

clique.' (See page 11, 2nd column, *Hansard*—bottom.)

"14th. The Superintendent increased his favorite's salary (Demare's) without authority by \$300 per year, when he was getting enough already, giving as his excuse that Demare had been promised an increase by the Chief Engineer, which the Chief Engineer, he says, denies. (See pages 11 and 12, *Hansard*, bottom of 11th, top of 12th.)

"15th. That he allowed water to flow into the canal from Lake Erie in January last, though he had plenty of men to prevent it, causing an estimated damage of \$25,000, as stated by the Chief Engineer. (See page 12, 1st column, *Hansard*, bottom.)

"16th. That Mossip could not get work, while less deserving were receiving employment every day. (See page 12, 1st column, *Hansard*, middle.)"

Of these charges, the 10th is the only one that I have not proven. I have not touched it, and you can readily understand why. You can appreciate the feelings that guided me in this matter. I did not want that any one should suffer for giving me information; I did not desire that any man's family should want for bread. During that investigation men came to me and begged of me not to call them, because if I did so they would be discharged—not only men employed on the canal, but men working for people who were receiving favors from Mr. Ellis. Therefore, I did not touch that charge, and if I had to go through the same thing again I should act in precisely the same way. I did not want to injure any one, and besides, I consider there was sufficient proof elicited during the investigation to render a dismissal of Mr. Ellis and his deputy necessary in the public interest. You cannot imagine the difficulty I had in getting evidence. Just think of it! Here was John Charles Rykert, member for the County of Lincoln, a leading lawyer and Queen's Counsel, and he had appointed pretty nearly all the men in that section of the Welland Canal. I had him, with all his ability and influence, against me. There were Mr. Ellis and his deputy, who had control of most of the men who came to give evidence, and they had to be dragged like cats by the tail to get them before the commissioner. On the other side there was only the poor individual who is now addressing you. When I first went to St. Catharines you would think I was a leper. Nobody would speak to me; there were spies employed to report the names of those who would call on me, and boasts were made that I would be driven out of St. Catharines in twenty-four hours; but I did not run. On the 14th charge I may as well say a few words here. This question of increas-

ing Mr. Demare's salary is an important one. The reason given for doing so was that he would not remain in the employ of the Government unless his salary was increased. If you look at Mr. Rykert's pamphlet you will see that he asserts that Mr. Page swore that the increase of salary to Mr. Demare was settled by an Order in Council, but that pamphlet contains anything but the truth. I do not wish to blame the Government; I did not do so; but so far as I can learn this additional \$300 has been given to Mr. Demare without any authority—no Order in Council has ever been passed sanctioning the increase. Mr. Demare had been getting \$900 a year, a house, rent free, and an allowance of \$100 a year for a horse, although his work did not extend over five or six miles. I said then that it looked to me as though he was getting pickings, and before I get through I will endeavor to show what the pickings were. Although he goes into the witness box and swears that he did not get any, three of his friends swore that he did, and I think their evidence will be believed against his, when he is a witness in his own interest.

Another charge that is proven beyond doubt, on the evidence of Mr. Page, is that Mr. Ellis allowed the waters of Lake Erie to flood the canal when he had plenty of men to prevent it, and through his negligence caused a loss of \$25,000 to the country last winter. You may say that was only a blunder, or the result of forgetfulness. I would be just as willing as any one to forgive a man for such an accident, if he was all right otherwise; but when his mismanagement is apparent everywhere along the canal, and when everything is turned to his own interest, he cannot be excused for allowing such a disaster to take place. I have taken a great interest in the Welland Canal. I was one of the first men of the country to urge on the Government the enlargement of the canal and I wanted to see it well managed. Instead of being well managed it has been managed extravagantly. I could show the Government where they could save tens of thousands of dollars. I have no doubt that the Government will yet dismiss these men who are guilty of mismanagement from the public service, but they are slow about it, and an attempt is being made to let them down easy. I intend to take up these charges one after