

14187. Have you the contract or a copy of it?—Yes; I produce it. (Exhibit No. 174.)

Engine House
at Selkirk—
Contract No. 40.

14188. Was this work let by public competition?—Yes.

Let by public
competition.

14189. Have you a copy of the advertisement or any report upon the tenders?—Yes; I produce it. (Exhibit No. 175.)

14190. I see a change in writing on the printed copy of the advertisement, from 20th of June, 1878, to the 13th of July, 1878, apparently: do you know how it was mentioned in the one published?—According to the writing it was published.

14191. You mean on the 13th of July tenders were received?—Yes.

Tenders received
13th July.

14192. From this report it appears that Gouin & O'Meara are the lowest tenderers?—Yes.

Gouin & O'Meara
lowest tenders.

14193. Was the contract let upon the basis of that tender?—Yes; the only difference being that the name of O'Meara was left out and Murphy & Upper was substituted.

Murphy & Upper
substituted for
O'Meara.

14194. But the basis as to price was the same?—Yes; it was the same.

14195. I see that the main item in the contract is a lump sum for the whole work \$30,500, and apparently there are some other items upon which extras may be charged for which prices are given: do you know whether extras were charged?—To answer that question I shall have to refer to the final estimate prepared by the engineer.

14196. Do you know whether the work has been finished and taken off the contractors' hands?—Yes; it has been taken off their hands.

Work finished.

14197. Do you know whether there has been any dispute upon the subject between the Department and contractors?—There has been no dispute.

14198. Has the work performed been satisfactory, as far as you know?—Yes.

14199. Has there been any complaints upon the part of any of the tenderers who did not receive the contract?—Not that I am aware of.

14200. You are not able to state at present the total amount paid on this work?—Not at present.

14201. Do you know by what authority this work was undertaken: was it an Order-in-Council or an order of the Minister?—By Order-in-Council. I produce it. (Exhibit No. 176.)

Work under-
taken under
authority of
Order in-Council.

14202. Is there any other matter connected with this contract which you wish to explain in your evidence?—No.

14203. Have you any of the papers now connected with contract 39 so as to proceed with some evidence?—Yes.

14204. What is the subject of that contract?—It was the transportation of rails from Esquimalt and Nanaimo to Yale, British Columbia.

Transportation
of Rails, B.C.—
Contract No. 39.

14205. Was the work let by public competition?—Yes.

Let by public
competition.

14206. What is the first direction from the Department upon the subject which you can find?—It is a telegram from the Secretary to Mr. Robson, of Victoria, to advertise for tenders for the removal of steel rails to Yale.

Braun telegraphs
Robson of Vic-
toria, to advertise
for tenders for
removing steel
rails to Yale.