

MR. WOOTTON'S REPORT.

The committee on internal improvement, to whom was referred the memorial of the Susquehanna Canal Company "praying for the passage of a law authorising them to hold any land adjoining, or connected with their Canal, which they may acquire by purchase, not exceeding five hundred acres, over and above the quantity of two hundred acres which they were originally authorised to hold;" and the counter memorial of James Bosley, "praying that the same may not be granted, because of its interference with rights which he acquired by purchase from said Company as assignee of one Edward Wilson," after due consideration submit the following report:

That the act of 1783 incorporating the Susquehanna Canal Company, confers on said company the power "to cut and take out a Canal at Love Island, and continue the same to tide water in the Susquehanna river," and make the said Canal not less than thirty feet wide and three feet deep, with a sufficient number of locks large enough to admit of a passage of boats of eighty feet keel and twelve feet beam, and the said Canal when completed shall be kept in good repair by the said corporation for the use of the public.

And as a further inducement to individuals to embark their capital in the construction of a work so essential to the navigation of that river, the act conferred on them the additional powers of erecting grist mills and other water works on the canal. In virtue of the before-mentioned powers, and for the purpose of promoting their own interest, the company sold to certain individuals, and particularly to Edward Wilson, certain water-rights and privileges, and guaranteed to the parties purchasing, "that the towing path of twenty feet on the west side of the Canal and that of forty feet on the east side thereof, are, and shall at all times be considered public highways, and shall not at any time be shut up or unnecessarily obstructed." Subsequent to this grant, the property of the company with all the rights