

INTRODUCTION.

At the close of the evidence on the proposed "BAIE VERTE CANAL," at the request of my colleagues, I fully stated what I considered should be the leading features of the report.

When the draft was submitted, I took exception to it because of important omissions, as well as to portions of its contents. Failing in effecting all the changes I regarded as essential, I voted against its adoption, at the time stating I would prepare a "*Minority Report*," (one of the Commissioners adding "It was perfectly proper I should do so,") for I felt that the Government has a right to know the impressions entertained by *all* at the close of the inquiry.

The *Minority Report* has been printed in St. John, enabling me thereby to attend to the correction of proof. The mechanical execution of the work does no discredit to the Maritime press.

The evidence and report have been printed at Montreal.

J. W. LAWRENCE.

Saint John, N. B., January, 1876.