

out by that Report—the navigation of this portion of the river St. Lawrence would have been much better adapted to steamboats than the present canal, and would not have cost much more than half the expence, which has been laid out upon it.

Mr. Mills next makes the supposition of a forty years report showing the river to have been much lower than in the last twenty years at the time of establishing those canals, and that this Report should be set aside, presuming it was only derived from such and such shoal or rocks being bare ; although exhibiting a much lower level than his twenty years report ; but which report cannot be depended on ; because he says rocks and shoals are frequently moved and moveable by ice. It is, however, very evident that had he established the canals at this lower level of forty years supposed report, a serious blunder might by his own account have been avoided. To this he adds, “is the Engineer to throw away said information, (of 20 years) in possession, “and seek after *this some level or other* whereupon to establish his “levels ? I think not and for reasons—First, that that low level (of “40 years) is absolutely unknown and cannot be ascertained.— “Secondly, whether low or not, there is no physical law governing the “St. Lawrence, that determines that river will be so low again.”

As before, let it be admitted, that the lowest levels of the St. Lawrence had been correctly taken, for each of the twenty years, preceding the establishing of the levels of those Canals by them, or by the lowest or minimum level of that period. I would ask by what condition or principle this river should not be found to vary from this in the next twenty years ? or to what limit and time would those observations in this period warrant the extent of its future variations of level ? and how has it happened that it should make such an anomaly in 1848, and to have been so unexpected—or is it the fact that the state of the river in 1848 was one of great probability, from the very information of twenty years preceding the time Mr. Mills had obtained his best information, (if such information was correct) and which state might not be the least in opposition to its ordinary ruling causes ?

It appears farther by Mr. Mills's opinion “there is no physical law “governing the St. Lawrence that determines that river will be so