

of Digby, barrister at law, of the other part.

Whereas, at a public meeting of the ratepayers of the said town of Digby held at the said town of Digby on the 24th day of November A.D., 1902, the said ratepayers of the said town of Digby, authorized the town council of the said town of Digby to expend a sum not exceeding five thousand dollars for the purpose of securing improved wharf accommodation at the port of Digby.

And whereas, it is necessary that the government wharf at the said port of Digby be widened to enable another railway track to be laid down thereon, and that an extension be built to the said, to a length of two hundred and fifty feet, and that the harbour at the ends and sides of the said wharf so extended be dredged to a depth of at least twenty-five feet to enable large ocean steamers to lie at the said wharf.

Now this indenture witnesseth, that the said Albert J. S. Copp in consideration of the payment to him hereinafter mentioned, hereby agrees with the said town of Digby to undertake to secure—

(a.) The widening of the government wharf at the said port of Digby to such a width that a second railway track may be laid down thereon.

(b.) The erection of an ell, or extension of the said wharf at the outer side thereof, of at least two hundred and fifty feet in length.

(c.) The dredging of the harbour of the said port of Digby at the sides and end of the said wharf to a depth of at least twenty-five feet, and also to agree to pay and discharge all costs and expenses that may be incurred by the said Albert J. S. Copp in securing or endeavouring to secure the said improved wharf accommodations.

(d.) In consideration of the above undertaking the said town of Digby hereby promises and agrees with the said Albert J. S. Copp to pay him, the said Albert J. S. Copp, the sum of five hundred dollars on the execution and delivery of this agreement, and the further sum of four thousand five hundred dollars when the said wharf shall be widened and a second railway track laid down thereon; the said extension of the said wharf of at least two hundred and fifty feet built and the harbour about the ends and sides of the said wharf dredged to a depth of at least twenty-five feet, so that ocean steamers may be able to come to and lie at the side of the said wharf.

In witness whereof the Mayor and Town Clerk of the said town of Digby have hereunto their hands and the corporate seal of the said town of Digby subscribed and set and the said Albert J. S. Copp has hereunto his hand and seal subscribed and set the day and year first above mentioned.

Signed Sealed and Delivered
in the presence of
(Sgd.) W. W. Hayden,
Seal of the Town of Digby.
(L. S.)

(Sgd.) Orbin Sproule,
Mayor.

(Sgd.) C. Jamieson (L.S.)
Town Clerk.

(Sgd.) Albert J. S. Copp.

That, Mr. Speaker, is the contract referred to in the resolution of the town council of Digby. Now, we want the government to tell the people of Canada what they are going to do in regard to such matters when

their attention is drawn to them. Do they want the people of this country to understand that in order to get public works constructed in a town, it is a legitimate and proper thing to pay some member of parliament for his influence? I wish the Minister of Justice were in the House at this moment, because this is a matter that he ought to take notice of. The Prime Minister may not have known about it until it was brought forward yesterday by the hon. member for East Simcoe (Mr. Bennett). I do not know whether the Prime Minister was here at the time or not, but I know that the Minister of Justice was here, and I am sorry he is not here now, because in him is reposed especially the guardianship of the honour of this country in such matters. I have no doubt that the Prime Minister will communicate this matter to him, for, notwithstanding the silence that has prevailed on the part of the government since the hon. member for East Simcoe brought it to the attention of the House, I must believe that the government will take some notice of it. If they do not the people of this country will be justified in drawing the inference that the government, knowing that these things are going on, expect them to go on, and do not think there is any harm in them. Where will this country be if instead of devoting the public money to the needs of the country and the requirements of different localities, it is to be used in such a way as to enable everybody to earn \$5,000 by getting a wharf at a certain place? \$5,000 would build quite a pier at some one of the ports in the province of Ontario where we cannot get any now. For instance, it would so improve Jordan harbour in my county as to assist the fruit-growers very materially in shipping their fruit across the lake. If the government do not take hold of these matters the people will understand that the government intend the public money to be expended, not on its merits, but according to the pull which some one may have to get it, and that the man who has the pull, whoever he may be, is justified in charging a price for this assistance. The people of Canada, I believe, are superior in political morals to the people of the Republic to the south of us. I am not so antagonistic to the United States as to be unwilling to imitate them in anything that is good; but we do not want to borrow their bad habits. In this parliament of Canada, although we are not a church or a Sunday school, we have a right to guard the political morals of this country and to give the people to understand that we do not think these doings are right. If the government think they are right, let it be so understood, so that the people at the next elections may mark their ballots accordingly. I do not know any of the members of the town council of Digby, but they are Canadians and I presume they are sensible men; and they coolly allot-