government? I do not know as a fact, and I will not give rumors. Mr. Page, the Chief Engineer, at page 1394 of