

"it earlier, but owing to the absence of the Assistant Engineer, I received the measurements only last night.

"You will observe that the masonry is built dry. On this point I wrote for instructions on the 27th ultimo, but have received no reply.

"The Contractor is building on his own responsibility as far as I am concerned.

"I am, Dear Sir,

"Yours truly,

(Signed,)

"JAMES W. FITZGERALD.

"A. L. Light, Esquire,

"District Engineer, Newcastle."

Was that a proper communication for Divisional Engineer to make?—It was not improper.

1662. Was it anything upon which Divisional Engineer should have received instructions?—I should think instructions were given but cannot say positively.

1663. I will read telegram from Mr. Fitzgerald, dated 18th September, 1873 :—

"BATHURST, 18th September, 1873.

"Telegram to A. L. LIGHT, Esquire,

"District Engineer, &c., Newcastle.

"Contractor refuses adhering to plan of bridge ordered for Little Red-Pine Brook.

"Masons now building abutment on reduced "U" plan, 18 ft. face by 14 ft. deep, "return walls. Am going out.

(Signed,)

"JAMES W. FITZGERALD."

Do you know whether that was the plan upon which this structure was to be completed?—I think I ordered structures to be taken down in this case, but am not certain.

1664. Mr. Fitzgerald complains in his letter of 20th August, 1873, when saying he would furnish progress returns, that Mr. Light had not answered certain letters which he had written from time to time. Do you know anything of this?—I am not surprised Mr. Light did not answer all those letters. I know unpleasant feelings existed between Mr. Light and Mr. Fitzgerald, and sometime before this I received from Mr. Light about fifteen or eighteen letters written by Mr. Fitzgerald. His language was sometimes such that I would not like to receive from anybody, and I am not surprised Mr. Light did not answer all the letters he received from him.

1665. What instructions did you give the Divisional Engineer?—They are very general.

*By Mr. Mitchell :—*

1666. Will you state briefly what are the duties of a Divisional Engineer?—His duties were to set out the work for the contractors, or see it set out; to measure the volume of streams in order to determine the clear water-way necessary for culverts and bridges. In regard to this I gave special and detailed instructions. It was also his duty to set out earth-work and culverts, and measure up the work that was done, see that it was properly performed, and that the actual measurements were carried out.

*By Mr. Mills :—*

1667. Is there any other section but this upon which the Engineer resides?—I think there are two. Mr. Buck may not live quite on the section but at a convenient point to it.

*By Mr. Scatcherd :—*

1668. Was Mr. Odell constantly on the section?—I always found him there.

1669. Are you aware that Mr. Schreiber went over the work last fall to make an approximate estimate of the finished work?—I am not aware.

1670. How did Mr. Schreiber come to be sent there?—Mr. Brydges sent him.

1671. Is it not a matter under your charge?—It is supposed to be generally under my charge, but Mr. Schreiber has received instructions outside of me.

1672. Were you ever consulted in relation to him?—No.

1673. Is that proper?—I do not think so. Other people seemed to think so.