

REPORT

OF THE

CHIEF ENGINEER OF PUBLIC WORKS

ON THE

BAIE VERTE CANAL.

(In No. 38,591.)

OTTAWA, 10th December, 1873.

THE SECRETARY OF PUBLIC WORKS.

SIR,

I duly received your letter, No. 19,415, together with an order of the Honorable the Privy Council, dated 9th May, 1873 (copy prefixed), directing an investigation to be made relative to the different projects recently submitted for a canal between the Bay of Fundy and the Gulf of St. Lawrence.

In carrying out these instructions, it may be premised, that for the past 50 years a project of this kind has been at intervals before the public, and has resulted in several instrumental surveys being made, and numerous reports descriptive of the respective localities prepared.

These explorations appear to have been chiefly carried on at the instance of, or directly through, the Government of New Brunswick, who naturally retained the documents connected with them, and subsequently (1868) handed over as many of them as could be collected, to the Dominion Government.

All the plans and reports thus received were sent to me, with instructions to examine them, so as to advise the best course to adopt, in order to comply with the import of an address passed by the Senate and House of Commons on the subject.

In May following, I submitted a brief summary of these reports, together with such remarks in relation to them as circumstances seemed to warrant; it is not therefore