

**Railway Construction—
Contracts Nos.
14 and 15.**

On the 3rd of April, Mr. Campbell telegraphs to Mr. Braun :
“ Our inability to qualify was owing to Wallace being sick. Will be
“ in Ottawa and explain. Hope it will have no effect on 15. Notify me
“ at St. Catharines on 15.”

Advertisement
asked for tenders
for 14 and 15 at
the same time.

1053. Were tenders asked for relating to sections 14 and 15 by the
same advertisement?—Yes.

Parties tendered
at same time for
14 and 15.

1054. Then were these parties tendering also for section 15?—Yes.

1055. Were tenders asked for more than once concerning sections 14
and 15, or either of them?—Once for section 14 and three times for
section 15.

1056. Upon this occasion, tenders were asked by the same advertisement
for the both sections?—Yes.

1057. Do you mean section 15 as let by the last contract, No.
15? Is that what you mean by section 15?—It is the same length.

Length of con-
tracts.

1058. How far east does it extend?—At page 388 of Mr. Fleming's
general report, 1877, the length of 14 is given as 77 miles, and at page
389 the length of 15 is given as 36½ miles.

Contract No. 14.

1059. Returning to contract 14, was that telegram, which you have
read, the last of the negotiations with Campbell or Wallace & Co.?—
Yes.

Work awarded to
second lowest
tenderer.

1060. What steps, if any, were then taken as to the next lowest
tender?—The work was then awarded to the second lowest tender.

By verbal order
of Minister.

1061. In what manner was it awarded. By Minute in Council, or
order of the Minister, or how?—It was awarded by order of the
Minister.

1062. Have you any record of the award?—There is no record.

1063. Verbally, do you mean?—It must have been verbally, for I
have no record in the office.

1064. Was his decision communicated to the persons who made the
next lowest tender?—I have nothing before me, but I shall refer to the
documents of the office.

Braun writes to
Receiver-General
that Sifton &
Ward are to de-
posit to his cre-
dit \$20,000.

1065. What is the next communication you have, either to or from
those parties who made the next lowest tender?—I have here a letter
dated 28th April, from Mr. Braun to the Receiver General, which is as
follows:—

“ I beg to inform you that Messrs. Sifton & Ward, contractors for
“ the grading and bridging of the Canadian Pacific Railway between
“ Red River and Cross Lake, contract 14, are required to deposit to
“ your credit \$20,000 as security for the due fulfilment of their con-
“ tract. When that deposit shall have been made you will please
“ transmit your certificate to that effect to this Department.”

Does not think
contract awarded
on report of
Fleming.

1066. Was there any report or recommendation from Mr. Fleming
by which this contract was to be awarded to these parties?—I do not
think so, but I shall be able to reply more positively as soon as the
person who has gone for papers to the office returns.

Thinks the Minis-
ter must have
consulted Fle-
ming.

1067. You will remember that attached to the tender of Charters &
Co., for section 13, there was a letter from Mr. Fleming recommending