

EXTRACT of a Minute of the Committee of the Hudson's Bay Company, dated 6 July 1863.

" That Mr. Edw. Watkin be authorized to proceed to the Red River Settlement without delay, for the purpose of reporting on the condition of that settlement, the condition of the neighbouring territory, the prospects of settlement therein, and the possibility of commencing operations for a telegraph line across the southern district of Rupert's Land.

" That, looking to the lateness of the season, it will be impossible for Mr. Watkin to do more at present than make preliminary inquiries on these subjects, with a view to a more exact and complete examination of them next spring.

" That Governor Dallas and Chief Factor William Mactavish be informed of Mr. Watkin's employment, and that the former be associated with Mr. Watkin in all the above inquiries.

" Further, that the Governor be authorized to communicate a copy of this minute to his Grace the Duke of Newcastle."

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