

The Council has noted with great satisfaction the steady and uninterrupted progress of the work on the guard pier during the past season, and it congratulates the Harbour Commissioners upon the successful operation of the plant devised for the construction of that pier by its Chief Engineer.

The annual report of the Board's representative on the Harbour Commissioners is as follows:—

MONTREAL, January 12th, 1895.

To the President and Council of the Montreal Board of Trade.

GENTLEMEN,—My report of the Harbour Works of last year noted the hindrance of the work upon the Guard Pier, arising from defects in the appliances that had been prepared for its construction.

I am pleased to be able to report that the floating and land derricks referred to, were altered and thoroughly strengthened before the opening of navigation, and have worked to the satisfaction of the Commissioners during the season.

The lower section of the Pier has been widened to the full extent contemplated. The extension and raising of the upper section within 7 feet of contemplated elevation has been carried to within 3590 feet of the Victoria Bridge. Half the length of the Pier is now completed to within 7 feet of its full height.

The material for the Pier has been obtained from the following sources:—

79,000 yards shale and trap rock from Windmill Point Basin.

About 14,000 cubic yards from City excavations.

From dredging upon Island shoal for Harbour enlargement.

From the cutting away of a portion of the Molsons Shoal for the purpose of widening ship channel.

The construction of the western pier at Hochelaga, indicated on Plan No. 6, was commenced early in May, and by the close of navigation about 735 linear feet of the crib-work of the upper side had been put in place, and brought up to about 3 feet above low water, filled and thoroughly backed as a protection against winter ice and currents.

For the more efficient carrying forward of the work and Harbour improvements, the Commissioners decided upon the construction of an additional powerful dredge. Contract was awarded Messrs. Carrière, Lane & Co., of Quebec, and the dredge delivered in sufficient time to thoroughly test her working capacity (which proved satisfactory) before the close of navigation.

In common with all competitive points of shipment on this continent, the trade of the Port has suffered a decrease as compared with the previous year, but no change has taken place in the general tenor of the trade to cause any doubt of the wise policy adopted by the Commissioners and sanctioned by the Government, of carrying forward the improvements in the Harbour, on which steady progress is being made.

The revenue of the Port for 1894 was \$272,136.18, fourteen per cent. less than the previous year.

HUGH McLENNAN.

Harbour Commissioner representing Board of Trade.