

were very scarce after the insurrection, and great difficulty was experienced in obtaining rations for the working parties. At that time, as already stated by me, the Hudson's Bay Company were the actual managers of the road in 1870 and 1871.

As these accounts were recognized and accepted by the Hudson's Bay Company, and as I believed them to represent actual value to the road, at current rates, they were, under the exceptional circumstances then existing in the Red River Settlement, allowed to pass. I refer to Mr. McKay's accounts in 1870-71, amounting to \$1,704.

The following letter, dated 19th November, 1870, from the Hudson's Bay Company, will shew that they were the managers.

(Copy).

Public Works of Canada, Dr. to the Hudson's Bay Company,

For the following payments made on account of "The Lake of the Woods Road," from the beginning of the work, (27th July, 1870,) under the superintendence of the Hudson's Bay Company, as per authority from Colonel Wolseley and S. J. Dawson, Esq., up to the 19th November, 1870, viz. :—

	£	s.	d.
Cash paid for wages of laborers.....	1,492	4	9
do work done by contract.....	720	18	6
do hire of horses, transport, &c.....	255	11	6
do provisions.....	504	13	10
do sundry supplies furnished on road....	333	4	11
do do do R.R. shop....	987	4	6
	<hr/>		
	£4,293	18	0 Stg.
Add Hudson's Bay Co.'s charge of 10 per cent. on above payments	429	7	9
	<hr/>		
	£4,723	5	9 Stg.

Say £4,723 5s. 9d. sterling, at \$5 per £, \$23,016.44.

E. E.

FORT GARRY, 19th November, 1870.

(Signed) J. H. McTAVISH,
H. B. Company.

Certified to be a true copy.

JAMES RITCHIE.

Question.—Has Mr. McKay furnished any supplies since November, 1871, up to the present time?

Answer.—Not to my knowledge. I would suggest that Mr. McKay should himself be examined in regard to these accounts, more especially as they affect him individually. He is in a responsible position, now a Member of the Government of Manitoba, and he would be able to give full explanations in respect to the items referred to. They were approved by the then managers, the Hudson's Bay Company, and subsequently by the officer sent to investigate the accounts, and transferred to me as correct.

S. J. DAWSON.

Report of James McKay, Red River Settlement, received 2nd February, 1871, marked I.

ST. JAMES, MANITOBA,
7th January, 1871.

DEAR SIR,—In accordance with your instructions, I have the honor to submit, for the consideration of the Government, my Report on the progress and amount of work done under my superintendence on the Fort Garry and Lake of the Woods section of the Lake Superior Government Road, up to the present date.