

(APPENDIX P.) *See Journal, page 61.*

The Commissioners have thought it their duty to analyze said Reports, and to accompany them with the Estimate upon which the work was originally undertaken, and also with a statement of their opinion (in an adjoining column) as to the prices which ought to be allowed, which, although much below those of Mr. Barrett, they yet conceive to be most liberal, and much greater than originally estimated for, the result of which is, that Mr. Barrett's estimate of work done amounts to £12,131 9s 5d—the Commissioners to £8,339 12s 5d.—making a difference of £3,791 17s 0d.—The work to be done he estimates at £3,044 6s 3½d.—They at £2,172 2s 2½d—the difference being £872 4s 1d.—Both £4,664 1s 1d. From these estimates it will appear that the work done in the opinion of the Commissioners amounts to, . . . £8,339 12 5
The work to be done, 2,172 2 2½
Add for Draw-bridge (estimated by Mr. Hall,) 296 16 4½

	Making,	£10,808 11 0
From which deduct the sum already granted,		* 8,000 0 0
		£2,808 11 0

Leaves to be provided for, the sum of £2,808 11s. 0d. Province Currency ; besides which has to be added the sums required to pile the Cut through the Beach ; on the north side of which a small part only is done ; for building a Light House ; paying an Engineer, and Superintendant, and other contingent expenses. The Commissioners in submitting those estimates for your Excellency's consideration think it their duty at the same time to state, that they have in their hands, of the sum originally

granted for constructing the Canal, the sum of,	£675 0 0
Loaned to Contractors on securities,	1,640 0 0
	£2,315 0 0

Making together the sum of £2,315 0 0, Province Currency, which is nearly equal to finishing the work agreeable to the foregoing estimates, were the Contractors held rigidly to their original undertaking ;—but the Commissioners feel convinced that it has to them been a losing one, one which no person had formed a just conception of at its commencement, nor of the difficulties and losses which they had to encounter, and which, if done at the original price, must prove, not only their own ruin, but that of their securities, and many other individuals who have advanced necessities of all kinds in furtherance of the work, on the faith that the Legislature, when a fair estimate was laid before them of the actual cost incurred, would generously step in and afford relief, by granting such an additional sum of money as to them might seem just.

With a view to lay before the Legislature every information in their power, the Commissioners employed Mr. Barrett as before mentioned, the result of whose labours is before your Excellency, but as they considered that he had included what he deemed a fair profit to the Contractors, and conceiving that such a profit they had no claim to, the Commissioners made their estimate with the sole view of relieving them from the loss which their original engagement subjected them to, and in which estimate of Mr. Barrett is included damages for loss while the work has been in progress, to the amount of £1,231 14s 7d, although the original contract placed all such risk and loss upon the Contractors.

From the foregoing it will appear to your Excellency that the sum of £2,808 11s 0d Province Currency will be necessary to complete the Canal ;† but as the Breakwater will also require additional works to ensure its safety, and without it vessels (in heavy weather) could not enter the Canal but with great risk, the Commissioners think, that for this object, and other unavoidable expenses, which may present themselves in course of the completion of the work, a sum equal to £5,000 will be required in addition to the £8,000 already granted. Should your Excellency approve of their opinion and of an application to the Legislature, they respectfully suggest, that for this additional sum an extension of time for its liquidation, by the tolls levied at the Canal, in proportion to that for the sum already borrowed, will be necessary. They also beg leave to suggest to your Excellency, that in any Bill which may be introduced for the purposes before mentioned, authority should be given the Commissioners to lease the fishery in the Canal, from year to year, the proceeds of the sale of which to form part of the fund for liquidating the debt ; and was your Excellency pleased to authorize the Commissioners also to lease the land on each side of the Canal through the Beach for building lots for a term of years, an additional sum might be secured for the same object.

It is conceived that by the present Acts no authority is given to the Collector to release from tonnage duty vessels which are but partly loaded, the injustice of which is manifest, and might materially interfere with the use of the Canal were they to pay for more tonnage than they have actually on board. It will also be necessary, if a Light House is erected, to authorize the Collector to levy dues for its maintenance, to be regulated by law.

The Commissioners are happy in submitting to your Excellency (which they do along with this report,) a statement of the present year's shipments at Burlington Bay, to observe that the estimate on which the Canal was originally undertaken has been fully supported, although the present year is considered one of un-

* £500 of this has been expended ; say £400 to Mr. Hall, and £100 to Mr. Kerby, for his superintendence and for other casual expenses.

† Together with the before mentioned Sum of £500.