

Q—Have you a doubt of it? A—I have very little doubt of it.

Q—Have you the slightest doubt of it? A—None. It is his handwriting all right enough.

Q—Why do you hesitate? A—I can't swear it is his handwriting.

Q—Have you the slightest doubt of it? A—None. It is his handwriting all right enough.

This is a very good illustration of the necessity of having an able artist on cross-examination. (Applause.)

To another question "You there allow 75 cents per hundred pounds for the erection of the bridge and do you suggest for a moment that the cost of erecting a bridge at Sussex, putting up the false work, etc., would be anything like it would be in putting it over a river at Memramcook in which there is a very rapid tide?" he says in reply "There would not be a great difference, but those prices because the Sussex bridge may be considered a very light structure, being short spans as against the Lefebvre bridge."

Further evidence is as follows:

Q—Apart altogether from the relative cost of the structure and supporting the bridges were similar, so far as the relative weight was concerned, would you say the cost of erecting a bridge over a stream like the Trout Creek in Sussex would be anything like what it would be in erecting a bridge across a river like the Memramcook in which there is a rapid running tide both ways and ordinary tides?

A—Yes, it would be nearly as great in Sussex as in the Lefebvre bridge, being short spans as against the Lefebvre bridge.

Q—A—No, there should be a considerable difference.

Q—Would it not, in your judgment, be nearly double in a stream like the Memramcook, with a rapid running tide, with a great deal of mud, where you would have to drive long piles and use a great deal of false work, and where you would have to erect a bridge across a river like the Memramcook than across a little stream like at Sussex which is almost dry in the summer months?

A—It would be very much greater. I would be guided—

Q—Would you not, speaking fairly, say it would be about double? A—I would go as far as I would care to go in saying it would be very much greater than in the Lefebvre bridge.

Q—You could not acquiesce in my view without considerable hesitancy? A—I have stated as far as I would like to go.

Q—You cannot give any definite idea. You see you leave us much leeway. You might say it would be three times as much. A—Could say it would be considerably greater, but double is considerable—very much.

I think it is too much.

Q—Suppose we make it about it would be nearly double; that would be about right? A—O yes, I would say I do not say it is double. It is very much greater and as near as one to the other possibly. That, of course, is understood, if you are going to erect similar spans at both places.

Later on, referring to a plan of a steel bridge for the Intercolonial Railway, a 100 foot span, he was asked, "Looking at that would you or would you not say that the base price of steel at \$2 per hundred pounds and allowing 30 per cent. for duty for reason of its being under the 35 pounds per lineal yard, and allowing for freight and allowing for the labor, would you not say that a bridge like that could be constructed for \$2.50 per hundred pounds?"

And this was followed further by question and answer as follows:

Q—You know that, do you not, as an expert, you know that railway bridges are very much heavier than highway bridges? A—I know it as an ordinary citizen.

Q—You do not know it as an expert? A—Well, I know it as an expert as well as an ordinary citizen.

Q—Do you know the price at which your company tendered for railway bridges during the last two or three years? A—No, I don't know anything about it.

Q—Now, mark you, is a gentleman who has been with a tabled statement, in whose hands is the possession of all the data and material necessary to make up a tabled statement, and who has been prepared by him with the very greatest care; and yet he says he knows nothing about the railway bridges which his company have tendered for. (In proof of which Mr. Mott read the following from Mr. Roy's statement):

Q—Do you know that your company tendered for the erection of bridges for the Intercolonial Railway in 1897? A—I presume they tendered. I don't know anything about it as to date or price.

Q—You presume they tendered as was the usual custom?

Q—You know the tender was tendered? A—I wouldn't know how they were tendered.

Q—And do you not know that their tender was \$5 per foot? A—No, I haven't.

Q—I have already explained that I know nothing about the railway business in any shape or form.

Q—And have you not been informed by Mr. Law, the manager and chief engineer of your company, that their tender was 5 cents per foot? A—No.

Q—You have no knowledge upon that subject one way or the other? A—None whatever.

Q—You would say would you not that 5 cents per foot would be a very low price? A—Card plan which I have shown you would yield a larger profit—a very considerably larger profit—than the tender made by the Lefebvre or Campbell bridges. A—I wouldn't say because I know nothing about it.

Q—And can you give the committee no information? A—Not in connection with railway bridges.

Q—Except as you stated this morning, that it would be very unfair to make a comparison between the two? A—I would consider it would be unfair.

Q—Again, with knowledge such as Mr. Mott has, and with the intimate knowledge as he must necessarily have of his competitors there, in speaking of one particular concern having given up business, in view of the fact that their highway bridge building business was not satisfactory to them and that it was because of their being badly located, the honorable gentleman who conducted the cross-examination asks respecting the Dominion Bridge Company, a company very prominent in this connection, one that I dare say holds the first position in Canada, and from whom his own company must receive the very keenest competition, this is his expert evidence:

Q—"I will ask you as to the situation of the Dominion Bridge Company's works? Are they or are they not favorably situated for doing business?" A—I couldn't tell you.

Q—"Don't you know where their works are?" A—Yes.

Q—"Whereabouts?" A—At Lachine.

Q—"A few miles from Montreal?" A—Yes.

Q—"They have both railroad and water?" A—They have a I understand it.

Q—"Are they not right on the Lachine canal?" A—I couldn't say as to that.

Q—"They would have the advantage of the Grand Trunk and C. P. R. would they not?" A—I don't know whether they would have a P. R. connection.

Q—"That you know that Montreal is a city most favorably situated for manufacturing?" A—I couldn't say.

Q—"Don't you know that labor in Montreal is quite reasonable?" A—I don't.

Q—"Do you know to the contrary of that?" A—No.

