

for me to accomplish what I wanted because of a great friendship, both personal and political, which I understood existed between Mr. Fitzgerald and Sir John Macdonald.

1512. Did you ever go directly to Sir John Macdonald?—I did.

1513. And to any other members of the Cabinet?—To Mr. Tilley.

1514. Had you your attention called by them to the delicate nature of such a removal, considering your relation to me?—I can't say.

1515. Had you by me?—I had.

1516. Did I not refuse to do anything?—Yes; until your attention was called to the harsh and unfair manner in which I was treated, and to the letters you saw to the Commissioners, in which I was described as everything that was bad.

1517. What next followed with regard to Mr. Fitzgerald?—After the order was reversed for his removal, he came over and met me at the Bathurst Hotel. We talked about the work and the difficulties which had existed between us. I expressed my desire to see them ended for the benefit of the work. I asked him then to show his disposition to treat me fairly, and give me certain returns which I demanded should have been made long ago. These returns which I asked I will explain to the Committee in this way. In making up the quantities when the 12-foot arch culverts were put in, comprising 1,100 yards, I maintained I should have 1,100 returned to me as done. He would not acknowledge anything of the kind, and referred me to Mr. Light. The Red-Pine Bridge included about 13,000 yards of earth by the bill of works. I estimated somewhere about 7,000; and thought I was entitled to a return of some of that work. I think at that time he allowed me 5,000 yards, although I am not positive about this. He allowed me 50 yards of masonry upon the structure at Little Red Pine Bridge. He allowed me 50 yards extra for the amount I had actually built. The reason was because I substituted a structure which would not take much more than half the original cost; and I stated as I had so much of it done, I should have had a portion of that dispensed with returned to me as done.

By Mr. Mills:—

1518. You say he had not agreed to allow you for earth-work dispensed with. Were you on speaking terms with regard to this?—I had not spoken so frequently as before.

1519. Was the work in progress at this time?—It was, but not in rapid progress.

1520. Was it advanced at all, so that it could be taken into consideration?—It was. I visited Mr. Fitzgerald's house, and pointed out several cases along the line in which culverts had been dispensed with and ditching substituted, and where I asked his consideration for a return of them. I also referred to the shrinkage upon the big bog of 20,000 yards which had been put into the original bill of works, but which at that time had shrunk all it could shrink, and thought I ought to be allowed a portion of that. I pointed out every point along the line where I thought I should have material help. Mr. Fitzgerald replied by saying I must do something for him. He stated that he had been down there four years: that his time had been comparatively wasted, and that his salary was scarcely sufficient to keep him; that I knew the only thing he had got was a few little bits of furniture; that Sir John Macdonald had asked him to go down, and were it not for that he never would have gone; and that upon subsequent complaint to Sir John, he still urged him to remain there. He then asked me, if he would make the returns I desired, what I would do. I stated, outside of his own door, that if he would give me the justice I asked in having those returns made that I pointed out, I would do something. He said: "If I do what you ask this next month, it will amount, when moneyed out by Mr. Fleming, to probably \$5,000. What will you do on this?" I said, if he would make these returns so that it would amount to \$5,000, that I would give him \$1,000. He reached his hand across the gate where we were standing, and said: "Now, Gough, stand to your word." The returns were made; and before the estimates arrived, on two occasions Mr. Fitzgerald came to the hotel where I was staying, invited me into a separate room, and urged me by no means to omit the payment to him of the \$1,000 agreed upon. The estimate came: my requirements were considerable. I was not able to give Mr. Fitzgerald the whole \$1,000 agreed upon, but I walked over to his house