

*By the Honorable Mr. Macpherson :—*

Q. Have you not made any of the land-fills yet?—No further than the cuttings will make them; we have a great number of them, but they are all made from cuttings, except in this case where, as I said, it was made from side ditches.

Q. Was that contemplated in the specification?—Yes.

Q. All that has been done would have been executed if it had not been expected that the trestle-work would be dispensed with?—Yes.

Q. You have done no earth-work that would not have been done had you been proceeding with the trestle-work as originally specified?—No; except in that case.

Q. What is the extent of that?—I think it is about 44,000 or 45,000 yards.

Q. Was it you that made the returns upon which the original schedule was based?—Yes; I made all the calculations.

*By the Honorable Mr. Haythorne :—*

Q. What season of the year did you go there?—I began the survey in July, from Rat Portage.

*By the Honorable Mr. Macpherson :—*

Q. There was no snow on the ground then?—No; but the ground was covered with moss and sticks.

Q. How are you so far out in the quantities?—Because it is impossible to tell what is under your feet in passing through the woods in that country. There may be ten feet or two feet of sand under your feet; but you cannot tell without testing. Then there were no cross-sections taken.

Q. Why did you not take cross-sections?—It was more than I was able to do to run the line alone. I had to do from Rat Portage to Red River in one season, and it was more than I could do and take cross-sections.

*By the Honorable Mr. McLeian :—*

Q. What year was that?—In 1874.

Q. Was there no other survey made until 1876?—Yes; I made a re-survey in 1876; but the quantities were not calculated.

*By the Honorable Mr. Macpherson :—*

Q. Were there no cross-sections taken then?—Yes.

Q. Why did you not take out the quantities then?—I had no time. We were just finishing the work then.

Q. What time? Do you mean before the contracts were let?—We were then finishing the re-location, and the cross-sections, but it was not all finished at the time.

*By the Honorable Mr. McLelan :—*

Q. Did you believe that this change was to be made from trestle-work to solid embankments?—I could not believe either way, because I had no instructions. I expected it would be made.

Q. But there was no preparation made for trestle-work?—No; there was no timber taken out then.

*By the Honorable Mr. Macpherson :—*

Q. No bills were furnished to the contractor?—No, but they were all ready for him. The country is so broken that every twenty-one feet we have to survey to make the bents to fit the slope of the ground.

*By the Honorable Mr. McLelan :—*

Q. It has been given in evidence that the prices of rock and earth were very high compared with timber. It is not customary for the engineer to have the highest priced work done first and paid for, without some security that the lowest priced work would be done also?—It is not usual. If you have any doubt at all of the contractor you would force him to do a proportionate amount of each, but if you had faith in the contractor, you would not force him to do the non-paying work first.

Q. Was it on the faith of the contractor or that the change would be made that you allowed the work to go on? If you found no preparation made for trestle-work