

Location Survey.

I was going down to Fort Carleton and returning the men were at Fort Pitt.

395. About how long was that?—About three weeks, I think.

396. For the rest of the period were they at any particular place resting?—They were travelling constantly for the rest of the period.

First responsibility of procuring supplies rested with Mr. Nixon.

397. Upon that expedition who had the responsibility of procuring the supplies?—The first responsibility rested with Mr. Nixon, at Winnipeg, who was purveyor for that district, and there was an officer of his attached to our party.

398. What was his name?—Valentine Christian.

399. What was his duty?—His duty was to look after all the Government property, and see that we were kept properly supplied with provisions.

Nixon purchased supplies upon a requisition of the engineer.

400. Do you mean that Nixon had the responsibility of purchasing supplies in the first place?—Of purchasing supplies upon a requisition from the engineer of the party.

401. Then the engineer made a requisition for such articles as he thought he would require, and Nixon bought them at such prices as he thought proper?—Yes.

Prices in no way under control of engineer.

402. The prices were not in any way under the control of the engineering officer?—No.

Deputy purveyor certified for supplies received.

403. Who certified the accounts for the supplies received by the party?—The deputy purveyor attached to the party.

404. Then, Valentine Christian could certify?—He would satisfy Mr. Nixon that the supplies were properly received.

405. He would not certify as to the price?—I think not.

Witness not required to certify any amounts of money.

406. Were you required to certify any amount of money?—No.

Nor had he any control over prices.

407. Then you had no control over the amount of expenditure?—Not otherwise than as making a requisition for supplies or provisions which were necessary for the party.

408. Without reference to the price?—Without any reference to the price.

Expedition west of Winnipeg May, 1875, to December, 1876.

409. Can you say about how long you were engaged in that expedition west of Winnipeg?—I left Winnipeg in May, 1875, and returned again in December, 1876.

410. During that time you were in the field principally?—Yes.

411. After that did you retain your connection with the Pacific Railway?—Yes.

Afterwards came to Ottawa and made plans.

412. In what capacity?—I came to Ottawa in the same capacity and made the plans of the work that we had done in the field and report.

413. Until about what time were you so employed?—Until April, 1877.

414. So that upon that expedition and the plans connected with it you were under employment nearly two years?—About two years.