

winter. The inquiry, which has cost the Government over \$20,000, will be entirely lost, not only to the public generally, who, I am inclined to think, would take a deep interest in it, but it is money thrown away in effect if this report be not published. This House, especially, might do a great deal of good by using all its influence in having the report published. It deals not with these questions only, but with physical problems which are applicable, not only to the St. Lawrence, but to the vast number of rivers in this Dominion; and I strongly urge upon the House to use its influence, if it be within the range of possibility now, to obtain the publication of that report. I think myself that the Joint Committee on Printing had the impression that it was a matter concerning Montreal alone. If that were so, I do not think it would be our duty at all to recommend the printing of the report; but it is not so. I have read the report from beginning to end, and I am satisfied that it is a document that will be valued and treasured, not only by members of this House, but by members of the House of Commons.

HON. MR. MILLER—The course to pursue in a case of this kind would be the regular course, if we had the time to do so, to refer the report back to committee, with instructions to amend it in the sense of the resolution. If there be any doubt that we would not have time to take that course, perhaps this motion might be allowed to go on the Journals, although it would be rather inconsistent, first to adopt a report and then to pass a resolution directly in contradiction to that report. If it is possible to get the committee together again to do one of two things, it is desirable it should be done, either to recommend the publication of the report of the commissioners or to strike the paragraph out altogether from the report on the Table, and then allow the House to deal with the question, unfettered by any suggestion in the report of the Printing Committee.

HON. MR. ABBOTT—I do not understand that the report has been adopted.

HON. MR. MILLER—We can consider it as not adopted.

HON. MR. DRUMMOND.

HON. MR. ABBOTT—Then I propose to mention this fact, that my colleague, the Minister of Public Works, has had communicated to him an undertaking from the city of Montreal to pay for 500 copies of this report, so that that would materially reduce the cost of printing.

HON. MR. POWER—This is a report of the Joint Committee on Printing, which has, in all probability, been dealt with already by the House of Commons. It has been assumed that the committee did not know what they were doing when they declined to recommend the printing of the report; but the hon. gentleman from Kennebec division appeared before the committee himself, and pointed out the reason why it was important in the public interest that this report should be printed. The matter was before the committee, I think, on three occasions, and at their last meeting it was considered, and the hon. gentleman from *Quinté* spoke very strongly in favor of printing the report, as did also the hon. gentleman from *St. Boniface*, and the committee, by a very large and decided majority, resolved that it should not be printed. They did not consider that it was a matter of any interest to the Dominion at large, and I presume the impression was that if it was of special interest to the city of Montreal, and they were willing to pay for 500 copies of it, that they might get the report printed themselves. But it occurred to some members of the committee that as this was a very important matter that had been dealt with by the Department of Public Works the reasonable and natural course would be to have the report printed as an appendix to the report of the Minister of that Department, where one would naturally look for such a report. It does not naturally come under the heading of the Printing of Parliament, and I think it might be reasonably ordered to be printed by the Minister of Public Works, and even though it is in the least degree irregular, I think the motion of the hon. gentleman from *Montarville* is the best motion to adopt.

HON. MR. KAULBACH—I think the committee were influenced largely by the expense that would be incurred by the printing of the numerous diagrams and