

*Roche, Alfred Robert*—(Analysis of his Evidence)—continued.

Reference to a report by the Commissioner of Crown Lands which has been presented to the provincial parliament, and which contemplates a settlement by Canada of the prairies of the Saskatchewan and Red River, 4476-4484—Disposal already of the greater part of the available land in the western parts of Canada; hence the desire to settle the prairie country of the Hudson's Bay territory, 4484, 4485. 4498-4508—Although Canada claims the territory up to the Pacific, their main object is a settlement of the country, more especially as far the Rocky Mountains, 4486-4497.

Feeling in Canada that the rights of the Company should be abolished, and the trade with the Indians thrown open, 4509-4511—Consideration of the effect upon the Indians if the territory were annexed to Canada, and the trade opened; belief that by restrictions upon the sale of spirits the Indians would prosper, 4512-4543—Increase in the number and the prosperity of the Indians in certain parts of Canada, 4525-4539.

Reference to a paper (*App. p.* 381-385), drawn up in March last by Mr. Gunn, of Red River, containing statistics of the colony, 4544-4548—Explanation relative to a petition from Red River, signed by about 600 persons, and recently presented to the Canadian Parliament, complaining of the rule and monopoly of the Hudson's Bay Company, 4548-4558. 4561—Statement by the petitioners that they have represented their grievances to the Imperial Government without effect, 4556, 4557. 4562-4564.

Reference to the committee now sitting in Canada for inquiry, among other things, into the validity of the Company's charter, 4558-4561—The committee will soon make their report, 4561—Authority and object of the colonial legislature in directing the inquiry referred to, 4565.

*Rocky Mountains.* Doubt as to the altitude of the Rocky Mountains, *Lefroy* 295-297—Particulars as to the passes over the Rocky Mountains, more especially that by Mount Hooker; they are all very difficult, *Miles* 4673-4676. 4701-4709—The Kootanais pass, in the American territory, is crossed over in waggons, *ib.* 4706, 4707—There are three passes over the mountains: one through the Peace River which flows right through the mountains, one from the northern branch of the Saskatchewan, and one from the southern branch which may be crossed in wheel carriages, *Isbister* 6092-6094.

*Roman-catholic Clergy.* Payment of 100 l. a year to a Roman-catholic bishop in Oregon, *Sir G. Simpson* 1102-1107—There are Roman-catholic clergymen at Red River, &c., with a bishop at their head, *Right Rev. Dr. Anderson* 4281.

*Ross, John.* (Analysis of his Evidence.)—Has been a member of the Canadian Parliament since 1848, and, in different capacities, a member of the Canadian government, 1-4—Has paid considerable attention to the state of the Hudson's Bay territory, more especially in so far as the interests of Canada are affected thereby, 6—Has been on the borders of, but not in, the territory, 7. 12—Is at the head of the Trunk Railway of Canada, 8.

Within the last year a regular discussion has risen up in Canada upon the question of opening up the territory, 10. 16—Feeling in Canada that the control of the Hudson's Bay Company prevents the extension of settlement and civilisation, 10—Witness considers that it would be a very great calamity if the control of the Company were altogether to cease, *ib.*—Constant peace within the territory through the operations of the Company, *ib.*—Constant war on the other hand between the natives of the American territory, on the one side, and the Indian tribes on the other, 10. 140, 141.

Suggestion that so fast as the Canadian Government might wish to open up any part of the territory for settlement, they should give notice thereof to the Company, who should, within a certain period, surrender the territory indicated, 11. 55. 59.

Witness has heard that at the west of Lake Superior there is some land that might very well be settled, 12—The country round the Red River is also said to be very good land, and very suitable for settlement, *ib.*—The country generally, from Lake Superior to the Red River, is not adapted for settlement, being broken and intersected by swamps to a very great extent, 12. 147.

Evidence in favour of a line of railway communication across the continent of North America, which should be a continuation of the Grand Trunk line, and should pass by the Red River Settlement and over the Rocky Mountains, and so on to Vancouver's Island, 13-17. 39-46. 67-72. 148-155—Obstacles to the Red River Settlement being governed or administered by the Canadian Government, 17. 124-143—A railway, or good road, from the west end of Lake Superior to the Red River Settlement, is the best means of opening up and extending the latter place, 17.

There is not any part of the territory on the frontier of Canada which is likely to be occupied, 18—Unsuitableness of the land round the Saguenay River for extended occupation, 18-22. 156, 157—Importance of the Canadian boundaries being properly defined,