

of my cheque of \$25,000. Mr. Connolly may erase his name from the back of the cheque.

“Respectfully yours,
“O. E. MURPHY.”

There is a letter here from Messrs. Connolly asking for the return of their cheque, and I think there may be another letter or two about the matter. The cheques were ordered to be returned by the board, but we retained this particular \$25,000 cheque on account of a dispute between the parties as to ownership, by order of our lawyer.

The letter is as follows :

(Exhibit “O.”)

“QUEBEC, 31st March, 1890.

“JAMES WOODS, Esq., Acting Secretary-Treasurer,
“Harbour Commission, City.

“DEAR SIR,—Would you kindly inform the Board of Commissioners that inasmuch as the different contracts we have had under construction are nominally completed, we would wish to have the cheques you hold as security returned as soon as possible.

“Very truly yours,

“LARKIN, CONNOLLY & CO.,
“per M. P. CONNOLLY.

“(L. C. & Co., \$35,500. O. E. M., \$25,000.—Total, \$60,500.)”

On page 621 of letter book of 1891, was entered the following reply :

(Exhibit “P.”)

“QUEBEC, 23rd February, 1891.

“O. E. MURPHY, Esq.

“SIR,—In reply to yours *re* return of security cheque for south wall, I am directed to inform you that if you sign enclosed letter, the cheque in question will be destroyed by the Commissioners, both parties interested being allowed to be present if they so desire. I may further say that Messrs. Larkin, Connolly & Co. agree to this and the Commissioners think it would obviate all the difficulty.

“I remain, yours respectfully,

“JAMES WOODS,
“Acting Sec.-Treasurer.”

By Mr. Dickey :

Q. Does that refer to the enclosure?

The CHAIRMAN—It does.

WITNESS—The enclosure simply authorizes the Commissioners to destroy the cheque.

Sir JOHN THOMPSON—It was to be signed, I suppose?

THE CHAIRMAN—Yes; it says if you sign the enclosed letter, the cheque will be destroyed.

By Mr. Geoffrion :

Q. In the letter of 1890 filed, as Exhibit “O,” there are figures in the corner in pencil. Can you explain these to the Committee?—A. I do not recollect what they refer to now.

By Mr. Henry :

Q. They are in your handwriting?—A. Yes, Sir.

By Mr. Geoffrion :

Q. Would they refer to two different cheques?—A. Possibly they may, but I could not say positively.