

with all papers relating thereto ; And a Debate arising thereupon : The said Motion was, with leave of the House, withdrawn.

On motion of Mr. *White (Renfrew)*, seconded by Mr. *Jones (Leeds)*,

*Resolved*, That an humble Address be presented to His Excellency the Governor General, praying His Excellency to cause to be laid before this House, copies of all instructions furnished by the Department of Public Works to one Mr. *Johnston*, for the survey of that portion of the River *Ottawa* lying between the foot of *Paquette's Rapids* and head of *Allumette Island* ; also copies of all plans of said survey, with Mr. *Johnston's* report thereon, together with the estimated cost of improving the navigation at *Paquette's Rapids* and *Allumette Rapids* so as to admit of the passage of Steamers, and the scale of prices upon which such estimate of cost is based.

*Ordered*, That the said Address be presented to His Excellency by such Members of this House as are of the Queen's Privy Council.

On motion of Mr. *Ross (Middlesex)*, seconded by Mr. *Norris*,

*Resolved*, That this House doth concur in the Fifth Report of the Joint Committee of both Houses on the Printing of Parliament.

Mr. *Costigan*, from the Select Committee appointed to enquire into the navigation of the River *Saint John*, and to report upon the best means for improving the same, presented to the House the Report of the said Committee, which was read, as followeth :—

Your Committee have given the subject as full and careful consideration as was possible, considering the time at their disposal.

Your Committee have examined very carefully all the Reports made from time to time to the *New Brunswick* Legislature on this subject, before Confederation, by the many very able and experienced Civil Engineers, who appear to have examined the matter with great care and attention, and also the Report made to *John Page, C.E.*, by *J. E. Boyd, C.E.*, in 1870, which your Committee believe may now be considered the most important and valuable Report yet submitted on the subject, and which is well worthy of a careful perusal by the Government.

From the information afforded by those Reports and accompanying plans, as well as by other information obtained by your Committee, there appears to be little difficulty in establishing a water communication between the City of *Saint John*, in the Province of *New Brunswick*, and some point on the Intercolonial Railway, near *Trois Pistoles*, in the Province of *Quebec*, except twenty miles between that point and the head of Lake *Temiscouata*.

Your Committee consider the plan of reserving large quantities of water in the Upper Lakes, by means of not very expensive dams, which reserve water should be used during the low water season, as the best and least expensive mode of improving the navigation of the *Saint John* and *Madawaska*. The larger the reserve of water in those Lakes, the less improvements would be required along the River. To connect the water line of communication with the Intercolonial, a Railway of twenty miles would have to be constructed between the head of Lake *Temiscouata* and the Intercolonial, but your Committee have no doubt but that such Railway would be constructed by private enterprise as soon as the water communication would be completed by the Government.

Your Committee therefore desire to urge upon the Government the propriety of their undertaking, at an early day, the improvements necessary to complete so important a public thoroughfare between and through the Provinces of *Quebec* and *New Brunswick*.

The Order of the Day being read, for the third reading of the Bill to amend the Law relating to Bills of Exchange and Promissory Notes ;

*Ordered*, That the said Order be discharged.