

*By the Honorable Mr. Cornwall:—*

Q. How is it that you should have suppressed all mention of this visit to the works in 1877?—I do not remember that I was asked if I was there in 1877?

Q. I asked why suppress all mention of it?—I was not asked the question.

Q. How is it you suppressed all mention of Mr. Rowan's letter to you in March, 1878? Do you deny the receipt of the letter from Rowan in March, 1878, having reference to these changes?—I think I have given evidence already that I received a letter from Mr. Rowan which I did not consider at all; a letter with some estimates.

Q. Then what do you mean by saying you know nothing of these proposed changes until you went on the works in 1878?—I said I knew nothing of their having been brought before the Department. I knew that Mr. Rowan sent in an estimate to me, which I merely glanced at, as I was very busy at the time I received it. It seemed to me to be a sort of estimate on some changes that would affect the cost of the work, but I never had time to go into it, and I never submitted it to the Department at all. Before I had time to look into it, Mr. Fleming arrived, and Mr. Rowan made a fresh proposition to him, so that I never went into it at all.

*By the Honorable Mr. Haythorne:—*

Q. I think that the first intimation that the Committee had that the change had been resolved on for the crossing of those lakes, from trestle-work to stone and earth, was the verbal communication which you made to him yourself, at Winnipeg, in the autumn of 1877, which he communicated to the division engineer, which has verified the fact and given it date?—There was a special case that came before me, : a small length of two lakes about a mile, and the distribution of the rock that way was better, in my opinion, and more economical than according to the instructions of Mr. Fleming. I approved of that change for that portion of the work. I mentioned it to Mr. Mackenzie when I came home, and he approved of it also, but I gave no general approval of the system. I gave special instructions that anything they had to propose to submit it to me, and that they were not to take this as an approval of the general change.

*By the Honorable Mr. McLean:—*

Q. You submitted the proposition of Mr. Whitehead, and the report of the engineers, but I asked you is the report Mr. Rowan sent to you the only report in the Department recommending the change, and you replied "that is all I know of in the office"?—I have never seen that report since.

*By the Honorable Mr. Cornwall:—*

Q. What became of the report?—I do not know what became of it.

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Mr. JAMES H. ROWAN was re-called, and examined as follows:—

*By the Honorable Mr. Macpherson:—*

Q. You promised us schedules of the estimated cost of completing the work under both systems. Have you got them?—I did promise it, but I have only been able to get one copy completed as yet, I had so many papers to copy for another committee. The schedule I now produce as Exhibit "I," is an approximate estimate.