

the original plan furnished, but I am going on to state that, through Mr. Fitzgerald's efforts, that plan was changed. The size of the piers would have nothing whatever to do with the character of the foot courses. Whether the piers were 14, 18, or 20 feet, there would be no reason why 2-foot granite blocks should be split in two before being allowed to go in.

*By Mr. Metcalfe :—*

1498. Did he furnish no reason?—None whatever.

*By Mr. Mitchell :—*

1499. Were you there at the time?—Shortly afterwards. My foreman was there.

1500. Did he carry out the order of Mr. Fitzgerald, and split the stone?—He did. His next efforts were directed to a 12-foot arch culvert, which was nearly completed when he ordered the haunches of the culvert to be built even with the top of the arch. They were not so shown on the plan, and are not shown so on any structure on the Intercolonial. His other efforts detrimental to me consisted in circulating perpetual stories about town and upon the section that the work was to be taken from me; that where men happened to be a week behind time I had received the estimates and was keeping the payments wilfully from them. Then his efforts culminated in this report to Mr. Light, and another to the Commissioners, which I have seen in evidence, and which is of a character even more spiteful and more untrue.

1501. How did you first learn about these reports?—From Mr. Light. Mr. Fitzgerald never gave me any notice that they were made.

1502. Did he ever give you any notice that the work was unsatisfactory?—Not that I remember. Seeing the animus which actuated Mr. Fitzgerald against me in this contract, I had made repeated efforts to have him removed, and I was assured, on more than one occasion, that it had been done. Subsequently I found that he was not removed, yet I still kept on trying to get rid of him. He afterwards told me that the reason I did not succeed in ousting him was because he had been able to do more for Sir John Macdonald than I had done for the Government. In his letter to Mr. Jones, before the Committee, he states the same thing. During the winter of 1872 and summer of 1873, I still persisted in my efforts for Mr. Fitzgerald's removal.

1503. You were on bad terms at that period?—We were. We never spoke from November 1872 till September 1873.

*By Mr. Mills :—*

1504. That was during the period which elapsed between your telegram and letter?—Yes.

*By Mr. Mitchell :—*

1505. Did you complain to Mr. Light about Mr. Fitzgerald?—I did. He said he was an extraordinary fellow. I still continued to use all the efforts I could bring to bear to get him off my works, and thought it was accomplished, when in September I was told from Ottawa that Mr. Fitzgerald had been ordered to take Mr. Buck's place on Section 10, and Mr. Buck to replace Mr. Fitzgerald on Section 16.

1506. Do you know what was the cause of this?—I fancy from the unpleasant nature of the relations between the contractor and engineers.

*By Mr. Mills :—*

1507. By whom was that order made you refer to?—By the Commissioners. The order was subsequently reversed.

1508. In using these efforts to get rid of Mr. Fitzgerald, in what way did you make them?—I represented the matter to the Commissioners and the Government.

1509. To any particular members of the Government?—Yes. To Mr. Mitchell and Mr. Tilley, and perhaps Mr. O'Connor, through Mr. Costigan.

*By Mr. Mitchell :—*

1510. What was my answer?—Your answer generally was that you were unable to do exactly as I wanted.

1511. Did I not repeatedly tell you, owing to my relationship to you, it was a delicate matter for me to interfere?—You did, frequently. I knew that it would be difficult