Q—"I will call your attention again to the Hampton bridge, and if, as I propose to show, the tender of the Dominion Bridge Company for the Hampton bridge was 77-10 cents per foot, or nearly 8 cents a foot, for a bridge which you may today pour upon the Dominion Bridge Company, when tendering for that bridge under public advertisement, putting in a tender upon a price of nearly 8 cents per foot?" A—No, I do not know why they did it.

Q—"They were as favorably situated, were they, for doing business then?" A—I presume so, so far as you know? A—I presume so.

I have been looking through the figures tendered in this statement (producing paper that remarkable statement submitted by him after very much mental, mental constraint which came to him and which he felt under the decision of the committee to report back to this House his disobedience to the subpoena issued by the committee, the statement which he claimed should be held by him because of the private information in it—information which by the way he had prepared for his own use in this investigation—and though he had covered some 65 bridges built by his company in giving testimony before this committee only four bridges." Respecting that tabulated statement I ask the House to note the evidence:

Q—"And in respect of that bridge wouldn't your tender be based upon 5-10 cents per foot?" A—I couldn't tell you that. Those figures of course speak for themselves to a certain extent. Recollect, I do not guarantee the correctness of those figures. You understand it was a memorandum made for my own private use, taken from the documents of the company, and those documents have been complete, and in some cases they may have included more than should have been included, but as far as the statement is concerned, I prepared with a view to giving testimony.

Mr. Hazen—They were not submitted for that purpose at all, as he distinctly stated. Mr. Mott—Mr. Roy when called upon for the purpose of producing this statement, which had been already shown—he spoke on his own statement—and when called upon to produce the statement he claimed it was private because it was information he had himself prepared from the data in the department of his company.

Mr. Hazen—Exactly, but not for the purpose of his evidence.

Mr. Mott—At all events I do not think that honorable gentleman can complain when I am reading from the very mouth of the witness. He says, "Those figures speak for themselves." It is well the witness made a mental reservation in regard to the statement.

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whose information was so very valuable did not come forward or submit his testimony to this committee, and though he was in attendance here and it was easily open to the gentleman who conducted the prosecution to find him and put him on the stand that was not done, and we are today without the evidence of this great and very valuable witness in this regard, was subpoenaed and was here in attendance and while the case was going on for the prosecution. I know it is said that he is good and valid and his testimony he must have given it at very great personal loss to himself, because of the fact he has been since engaged at very remunerative figures elsewhere. I want to tell to this honorable House that it is my opinion after that gentleman had committed himself by his oath to the facts he gave to the country at the time of which I speak, and pledged his reputation to the accuracy of those figures, it would be very much more, in my opinion, to his interest that he should come here and substantiate same by his oath, than that he should receive fifty dollars in remuneration for the work which he is now doing as stated. (Applause.)

Without entering into detail upon the other evidence submitted before the committee I think it is fair to say that the fact established that where you start out the policy which was largely due to the fact that the gentleman who was in the position of chief commissioner of public works, it has been found a fact that the bridges being built by his company in the province of New Brunswick were being built at figures that were higher and in excess of what he must, as a gentleman, thought they should have been built for. He initiated the policy of home competition with regard to information, gathering from a departmental officer to the establishment at home and building up of concerns who could do the very same work, and in that way he circulated through the ordinary commercial channels of our own province the policy that he was going to follow, and following out the policy as worked out by the policy was the cost of permanent bridges will today be very greatly below the amounts which were paid when the policy was in its experimental stage. (Applause.)

No honorable gentleman who gives thoughtful attention to this subject but will be willing to recognize that where you start out with an endeavor to experiment along these lines it is only natural and reasonable that the policy that he is going to follow, and following out the policy as worked out by the policy was the cost of permanent bridges will today be very greatly below the amounts which were paid when the policy was in its experimental stage. (Applause.)

Q—"Could you say to the contrary?" A—I don't consider it. I consider it as the work of the work.

Q—"Is it as important from a financial standpoint?" A—I think that statement should convince you of that.

The honorable gentleman will remember that attention was given to their attention to the fact I will refer to later:

Q—"I convince me the less you do the better." A—I don't know anything about it.

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in the city of Halifax. The committee did not refuse to subpoena Mr. Donald, but they did refuse to place on record a report that they upon it the expense of this province, call from all parts of this province and the dominion witnesses to produce books and papers which could by no positively have the slightest bearing upon the charge which they were called upon to investigate. They wished to compare the cost of steel rods to the cost of highway bridges. They might as well ask to have witnesses called to show the prices paid for anchors and chains and a thousand articles which were not constructed out of metal but which had no bearing on the case. The committee stated that they were perfectly willing to hear Mr. Donald's evidence if he had any evidence to give which was at all relevant to the inquiry, but they refused to hear his evidence as to the cost of steel rods. Mr. Donald was not called. Mr. Lafort stating to the committee that as Mr. Donald could not be subpoenaed by his oath, then the committee papers bearing upon the question of steel rods they would not have him called as a witness at all. One might have thought that the committee would have called him as a witness, but Mr. Donald appeared as a witness, but from Mr. Peters, from whom Mr. Donald purchased the steel rods, was upon the stand and having all the facts of the case before him, he was asked to give his opinion as to whether the steel rods were of value to the committee in enabling them to determine the question which they were called upon to determine.

Mr. Johnson was asked to return to Montreal and bring back with him all the contracts asked for, and the committee told him that all.

His Expenses Would be Paid.

Mr. Johnson said he would go back to Montreal after the necessary documents, and he would return to the committee on the following Tuesday or Wednesday as to whether he would be allowed to bring the papers with him. He was charged by the committee to return to Montreal and bring back with him all the contracts asked for, and the committee told him that all.

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