

**Railway Construction—  
Contract No. 14.**

1036. What is the number of your next contract on the construction between Lake Superior and Red River?—The next number after 13 is No. 14.

1037. Who were the contractors?—Sifton & Ward.

Contractors, Sifton & Ward.

1038. Was this work let by public competition?—Yes.

1039. Have you the advertisement asking for tenders?—Yes. (Exhibit No. 42.)

Advertisement calling for tenders.

1040. Was any specification or other information furnished to persons tendering?—Yes.

1041. Can you produce them?—Yes. (Exhibit No. 42½.)

1042. Were the contractors the persons who made the lowest tender?—No.

Not given to lowest tenderer.

1043. Who made the lowest tender?—According to the report of Mr. Fleming dated 31st of March, 1875, the lowest tender received on contract 14 was from Wallace & Co.

Wallace & Co., lowest tenderers.

1044. Are these tenders based upon a schedule of prices?—Yes.

Tenders based on schedule of prices

1045. Which are to apply to the quantities given in the bill of works?—Yes.

1046. And by moneying out those items you arrive at the relative position of the parties tendering?—Yes.

1047. This report proposes to show that position?—It does.

1048. Have you the tender of Wallace & Co.?—Yes. (Exhibit No. 43.)

Tender of Wallace & Co.

1049. Some copies of telegrams are attached to this tender; have you the messages to which these were answers, or copies of them?—Yes.

1050. Are they in such a shape that you can produce them, or do you wish to keep them?—I have not got them in such a shape that they can be produced, but I can read them. On the 25th of March, Mr. Braun telegraphs to Wallace:

Telegrams between Dept. and Wallace & Co.

"If your tender for contract fourteen is accepted are you ready to make deposit required; if so come. Contract papers must be completed within eight days from this—answer."

On the same day, 25th of March, Wallace telegraphs to Mr. Braun:

"I am ready and will be there to close contract first of next week."

This is signed "R. J. Campbell."

1051. That is signed by a Mr. Campbell?—Is he one of the parties tendering?—Yes; Campbell was one of the parties tendering.

1052. Under the name of Wallace & Co.?—Yes. Mr. Campbell, on the 29th, telegraphs to Mr. Braun:

"Just heard that section fourteen was awarded to us. If necessary will you extend the time to qualify five days—answer."

Contractors apply for extension of time.

On the 30th Mr. Braun telegraphs to Campbell:

"Time cannot be extended; matter too urgent—answer."

Refused.

On the 31st Campbell telegraphs to Mr. Braun:

"When will time expire; answer immediately and oblige."

And on the same day Mr. Braun telegraphs to Mr. Campbell:

"Time expires Friday, 2nd proximo."