Augustus Richard Peers was a native of Lymington, Hampshire, England, and entered the service of the Hudson’s Bay Company as an apprentice clerk in 1842. He sailed from England on the Company’s ship PRINCE RUPERT – Captain D.J. Herd – and landed at York Factory on the 18th August, 1842.

He served for one trading season at York Factory and on the 11th April, 1843, he left for Norway House en route to Fort Simpson, the headquarters to the Mackenzie River District, to which post he had been appointed. He arrived at Fort Simpson on the 20th August following, and remained at that place until the 18th June, 1844, when he was sent to take charge of Fort Norman in the same district. He arrived there on the 20th June. During trading season 1847-48, he was transferred to the charge of Peel River Post and he arrived there on the 16th September, 1847.

Peers remained in charge at Peel River until his death – which was attributed to a decline – occurred at that place on the 15th March, 1853. His body was removed to Fort Simpson, Mackenzie River District, for re-burial in 1859.

At the time of Peer’s death Charles Gaudet, Apprentice Post Master, was in charge of La Pierre’s House, and James Green Stewart, clerk, who happened then to be on his way from Fort Yukon to Fort Simpson remained at Peel River Post and assumed the charge thereof until further instructions were received from headquarters. Charles Gaudet was appointed to Peel River Post during the summer of 1853 but by November of that year Alexander Mackenzie, clerk, was in charge of that post and La Pierre’s House, a labourer actually carrying out the duties at the latter place.

1. H.B.C. Arch. B.239/a/155.
3. H.B.C. Arch. B.200/1/27.
5. H.B.C. Arch. B.152/1/26.

Filename: Peers, Augustus Richard (Clerk) (d. 1853) (fl. 1842-1853); CO 2002 September