

REPORT.

To the Committee of Subscribers to the proposed Canal between the River Thames and the Grand River :—

GENTLEMEN—In pursuance of my instructions received from W. H. Merritt, Esq. and the arrangements entered into with your agent, G. W. Whitehead, Esq. I proceeded to examine and survey the several routes therein named, and I now beg leave to lay before you my Report, Estimate, and Plans.

It being indispensably necessary, that I should in some measure be acquainted with the general features of the country, I first turned my attention to, and devoted some time to the examination of, not only the several creeks pointed out in my instructions, but also of the surrounding country as far as I deemed it desirable; and finally, on the second day of June last, (accompanied by a competent surveyor and necessary assistants) commenced levelling, in which operation I was much retarded by the unfavorableness of the weather for such a work.

The first section of the route surveyed, (and which is delineated upon the ground plan by the broad red line,) comprising the three first miles, commences near the junction of Cedar Creek with the river Thames, on the property of Col. Light, through which it passes in an easterly direction until it crosses the Beachfield and Woodstock road, where taking a south easterly direction crosses into the first concession of East Oxford, thence into the second, and terminating at lock No. 3, in the nineteenth lot of the latter concession.

In this section there is unavoidably some extra excavation, as also some embanking, but by no means of any consequence, also three locks of ten feet lift each, the soil consists chiefly of black loam and mud upon a clay bottom, and as per annexed estimate, this section will cost £3403. 7. 0. The next section passing into the third concession continues in the same direction as the last, crosses the west quarter town line near the junction of Mud Creek, a sluggish stream with an average depth of eighteen inches of water. In this section, which runs for some distance through a cedar swamp, there occurs but a very trifling excavation or embanking—the soil is chiefly black mud lying on a clay and gravel bottom, and varying from two to three feet in thickness. The cost of completing this section as per detailed estimate, is £1950. 16. 8.