

RECOMMENDATIONS BY THE COMMITTEE.

Your Committee are of opinion that the Council should adopt measures for carrying on *permanently* the work undertaken by them this year, and as every thing appertaining to streets and sewers properly comes within the jurisdiction of the Road Committee your Committee think that the machinery, plant and other materials now under charge of your Committee, should at once be handed over to the Road Committee so as to enable them to take steps for the protection of the present stations, and to perfect arrangements during the summer for next season's work. The special Committee could then be discharged from further obligations in connection with this matter.

The experience gained by your committee, in connection with these foregoing experiments, warrants them in recommending for the consideration of the Council:

1. That properly constructed flood gates be placed during next summer, at the mouth of all the main sewers, to answer the same purpose as the puddle did this spring, and the requisite pumping machinery erected in their vicinity, to empty the sewage into the river.

Care should be taken that one or two extra pumps should always be available in case of accident. Craig street tunnel emptying at the foot of Colborne Avenue would require, say, two No. 15 pumps having a discharging capacity each of 16,500 gallons per minute.

2. Commissioners street station, through which William street tunnel is discharged, should have an additional No. 12 pump, making four in all.

3. Forlar, Conway, Britannia and St Etienne street drains should all be connected with Mill street station, and two additional No. 12 pumps supplied, making four in all, as at Commissioners street.

The cost of these works is estimated by the City Surveyor's report (hereunto annexed) to be in the neighborhood of \$10,000. This amount could with great propriety be taken out of the drainage loan, inasmuch as the greater part of the work in question would in any event have to be done by the Road department at any early date.

SCHEMES SUGGESTED BY CITIZENS FOR REMEDYING THE EVIL.

Numerous plans or projects have been laid before your Committee respecting divers works in the bed of the river, which their respective advocates claim would tend to prevent, or at least greatly mitigate, the evils of inundation. Amongst these are:

1. The construction of piers or breakwaters across the foot of Lake St. Louis, Lake St. Francis, or other points above the Lachine Rapids. These piers, it is claimed,

would have the effect of preventing the ice breaking away in the fall, when the ice bridge is forming, and would also hold it later in the spring than at present. If these expectations were realized, the channel in front of and below the city, would be less likely to be choked in the fall, with the floating ice, which, during a thaw, comes down in great quantities from these two lakes, and would render it more likely that the ice in the Harbor and its vicinity would get away in the spring before the lake ice comes down. It is also claimed that the construction of these piers would be very beneficial to all the municipalities below Lachine, on both sides of the river. Your Committee deem this project to be one of great importance, meriting an early and earnest consideration at the hands of the Governments and the Council.

2. The removal of the old Railway wharf at St. Lambert's, and otherwise clearing as well as deepening the south Channel of the river from Victoria Bridge to Longueuil.

3. The straightening, deepening and widening of the ship channel, as far as Longue Pointe.

4. The removal or shortening of the Long wharf, which, it is claimed, projects unduly into the channel of the river.

5. The removal of Isle Ronde, and the clearing of the channels in the neighborhood of the Boucherville Islands.

6. The blowing up of the ice bridge, at different times and places during the spring months.

With regard to the above, your Committee have only to say that as they relate to matters beyond the jurisdiction of the Council, the river being entirely under the control of the Government, they would urge upon the Council to obtain a conference with the Government on the whole subject. The Committee hope that the projects above enumerated will be carefully considered by the Board of Engineers, which, it is understood, is now or shortly to be appointed.

FINAL RECOMMENDATIONS.

Your Committee are, however, of opinion that no time should be lost by the Council, in taking measures to secure:

1. The adoption of higher levels throughout the low-lying districts, of the City, which new levels should be gradually worked up, under the supervision of the Road Department, at the expense partly of the City, and partly of the localities benefited.

2. The reconstruction, and at a higher level, of the worn-out revetment wall, together with the construction of Levees around the whole of the Point St. Charles District, an equitable proportion of the cost of these works to be borne by the Dominion out of the general revenues of the country.