

Georgian Bay  
Branch—  
Contract No. 37.

13908. Has the claim been acceded to, or do you know whether they have refused to entertain it?—I do not think they have acceded or refused. I have had several talks with Sir Charles Tupper, and he has always stated that he was willing to do what is right in the matter, although we have never been able to arrive at what that would be.

13909. Have you a personal knowledge of what was done and of the foundation of this claim, or is it from persons whom you employed that you got this information?—I have a personal knowledge from my books, and from being on the work part of the time myself; but from my books. We have cash vouchers for all the money, and also from furnishing the money. There has been many bills paid since I have looked at the books, but the last time that I remember we had paid over \$100,000—considerably over \$100,000—in money, that we have cash vouchers for. Paid over \$100,000 on work.

13910. I understand that your claim is composed of two branches: one for actual outlay and loss, and another for contemplated profits, if the rest of the work had been done?—That is the fact. Claim bifurcated: (1) actual outlay and loss; (2) contemplated profits.

13911. But you have not furnished particulars of these different items?—The Government have never been ready to receive them that way. I do not know but they were ever placed in your hands, Mr. Macdougall (turning to Hon. William Macdougall, who was sitting behind him).

13912. As to the branch for the outlay, can you say in round numbers the amount which you have actually expended, and which will be lost to you in consequence of the suspension of the work?—I could not state the exact amount, but I can state positively that it exceeds \$100,000—I am speaking of the outlay we have made—the loss we have actually sustained.

13913. I am asking for the outlay alone, not speaking of the contemplated profits?—It is over \$100,000. Outlay over \$100,000.

13914. It may be literally within the scope of our enquiry to hear evidence upon this subject, but I have a grave doubt whether we should finally pass upon it, and while we have no objection to receive evidence, we wish to say that for the present we do not feel authorized to give any conclusive report on such a claim even if we heard much fuller evidence than you have offered to day: taking that into consideration, do you wish to go further into the particulars or substance of your claim in this matter?—Nothing further than to say that we have cash vouchers for all the money that we have expended. We can show besides a voucher for each and every dollar that we have expended.

13915. If it should be hereafter decided by the Governor General that claims of this kind ought to be finally investigated by us, we will have to give parties further notice, in order that both sides may be represented, and witnesses examined and cross-examined from the interest of the different parties; so that if it should happen that we ever take up the claim with the view of deciding it, you will get further notice on the subject. When you speak of \$100,000, do you mean that it is the balance unsettled—that you have received nothing on account of that \$100,000?—We have got nothing on account of that \$100,000.

13916. You consider that you have a claim for that amount expended?—Over that amount. I could not say exactly the amount, but