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414. Is it not a fact that in those parts of the territory which border upon Canada and the United States there has been a good deal of trouble with interlopers?—Yes; and there higher prices are given for the furs, consequently all the finer furs have been killed up; the opposition does not pay; there are no profits.

415. In those districts has not the Company, on various occasions, paid large sums to traders to take themselves out of the country?—Never that I heard of. I have heard of the Company buying their furs, and taking the traders into the service frequently, which I think a very bad plan.

416. Buying off their opposition?—I never knew anything of that kind, but I think it a bad plan to buy up their furs at any time, if they are admitted into the service and make a little money, they use it against the company afterwards; they frequently have done so.

417. *Mr. Bell.*] Do you think that the settlement of the Indians is advantageous or disadvantageous to the fur trade?—I should think it is not disadvantageous, because the winter is the time at which they hunt; consequently they can employ the whole summer season to cultivate the ground, and it would make them better off; I believe that the settlement of Indians at Norway House hunt as well as they did before.

418. Do you know why attempts have not been made to settle them at other forts?—There have been attempts, that is to say, it was attempted at Moose Factory when I was there.

419. Which Moose Factory do you mean?—The one at James's Bay; I have known seed potatoes given, which is the only crop that can be grown there with certainty; tools have been given, and ground that had been cultivated, and food for a few days; they would plant their potatoes and never come back to attend to them; I have known that done two seasons while I was at the Moose Factory.

420. Have the missionaries who have been anxious to civilise them been encouraged to do so?—They have, wherever it is practicable, but I cannot speak of other parts of the country except at Moose, where the climate is not very suitable for growing.

421. *Mr. Grogan.*] You stated that at Moose Factory an attempt had been made to settle the Indians by giving them seed and ground for potatoes?—Yes.

422. Were the Indians that you referred to the ordinary residents of that place?—Yes; they came in to trade, to barter there.

423. Did they return to the factory after they had sown the potatoes?—They returned frequently, and they left them to get destroyed; they never looked at them again; they never thought it worth while to dig them out or hoe them out.

424. Did they know the potato practically?—Perfectly well; they used to be supplied at the forts with potatoes when they came in, and they knew the use of them.

425. *Mr. Bell.*] Then do you attribute that circumstance to the particular character of those Indians, because I have read that on the western side of the Rocky Mountains the Indians sow potatoes in large quantities for their subsistence?—Yes; they are a different race; we have found that although the Indian works well in the Company's service he will not settle down generally; there are many exceptions. I cannot speak of the west side of the mountains; I know from hearsay that what you have stated is correct.

426. Do you know what is the cause of the failure of the experiment in the place to which you allude, for it has answered in some places; at the Red River Settlement, for instance, and Norway House, if not in other parts?—It has not answered fully in either place; they never become great farmers, and I believe it arises from a fondness for the chase; they object to settle down anywhere for a length of time.

427. Have the half-breeds the same objection to settle down as the pure Indians?—The French half-breeds have, but the English half-breeds have not so much so.

428. Is there much union of the English and the Indian races going on?—There is; it arose from the Company's servants and people marrying Indian women; there is not so much of it now as there was originally, because many of the half-breeds are growing up, and they intermarry with them instead.

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