

on Railways, Canals and Telegraphs.—Carried.

**Mr. MILLS** moved an Address for copies of all plans, reports, specifications and, contracts relating to the improvement of the navigation of the Rivers Thames and Sydenham since 1867. He referred to discussions on the subject a few years since, when Government had held that small tributary streams were under control of the local Government, but the Government afterwards divided the streams of the country into classes, one class being under control of the Dominion Government alone and another class consisting of streams, among which were the Thames and Sydenham, to be improved on condition that certain sums were contributed by the Local Government. Obstacles had now formed in the rivers in question and he desired to ascertain the action of the Government.

**Hon. Mr. LANGEVIN** said the mover had spoken of correspondence but had not mentioned it in his motion.

**Mr. MILLS** had asked for what he wanted.

**Hon. Mr. LANGEVIN** was not prepared to give an immediate answer in the matter, and desired the questions asked might be put on the notice paper. He did not think the plans, &c., were in his Department.

**Mr. MILLS** said the Government had had a money grant and expended it and he could not understand how they could have done so without plans and specifications.

**Hon. Mr. BLAKE** said the Government had asked a vote, and if they had done the work there must be some plans and specifications.

**Hon. Mr. MACKENZIE** recollected that when the vote was taken he had asked how the money was to be expended, the amount being \$2,400, and had been informed that the Local Government would give a similar amount, and the Dominion Government would then expend both sums.

**Mr. STEPHENSON** said that the Local Government having refused to undertake the work, application had been made to the Dominion Government, and the then Minister of Public Works consented to put a sum in the Estimates provided a like amount was made up from some local source. That amount had been made up, and tenders were then advertised in Ontario, but no one would undertake the work at the amount named. Mr. Brown, however, afterwards consented to do as much as possible for the amount granted, which was allowed to be done, but there were no papers other than those he himself had obtained from the Local Government.

As to the Sydenham a vote had been obtained last year and the work was going on now. The member for Bothwell (Mr. Mills) had stated that the obstruction in the Thames was as

great as ever, thus conveying the idea that the money expended upon removing it had been expended to no purpose, and he had studiously avoided all mention of the fact established by recent survey made by Mr. Molesworth, under orders from Mr. McKellar, Commissioner of Public Works for Ontario, that the water on the bar at the mouth of the river was this year 2 feet 3 inches lower than during the period of navigation last year. To fortify this statement, he (Mr. Stephenson) had in his possession a copy of the survey made by Mr. Molesworth, and also that gentleman's report to the Commissioner of Public Works, both of which had been kindly supplied to him by Mr. McKellar on his personal application.

With reference to the statement that the Sydenham and Thames were under the jurisdiction of the Dominion Government, he (Mr. Stephenson) had contended all along that they were under that jurisdiction, and it would probably be remembered by the House that when the item of \$2,400 had come up for consideration last year, the hon. member for Lambton (Hon. Mr. Mackenzie) had risen in his place, and questioned the propriety of voting it. That hon. gentleman presumed it had been put in the Estimates, in order to satisfy the member for Kent (Mr. Stephenson), who was known, he said, to be a servile supporter of the administration; but while he did not question the necessity for the improvement at the mouth of the River Thames, he held that if the Government made an appropriation in that instance there were a hundred other rivers in the country equally entitled to consideration.

However, notwithstanding these statements of the hon. member for Lambton, the appropriation had been made, and the wisdom of the Government in making it was fully verified since by the great benefits that had accrued from this work of improvement. (*Hear, hear.*)

The motion was then carried.

**Mr. LAWSON** moved an Address for a return of the names of all persons who have been appointed by the Government of Canada as agents or other employee of the Bureau of Immigration since the 1<sup>st</sup> January, 1869: date of appointment, place where stationed, amount of salary or other remuneration paid each, and the instructions issued to such Agents or employees.—Carried.

**Mr. ROBITAILLE** moved an Address for the correspondence, &c., respecting Paspébiac harbor.—Carried.

**Mr. PELLETIER** moved an Address for the correspondence respecting the seizure of merchandize by Customs authorities belonging to Joseph Hamel et Frères, Quebec.

**Hon. Mr. TILLEY** said there would be no objection to bring down all the papers. The seizure consisted of some articles of jewellery which were found in a trunk of the junior member of the firm, and which he had brought from England from friends and