

APPENDIX.

STATUTORY DECLARATION OF ALBERT H. CLARK.

"COUNTY OF SELKIRK, }
 "To Wit: }

"In the matter SIFTON, GLASS & Co's Telegraph Contract.

"I, Albert H. Clark, of the City of Winnipeg, in the County of Selkirk, do solemnly declare that I was foreman on the contract for building the telegraph line from Winnipeg to Fort Pelly.

"2. I have been over all the line except a small piece from Shoal Lake to Lake Manitoba. I superintended all the work from Pelly to within a few miles of Mossy River, and I am quite sure that in no single instance were poles set in the snow and frost alone, but in every instance the poles were the best that could be obtained in the different localities, and they were well sunk in the ground, and in wet or boggy places were always well braced.

"3. Mr. Sifton gave me the most positive instructions to have the work well done, and those instructions were carried out always to the best of my ability.

"4. I have seen it stated that the line was carelessly built, and that was the reason it was so hard to keep it in repair, but I am quite sure that those making such statements must have known that they were drawing upon their imaginations; for, indeed, some who have so spoken have never even seen the line.

"5. I have seen a great many telegraph lines, but have never seen one as difficult to build as this, and have never seen a place where it was so difficult to keep a line in repair; and I very much doubt if there has ever been a line built in such an unfavourable place, when all the swamps and water-stretches are taken into consideration, together with the fact of the country through which the line passes being so thinly settled. No person can form any idea of the difficulties except he has been on the ground. Having had the care of part of the line for some time, I am sure Mr. Sifton did all in his power to keep the line in order, his instructions being to keep communication open, no matter what the expense might be, if it were at all possible.

"And I make this solemn declaration conscientiously believing the same to be true, and by virtue of the Act passed in the thirty-seventh year of Her Majesty's reign, intituled 'An Act for the suppression of Voluntary and Extra-Judicial Oaths.'

"A. H. CLARK.

"Declared before me, at Winnipeg, }
 in the County of Selkirk, this }
 22nd day of October, A.D., 1880. }
 "J. A. M. ATKINS, }
 A Commissioner."

"STATUTORY DECLARATION OF WILLIAM M. SIFTON.

"I, William M. Sifton, of Lake Manitoba Narrows, of the North-West Territory, do solemnly declare that I have now, and for over two years have had, under my charge the Telegraph Line from Shoal Lake, fifty miles east of Lake Manitoba, to Duck Mountain. My instruc-