

to his house; skilful and energetic in trying to get Lock-tender Bradley to make a false report against Lock-tender Millward; skilful and energetic in having his salary increased \$300 a year and no Order-in-Council to sanction the increase; skilful and energetic to assist Mr. Roger Miller to speculate in rubber boots to the injury of the country; skilful and energetic to get Government land farmed on shares for his benefit. Yes: this is a skilful and energetic man for his own benefit, but not for the public. The commissioner could not have read or considered the evidence when he was, as I consider, giving himself away to the Q.C., M.P., when addressing him on this point and many others. That, hon. gentlemen, is the most charitable construction that I can put on his replies to the Q.C., M.P., when arguing the case. Or, otherwise, did he think he had got the gag on Senator McCallum and that he could do what he liked, and there would be nothing more about it? In conclusion, I would say that I hope for the sake of my country that there is no other public work in the Dominion that is managed as the Welland Canal is, particularly in the matter of supplies and repairs under Mr. Ellis, Mr. Demare, Mr. Vanderburg, Storekeeper Waite, Overseer Dell and Broker Smith. Anyone that will look at the evidence taken at the investigation can see how that work is managed, although I am free to confess, and give it as my opinion, that the investigation has shown but little of the irregularities in the management and repairs of that important work. We use thousands of dollars worth of iron work on the canal every year, but there is no account kept of it, except what the blacksmith keeps, and of a little cast iron kept by Mr. Vanderburg in his scratch book. If hon. gentlemen will look at the Auditor-General's report and paylists for the last three years they will see that we have construction going on all the time—in fact, we have repairs going on, and called construction—and why is this? The only reason I can give for it is that the Engineer-in-Chief has no confidence in the Superintendent, and cannot trust him with any important repairs. Whether this state of affairs is in the interest of the country or not you can judge best. By reading the evidence you will see that from the actions of Mr. Roger Miller in the case of the construction of the pontoon, the repairs to over-

seer's house and the rubber boots, Mr. Page being there but little to look after them, they take advantage of his absence to advance their own interests to the injury of the country. It was hard to get at the facts. The commissioner looked on me as a litigant from the beginning to the close of the investigation, as any one can see by his ruling out of questions and his lectures to witnesses, even expressing himself that he did not see any harm in Mr. Ellis taking Lock-tender Bonnewell with him to the Lake Shore to rusticate and have a jamboree for twenty days when the country was paying Bonnewell \$47 per month. Mr. Ellis, in reply to my letter to the Department last Session, as you see by the *Debates*, says that Mr. Bonnewell paid the man in his place while he was away with him (Ellis); but Bonnewell swears that he did not pay any man in his place, and that the Government paid him (Bonnewell) for twenty days that he was away. He was cooking for Mr. Ellis, and he had another lock-tender helping him. I did not enquire who paid the other lock-tender: the country paid him, no doubt. Mr. Demare gives the Government scow "Sir John" to freight stone to Port Dalhousie for the rubber factory. The stone comes through the canal as Government stone, and pays no tolls—no let pass; and when asked if he charged for the scow or got paid, his answer was that he did not know. He also gives a Government scow to a lock-tender free of charge to freight stone, and the stone comes through the canal as Government stone—no let pass. He also gives steam pump, blocks and tackle, and jack screws for the use of the rubber factory free of charge—at least, there is no return of money collected. He gives diving armor and men free to some parties and in other cases he ties up vessels for refusing his demand until they pay his charges. He farms out lock-tenders to work at the foundation of the rubber factory for six weeks at a time, in order that they can make more money. These two lock-tenders were receiving \$47 each per month from the Government.

I said last Session, when requesting an investigation into canal management, that I considered Mr. Demare to be the cause of more trouble than any other man on the canal, and I think that the evidence taken at the investigation has proven what