

on their arrival at Thunder Bay, be sent to open and improve the Portages between Shebandowan Lake and Rainy Lake, and for this purpose they can be supplied with canoes at Fort William, and outfit from the Government stores at the works.

“THE WAGGON SERVICE.

“Stables will be required at Thunder Bay, at the half-way Station, and at Shebandowan Lake, together with tents or huts for the accommodation of the teamsters. Intermediate between the half-way station and Thunder Bay, on the one side, and between the first named place and Shebandowan Lake, on the other, there should be camps as resting places where the horses could be fed. These camps would only require one or two men to be stationed at each, to take care of the hay and oats, and have victuals in readiness for the teamsters as they passed.

“Both at Thunder Bay and the half-way Station of the Kanimistiquia, it would be necessary to have a blacksmith with shoeing apparatus and a supply of horse shoes.

“The waggon service would require in all—

Teamsters.....	73
Men at Camps.....	4
Overseers.....	3
Blacksmiths.....	2
Clerk or time keeper.....	1
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“BOATS AND SUPPLIES OVER THUNDER BAY ROAD.

“Operations in this regard may be at once commenced by organizing the waggon service and sending boats, provisions, oats, hay, &c., forward to the Matawin Crossing, 25 miles from Thunder Bay. And at this point a small space should be cleared to guard against fire, and a few huts erected to serve as storehouses.

“THE BOAT SERVICE.

“In providing for this, three voyageurs should be sufficient for each boat, that is, with the aid of the soldiers in rowing and in transporting articles over the Portages.

“With this arrangement it would be necessary, that, in running rapids, the crews of two boats should be put in one, running first one, and then the other. The voyageurs may not be all equally expert, and, perhaps, four to each boat might, in some cases be necessary.

“It is reasonable to believe, however, that after a little practice, many of the soldiers will become almost as skilful in the management of a boat as the voyageurs, and they will have had an opportunity of gaining experience before any of the difficult sections are reached.

“In case of necessity, additional force can be supplied, to some extent, from among the men on the works, most of whom have had more or less experience as boatmen. Each brigade of boats would require an overseer voyageur, for the maintenance of discipline among the crews, calling them to time in the morning, &c.

“There should also be a clerk or two attached to the force, to keep the time and accounts of the voyageurs.

“When the greater part of the boats, and a considerable portion of the supplies, have reached Shebandowan Lake, oxen and horses should be placed on the Kashaboiwe, Height of Land, Baril, Brulé, and French Portages, as follows :

“On Kashaboiwe Portage, 1 span of horses, 2 yoke of oxen.

Height of Land, 1 span of horses, 2 yoke of oxen.

Baril Portage, 2 yoke of oxen.

Brulé Portage, 2 yoke of oxen.

French Portage, 2 yoke of oxen, 2 span of horses.