

had surveyed that territory, had gone all the way north there?—Yes; and I believe he has been across the continent there. J. Ross, Esq.

96. Mr. *Adderley*.] What is the nature of the country there, north of St. Paul's?—A very good country, I believe. 20 February 1857.

97. Is it more or less squatted upon by stragglers beyond the settlements?—That is the way the settlement is now going on.

98. What is the first point of actual settlement within what you would call the squatting district?—The latest information that I have upon the subject is in a work of Mr. Oliphant's, and in conversation with a gentleman who went across the country, and I believe there is no settlement at all. Mr. Oliphant has written a work called "Minnesota and the Far West," giving an account of a trip which he made from the head of Lake Superior across the country to the river above St. Paul's, and he came down that river, and so homeward. I believe there are no settlements between the most southerly point of the Red River Settlement, and the most northerly point of the St. Paul's Settlement. I believe there is a space of from 400 to 500 miles without settlers; there is a long extent of country where there is not even a squatter.

99. Mr. *Roebuck*.] Have you any notion whether any attempt has been made to number the Indians upon the territories of the Hudson's Bay Company?—There is a work of Sir George Simpson's which I remember to have read. I think it is called "A Voyage round the World," or some such title as that, in which, I think, he gives some account of the numbers of the Indians approximately. That is the only authority that I have seen upon the subject.

100. You have no knowledge of what the numbers of the Indians are upon that territory, which you suppose may eventually become inhabited from Canada?—No; the Canadian Government has no information upon the subject.

101. Then you have no grounds for an opinion as to the danger arising from the opposition on the part of those Indians?—I know that there are large numbers of Indians within the territory, from the statement of Sir George Simpson, for instance; I know it from others who were born on the territory, and have grown up in it, and who have come to this country to be educated, who say that there are large numbers; but I would not attempt to give to the Committee a statement of anything like the exact numbers, for I am not sufficiently informed.

102. *Chairman*.] Is it not the case that that part of the territory of the Hudson's Bay Company which is valuable for the fur trade is not the part which is properly adapted for settlement, but is rather a more northern and a colder part?—That is our impression in Canada, but in that we may be wrong.

103. Mr. *Blackburn*.] I think you say that you know no parties in Canada wishing to settle the Hudson's Bay territories?—There are parties who wish to get up another North-West Company.

104. An opposition company?—Some company who will lead to profitable speculation. I do not think any person seriously desires to settle any of the Hudson's Bay territory at present.

105. Mr. *Gordon*.] The association of which I spoke is not a fur company at present, is it?—It might be converted into anything.

106. Lord *Stanley*.] Can you state to what extent occupation has gone on up the Ottawa River?—I could send, I think, from papers which I have in my possession, the last census returns on the Ottawa.

107. Mr. *Edward Ellice*.]—Are you aware that the Government has offered 4,000,000 of acres on the Ottawa to any company who will undertake a railway there?—I am.

108. Mr. *Roebuck*.] How near do the head waters of the Ottawa approach to the territories of the Hudson's Bay Company?—You go north to the watershed, I suppose, towards Hudson's Bay.

109. Have the boundaries between Canada and Hudson's Bay ever been settled?—I think not on the west.

110. That is on the north?—That would be north-west.

111. Mr. *Lowe*.] Has the valley of the Ottawa ever been completely surveyed?—The greater part of it.

112. Are there not some of the tributaries not yet surveyed, or traced?—Yes; a great deal of the valley has been surveyed, however.