

Mr. Wakefield moved, That the report as proposed be adopted, and the question being put, the Committee divided, and the names were taken down as follow :—

Ayes, 4.—Mr. Bowen, Mr. Pitt, Mr. Saunders, Mr. Wakefield.

Noes, 3.—Hon. Mr. Gisborne, Mr. Montgomery, Mr. Turnbull.

So it was resolved in the affirmative.

Resolved, That the copies of telegrams referred to in the order of reference were produced in accordance with the law, with the exception of two, which were included by the mistake of a Telegraph clerk, and which have been separated from the others without having been examined by the Committee.

That five others have been ascertained by the Committee to have been sent originally as private telegrams, though forwarded on to Ministers from place to place, without the knowledge of the sender, as Government telegrams, and the Committee have had these also separated from the rest, without examining them.

That the number of electioneering telegrams sent at the public expense by Ministers was fifty-five, and to Ministers twenty-one, or seventy-six in all.

Ordered, to be recorded, That it is the unanimous opinion of the Committee that the seven telegrams sealed up should not again be laid upon the table of the House, and that this opinion be added to the report.

A discussion ensued regarding the extent to which it was permissible for witnesses to correct or alter the evidence given by them through a shorthand reporter.

Resolved, on motion of Mr. Pitt, That the shorthand reporter's notes of the Hon. Colonel Whitmore's and Mr. Maunsell's evidence, be recorded as the evidence given by them before the Committee.

The Committee then adjourned.

THURSDAY, 4TH DECEMBER, 1879.

The Committee met pursuant to notice.

Present : Mr. Bowen, Hon. Mr. Gisborne, Mr. J. Macandrew (Chairman), Mr. Montgomery, Mr. Saunders, Mr. Turnbull, Mr. Wakefield.

The minutes of the previous meeting were read and confirmed.

The draft report and memorandum attached thereto, to be presented to the House, were also read and confirmed, as follows :—

The Select Committee to whom was referred the question whether the production of papers presented to the House on 13th November, alleged to be copies of certain telegrams concerning the late election, was contrary to law, and to ascertain the total number of telegrams on electioneering matters sent or received by members of the late Government at the public cost, have the honor to report as follows :—

That the copies of telegrams referred to in the order of reference were produced in accordance with the law, with the exception of two, which were included by the mistake of a Telegraph clerk, and which have been separated from the others without having been examined by the Committee.

That five others have been ascertained by the Committee to have been sent originally as private telegrams, though forwarded on to Ministers from place to place, without the knowledge of the sender, as Government telegrams, and the Committee have had these also separated from the rest, without examining them.

That the number of electioneering telegrams sent at the public expense by Ministers was fifty-five, and to Ministers twenty-one, or seventy-six in all.

Memorandum to accompany the Report of the Election Telegrams Inquiry Committee.

It is the unanimous opinion of the Committee that the seven telegrams sealed up should not again be laid upon the table of the House.

Resolved, That the copies of telegrams produced by Mr. Maginnity, Assistant Secretary, Telegraph Department, on 24th November, be sealed up and returned to that officer.

This was done.

The Committee adjourned *sine die*.