

R.

Rae, Sir John. (Analysis of his Evidence.)—Entered the service of the Hudson's Bay Company in 1833; passed ten years at Moose Factory, one year on the Mackenzie River, and one season at York Factory, and has been employed about eight years in Arctic service, 365-367. 512-514—Believes that the country about the Saskatchewan is quite capable of cultivation, 368-371. 449—Obstacles to any settlement of the Saskatchewan until the country gradually settles up to it, and communication is afforded for dealing with the produce, 368-371—Witness left the service of the Company last year, 372-374.

Fairness of the system pursued by the Company in their traffic with the Indians, 375—Higher payment given for the less valuable furs, such as the musk-rat, in order to prevent the finer and more valuable animals being killed off, 376. 502. 559, 560—The more northern portion of the territory is not capable of agricultural cultivation save as regards barley, 376, 377. 391—As regards the trade in furs it is essential that the same should be a monopoly, 378-384. 414-416—An opposition fur trade would result in the introduction of spirits among the Indians, to their great injury, and in the exhaustion of the trade, 379-384. 414.

Advantage if some arrangement could be made whereby the Company should give up the lands capable of cultivation, and retain the hunting grounds and the districts fit for nothing but the fur trade, 385-387. 648—Reference to the fur trading establishment of the Russian government on the extreme north-west part of the continent, 388-390. 412—Sundry northerly points at which barley is grown, 391—Effect of the constant ice in Hudson's Bay in preventing any mitigation or amelioration of the climate by clearance of the woody country, 395—Character of the soil and climate of Banks' or Baring Island, and of Wollaston and Victoria Lands, 396-402.

Explanation as to Colonel Lefr y's statement relative to short supplies to the Company's traders, 403-406—Abundant supply generally of clothes and ammunition for trading with the Indians, 407—Supply of the goods to the Indians on credit, 408—Particulars as to the prices put upon goods, with reference to their prime cost, which are bartered with the Indians in exchange for beaver skins; examination hereon to the effect that by the Company's tariff a fair value is placed upon the furs, 408-413. 471-511. 520-560.

Large earnings of the Indians by employment at some of the forts in summer, 408—The settlement of the Indians would not be prejudicial to the fur trade, 417—Unsuccessful attempts made at Moose Factory and other places to effect a settlement of Indians, 418-427—Union going on of the white and Indian races, 428—South of the Saskatchewan River the Indians are most free from cross of any kind, 429—Great impediment offered by the ice to ships getting round to the mouth of the Mackenzie, 430-433.

Difference between the climate of the Orkneys and of York on Hudson's Bay, 434-438—Length of the winter in the district south of Lake Winnipeg, 439-443—Witness travelled from the Red River through Minnesota to St. Paul's in the winter, and found the country very level and easy for travelling, 444-447—Marshy character of the land along the north shore of Lake Winnipeg, 450, 451—Excellent character of the soil at Red River, 453-455.

Between St. Paul's, or rather Crow Wing, and Red River, there are about 450 miles unsettled, 456-459. 464—Circumstance of Minnesota having been partly settled before all Wisconsin was settled, 456-470—The prices of the several kinds of beaver skins are well known to the Indians, who are very shrewd in their dealings, 485-499. 527. 568-572—Modification of the tariff some years ago in favour of the Indians, 499, 500. 520-543—The Indians probably pay, indirectly, more than 200 per cent. in beaver skins over and above the first value of the goods, 503-511.

Character of the wood in the neighbourhood of the Moose settlement, 515-519—Process at the Company's posts in regard to the exchange of furs for goods, 539, 540—Particulars as to the number of skins of different kinds which would be required for a gun, 540-558—Friendly treatment, generally, of the Indians by the Company's servants, 561, 562—Relief in clothes, medicine, and food given gratuitously to Indians at Moose Factory during witness's residence there, 562. 673-687—Spirits were never bartered for furs, but drams were occasionally given gratuitously to the hunters, 563-567.

Belief that a self-supporting colony could not at present exist at Rainy Lake or other more favorable districts, 573-576—Character of the country north of Lake Superior and between Fort William and Red River; it is very ill adapted for settlement, and is almost impracticable for travelling, 577-601. 604. 608-617. 624-631—Immense obstacles to the formation of a railway from Canada to the Red River, 584-586. 591-593—The easiest route from Toronto to the Red River is through the States and by St. Paul's, 588-590.

With