With regard to the reference to the Sub-Committee of the application of Mr. Botterell, they called upon that official to furnish them with a Comparative Statement of the amount of labor performed in the Distributing Department, in 1869, in 1873, and in 1877. They also examined other Officials cognizant of the work. From the information thus obtained, the Sub-Committee are of opinion there is work sufficient to justify the continuation of the services of one of the Sessional Messengers now on the staff, during the recess, as a Second Assistant Distributor, for which service they would recommend an additional allowance of \$300.

Committee Room, 22nd February, 1878.

To the Chairman and Members of the Joint Committee on Printing.

GENTLEMEN,—I beg to submit the Annual Balance Sheet for the Printing Services of Parliament for the year 1876-7, shewing the cost of those services to have been \$63,853.25. Accounts in detail for the expenditure of the above sum, with fyles of the work performed as Vouchers, are ready for the Audit Committee.

The several Contractors for the Printing and Binding have shewn every desire to meet the requirements of Parliament according to their respective Contracts, and

very satisfactorily.

The Printing Paper furnished under the Contract has so varied in quality that

the attention of the Contractor had to be directed to it.

The usual sum of \$70,000 has been placed in the Estimates for the Printing Services of Parliament, for the year 1878-9.

All which is respectfully submitted.

HENRY HARTNEY, Clerk, Joint Committee on Printing.