

## SPECIAL COMMITTEE REPORT.

The Hon. Mr. Brown from the Committee on the Hudson's Bay Inquiry, presented their Sixth Report, which was read as follows :—

Your Committee beg leave to report that they have met eleven times, and have taken the evidence of the following witnesses, viz :—

MR. JOHN MOYES, Winnipeg.  
MR. C. N. BELL, Winnipeg.  
MR. H. JOHNSTON, Winnipeg.  
CAPT. W. KENNEDY, Winnipeg.  
CAPT. J. HACKLAND, Headingly.  
MR. W. STEPHENSON, Headingly.  
CAPT. COLIN SINCLAIR, St. Andrews.  
MR. D. MACARTHUR, Winnipeg.  
CAPT. H. ROBINSON, Winnipeg.  
MR. W. ARCHIBALD, Winnipeg.  
MR. W. DICKSON, Lake Francis.  
MR. JNO. HARGRAVES, High Bluff.  
MR. C. S. DRUMMOND, Winnipeg.  
VEN. ARCHDEACON COWLEY, Dynevor.  
JAMES WARD, St. Annes.  
GEO. A. BAYNE, C. E., Winnipeg.  
And have received written testimony from many others.

Many of the gentlemen examined have had personal and extended experience as officers and servants of the Hudson's Bay Company at their posts on Hudson's and Ungava Bays and the rivers emptying into those bays.

No evidence has been given that goes to prove that Hudson's Straits and Bay proper, ever freeze over, or that the ice met with in those waters is sufficient to prevent navigation at any time of the year.

That, consequently, the period of navigation is defined by the time during which the ports, harbors, or roadsteads on the shores of the Bay can be entered by vessels of a suitable description for such navigation.

That, from the evidence adduced, it appears that such ports or harbors are open on an average, from four and a half to five months in each year to ordinary vessels.

That Hudson's Bay and Straits appear, from all evidence taken, to be singularly free from obstruction to navigation in the shape of shoals or reefs; and, during the period of open water, from storms or fogs.