

MINUTES OF EVIDENCE.

VOLUME II.

OTTAWA, Tuesday, 9th November, 1880. TRUDEAU.

TOUSSAINT TRUDEAU's examination continued :

By the Chairman :—

**Building Engi-
neers' Houses—
Contract 32 A.**

14048. Are you prepared now with evidence concerning contract 32 A ?—Yes.

14049. What is the subject of the contract ?—Building eight houses between Sunshine Creek and English River.

14050. Have you the contract ?—Yes ; I produce it. (Exhibit No. 161.)

14051. Was this work let by public competition ?—Yes.

Let by public
competi.tion.

14052. Have you a copy of the advertisement and any report upon the different tenders ?—Tenders were invited by handbills by the engineer in charge of that locality. This is a report by Mr. Marcus Smith on the whole subject. (Exhibit No. 162.)

14053. Some of the correspondence attached to the documents which you have just produced shows that it was not intended by the Department, in the first place, that this contract should be let entirely upon the responsibility of Mr. Hazlewood, the District Engineer : will you explain how it occurred ?—You will find in the report by Mr. Marcus Smith, dated 11th June, 1877, that when on the spot he was informed by Mr. Hazlewood that the letters requesting him to send the tenders, and plans and specifications, having been written after the close of navigation on the lakes, he did not receive any of them until after he had awarded the contract, which he did to the firm who sent him the lowest tender.

Hazlewood had
awarded contract
before he received
letter telling him
to send tender to
Department.

14054. As I understand it, if that letter had been received in due course by him it would have countermanded in effect the previous communication from the Engineer-in-Chief : is that the correct understanding ? If you will look at the letter from Mr. Fleming, of May 6th, it will remind you of the matter ; or do you understand that the letter from Mr. Fleming also required that the papers should be submitted to the head office before concluding the matter ?—Mr. Fleming's letter does not say anything about referring the tenders to Ottawa.

14055. Please read Mr. Fleming's letter ?—

"SAMUEL HAZLEWOOD, Esq.,

"With regard to the erection of engineers' houses on the line of the Pacific Railway, the Department authorizes the erection of the structures required, under the contract which the engineer in charge will make, taking care to have the agreement on the most favourable terms possible to the Government, and to forward a copy of the contract in each case to the head office."

Letter of Fleming
on which Hazle-
wood was author-
ized to conclude
agreement.

14056. Do you understand that it was upon that letter Mr. Hazlewood proceeded to conclude the agreement ?—Yes.