

452. *Mr. Mackenzie*.—DID the Commissioners ever interfere in the grading?—No.
453. Has the location of the line and all the works upon it been proceeded with in accordance with your own plan?—Yes, with the single exception, I think, of the character of the bridges. I have always advocated iron, and the Commissioners have not always agreed with me, but they have generally left to me the planning of culverts and structures generally. With regard to the location, except the cases I referred to the other day, there has been little or no interference.
454. *Hon. Mr. Anglin*.—I think you have put up a wooden bridge on the Missiquash, where you intended to put up an iron one?—I think the wooden one will remain there.
455. Was it by your advice it was done?—It certainly was not.
- Hon. Dr. Tupper*.—It is well known there was a difference of opinion which is now removed.

MR. WALSH Examined.

456. *Hon. Mr. Holton*.—Mr. Walsh, upon what principle or system do the Commissioners proceed in making appointments of engineers recommended by the Chief Engineer?—When an appointment is necessary, you can well understand the great number of applications we receive. A record is kept, and when appointments are required, we take up the certificates furnished by those parties as to competency, and make our appointments.
457. Considering only their professional qualifications?—That is one of the most important considerations.
458. *Mr. Pope*.—WHO do you suppose is to be the judge as to whether they can do their duty or not?—The District Engineer reports to the Chief Engineer.
459. Then you expect the Chief Engineer to report to you?—We expect the Chief Engineer to report to us whether a man is unfit or not.
460. *Hon. Dr. Tupper*.—Mr. Light was appointed with your approval, Mr. Fleming; the whole of the District Engineers, in fact, were appointed with your approval?—Yes.
461. *Hon. Sir A. T. Galt*.—No question has arisen with regard to these?—No, they were perfectly satisfactory. It is with regard to subordinates that I complain.
462. With regard to these subordinates, the District Engineers are the ones you look to for expressions of opinion?—Yes. If I had anything to say in their appointment in the first place, I would always have consulted the District Engineers, in order that they might work in harmony.
463. *Hon. Sir F. Hincks*.—WHEN you reported against some of those engineers to the Commissioners, was that the report of the District Engineer or not?—Yes.
464. It was on the report of the District Engineer?—Yes; and sometimes on my own motion.
465. *Hon. Sir A. T. Galt*.—But, with the concurrence of the District Engineer?—Yes, I was generally with them when the matter was discussed.
466. That is to say there was no difference of opinion between you and the District Engineers?—There is no difference.
467. *Hon. Sir F. Hincks*.—You have no complaint against the District Engineers. Were the complaints you made with regard to subordinates, with regard to engineers in charge of sections, or those subordinate to them?—I made no complaint against engineers in charge of sections.
468. Then it is with regard to subordinates you made complaints?—And also with regard to inspectors. I complained that inspectors were appointed, of whom I knew nothing.
469. Inspectors of what?—Inspectors of masonry. They should be masons themselves. It is difficult to get a sufficient number of engineers who know enough of masonry.
470. *Mr. Walsh*.—The gross part of these are persons recommended by you,—Some of them are, but not all.
471. How many?—About half of them.
472. *Hon. Sir F. Hincks*.—HOW many inspectors of masonry are there altogether?—I cannot say now. There ought to be one on each section; that would be twenty-five