

He informs me that he has never known, nor has ever heard from any one of the river or ice ever having approached within several feet of the top of the bank and that during the flood of 1826, of which he was a witness, the Stone Fort was quite free from inundation or damage by ice.

I do not think there is anything more to be said on the subject.

Yours truly,

C. J. BRYDGES, Esq.,
Montreal.

J. BALSILLIE.

Statements made by officers and servants of the Hudson's Bay Company in reference to the state of Red River at Stone Fort and other points, with marginal remarks by the Engineer in Chief, C. P. R.

LOWER FORT GARRY,
27th January, 1880.

JOHN BALSILLIE,
Hudson's Bay Company,
Winnipeg.

Sir,—It gives me great pleasure to give you all the information in my power regarding your inquiries about the state of the river and the breaking up of the ice at this place.

I have naturally given the subject much attention, and from personal observation and information obtained from reliable sources, can speak authoritatively on the matter. Taking your queries as presented, the following are my statements:—

(a) This is 12 years experience, the extraordinary floods were before this period.

1st. I have resided continuously at the Stone Fort for the last twelve years, and during that time have seen no ice jam at the Stone Fort or in its immediate vicinity. The ice has broken up gradually and no sudden rise of the water to any extent has taken place. (a)

2nd. The highest that I have seen the water at this place was on the 24th April 1876, when it came to 15 feet from the top of the bank. This was occasioned, not from any jam at the Fort or near it, but from a stopping of the ice at the Sugar Point $3\frac{1}{2}$ miles below the Stone Fort and in close proximity to Selkirk. This is the only place near the Stone Fort where the ice jams it may be said every year more or less. (b)

3rd. Three years ago the ice jammed at the point below Selkirk and flooded all the low lands on the east side of the river opposite Selkirk, carrying the ice through the woods, causing considerable damage to our craft, which were then lying in their winter quarters in the slough on the east side of the river near Selkirk. (c)

4th. I have never known the ice to jam at the Stone Fort or its vicinity thereby causing the water to flood the prairies to the south. (d)

5th. I have never known the ice to pile on the banks at or near the Stone Fort except on very low points near the Stone Fort, simply because such a thing could not possibly have happened, without the water had overflowed the bank, and come from near the Stone Fort who told Mr. S. Fleming that the ice at that point was piled so high that a person standing on one side could not see the other shore must have a abhorrence to tell the truth. (e)

(e) No man told S. Fleming this, it was mentioned by an old settler to Mr. Rowan. One who witnessed

* In report 8th December, 1879, to the Minister of Railways and Canals by S. Fleming, the height of the prairie above flood level of 1826 is given at six feet.

(f) The place above the bridge at Selkirk.

(g) No to the com been made water does high enough the bridge would be water.

(h) And y B. Coy's ve annually tak to the same p at the prese ment are there. The this spot is on two or three above water.

(i) Is this c ent with the ment made re ing the ice fo a jam after it p Stone Fort?

(k) This and t preceding stateme re not perfect consistent.