

HOUSE....No. 112.

Commonwealth of Massachusetts.

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES, March 23d, 1850.

The Committee on Printing, to whom was referred the order, offered by Mr. Baldwin, January 12th, to inquire "whether the persons employed to do the State Printing have paid a higher rate of wages to their workmen than is paid by other master printers for work of a like character; and whether any reason exists why the contract for executing the State Printing should not be given to the lowest bidder;" and also the Remonstrance of William F. Smythe and 174 others, against giving the Public Printing to the lowest bidder, have considered the same, and submit the following

R E P O R T :

That Messrs. Dutton & Wentworth have, for a series of years, paid the highest rates of wages to journeymen, and do now pay three cents per thousand ems more than the maximum prices prior to November, 1849. That, in the opinion of the committee, it will prove detrimental to the true interests of the Commonwealth, to offer the public printing to the lowest bidder.

For the committee,

JUSTIN JONES, *Chairman.*

