

Q. At the prices which you have allowed for the work, the contractor himself should have provided all the lumber and material as was necessary for false works?—A. Yes and the use of the plant.

Q. I see by the commissioners' report there has been charged to the bridges 3,616,600 feet of timber and lumber, board measurement, and you say 500,000 feet is the quantity which should be used in the construction of these works?—A. Yes.

Q. That would leave an over-charge, an excessive charge of 3,100,000 feet, board measurement?—A. The government were doing the work by day's work and they had to supply the timber and lumber for false work, as I understand. They supplied lots of it.

By Mr. Moncrieff:

Q. What you mean is: looking on the ground now you find a half a million feet there at present?—A. In the works there is only half a million feet, board measurement, of lumber and timber.

By Mr. Davies:

Q. Could there be as much more used in false works?—A. I tell you I would not give any estimate of that off-hand.

By Mr. Moncrieff:

Q. There were lots of false works?—A. I understand so. I did not see the false works. How can I say what was in them.

Q. You were not there any part of the time when the works were in progress?—A. I did not go there until the commission was appointed and there was some talk about it. I went and saw it.

By Mr. Mulock:

Q. You examined this work from the plans?—A. Yes.

Q. You took the government measurements and the quantities as correct?—A. Yes.

Q. And in regard to the works that you could not measure, works that have been removed off, temporary, you took the findings of the commission and their figures?—A. Yes, and we simply extended them by putting the prices to them.

Q. As an engineer what professional experience have you had?—A. I commenced on the Canadian Pacific Railway in 1874 and I have never done anything else but engineering and surveying.

Q. You have had twenty years experience then. Where do you live?—A. In Montreal.

Q. Are you carrying on your profession there?—A. Yes; I have a very good office there.

Q. Have you any knowledge of the prices of labour and material there?—A. I am often called in as an expert.

Q. You have a knowledge of the prices that prevail there?—A. I have a very good knowledge of the prices that prevail, and besides that I have taken the trouble to make enquiries, and I have submitted these figures to my confreres, the best engineers I could get.

Q. Accepting all the quantities as represented by the government you say that this work could have been contracted for at what sum?—A. At \$210,000 a contractor should have made a handsome profit out of it.

Q. What portion of that \$210,000 was subject to contract, do you understand?—A. What proportion was done by contract do you mean?

Q. Yes?—A. The ironwork alone, \$60,400.

Q. That would leave \$141,000 the full cost of doing the rest of the work?—A. All the sub-work should have cost is \$141,000 according to our estimate.

Q. And you with your experience say that any contractor at that price would have realized a handsome profit?—A. I have enquired into the prices we have put here, and besides what we know about it ourselves, we are sure that these were very good prices indeed for all the items.