

RED RIVER SETTLEMENT—continued.

3. Means of Communication considered; Difficulties hereon—continued.

Reference to the route *viâ* Fort William to Lake Winnipeg; the North-western Company necessarily got their supplies by Fort William, *Sir J. Richardson* 3042-3052—Obstacles to an inexpensive communication with Red River by Fort William, *ib.* 3054-3060. 3136-3138—The easiest but not the safest route to Red River is by St. Paul's; question as to this route being made more advantageous, *ib.* 3139-3141.

Description of the journey of the troops commanded by witness in 1846-48, and mode of conveyance of the guns from Fort York to Red River, *Crofton* 3165-3176. 3391-3393—Witness returned from the territory *viâ* Lake Superior and Canada; this route was decidedly easy, with the exception of the portages, *ib.* 3181-3189—Particulars as to the route from Red River to Saulte de Ste. Marie, as traversed by witness in 1847; the total distance is about 1,126 miles, and may be performed in thirty-eight days, *ib.* 3255-3267—Difficulties in the route from Red River to Saulte de Ste. Marie, more especially as regards the portages, which are very numerous, *ib.* 3262-3268. 3284-3293—There is every facility for forming a communication across the plain between the Red River and the Rocky Mountains, *ib.* 3271-3273—The chief difficulty to an overland communication from Lake Superior to Red River would arise from the swamps, *ib.* 3283. 3293. 3373-3381—Desire among the Scotch settlers at Red River for an improved communication with Canada, *ib.* 3295-3297.

Between water and road a good route might be made between Red River and Lake Superior, but an uninterrupted road or river communication is almost impracticable, *Crofton* 3366-3388—The route from Fort William to Red River is better than from Fort York, *ib.* 3389, 3390—Distance respectively between Fort William and Red River, and between Fort William and Lake Winnipeg, *ib.* 3394-3397. 3406-3409—List of portages occurring between Fort York and Red River, from which the navigation is free from rapids to Lower Fort Garry, on the Red River, *ib.* 3396—The route to Red River, &c., by Fort York, is less difficult than the Fort William, or any other route, *Sir G. Buch* 3480-3486.

The natural outlet of the Red River Settlement being through American territory, the greater reason exists for forming an outlet *viâ* the Lakes and Canada, *Hon. W. H. Draper* 4063. 4172. 4220—Grounds for concluding that the communication through Canada to the Red River is very feasible, and that the Canada route is far preferable to the route by York Factory, *ib.* 4074. 4076—Facility at present for communication between Canada or England and the western shore of Lake Superior, *ib.* 4074. 4152, 4153. 4221-4224—Circumstance of the French some 100 years ago, and, more recently, the North-west Company having used the route from Fort William to Red River for the transmission of goods, *ib.* 4074. 4157-4164—At present all the trade of Red River goes by Hudson's Bay and the United States, *ib.* 4140—Facilities of communication between Canada and Red River sufficient for the conveyance of troops, *ib.* 4141-4145—Natural and only course by which the trade of the Red River can pass through Canada so as to avoid transshipment, *ib.* 4171, 4172—The expense of communication between Canada and Red River should fall upon the province, *ib.* 4192.

Belief as to the practicability of a considerable improvement in the route from Lake Superior to Red River, *M^cLaughlin* 4952-4959. 5008—The Company have done nothing to improve the route to Red River; it is not their object, *ib.* 4958.

Great difficulties of the route from York Factory to Red River, as travelled by witness and his family when going and returning, *Caldwell* 5376. 5615-5623—There are 33 portages on the route from Fort York to Red River, *ib.* 5621.

Immense obstacles to a proper means of communication between Canada or Lake Superior and Red River, *Right Hon. E. Ellice* 5838. 5908. 5914-5921—The natural communication with the Red River is evidently through America, *ib.* 5838. 5908. 6043, 6044—As regards communication with Red River, means of getting as far as Lake Superior by vessels have existed for years, *ib.* 5916-5920—Further reference to the difficulties of communication with Red River; remarks on the circumstance of the Canadian Government having voted 5,000 *l.* for improving the route by Lake Winnipeg and the Lake of the Woods, *ib.* 5950-5960.

Passages in the statements laid by Messrs. M^cDonell, Gladman, and Dawson, before the select committee in Canada relative to the means of communication with the Red River colony and other places, *App. p.* 388-393. 399, 400.

4. Character of the Soil and Cultivation:

The country round the Red River is said to be very good land, and very suitable for settlement, *Ross* 12—Favourable character of the land for cultivation, *Lefroy* 164, 165. 194-204. 246. 253; *Corbett* 2712-2716—Excellent character of the soil at Red River, *Rae* 453-455.

Uncertainty of the crops at Red River Settlement; reference hereon to the necessary importation of corn some years ago, *Sir G. Simpson* 719-723. 802-810. 875. 2117-2119—Sess. 2.