

bably in an office of this size the receipts would be divided.

Mr. SPROULE. What rule do you follow in regard to fitting up these offices or leaving the postmasters to fit them up?

The MINISTER OF PUBLIC WORKS. I have never known a case of a post office being built and the postmaster fitting it up. In an office of this kind, I think the postmaster will receive 50 per cent of the revenue.

Of course it is as broad as it is long. The postmaster's salary is fixed on the percentage of the revenue and in some cases a percentage is allowed him on receipts from the boxes.

Mr. SPROULE. In all cases where the postmaster furnishes the boxes himself, he gets all the revenue from them?

The MINISTER OF PUBLIC WORKS. Yes.

Mr. WILSON. Where there is a public building, does the postmaster not get salary instead of percentage?

The MINISTER OF PUBLIC WORKS. I find that where the post office is declared to be a city office the postmaster gets a salary. In other cases he gets a percentage.

Mr. SPROULE. Who is the contractor, and was the contract given to the lowest tenderer?

The MINISTER OF PUBLIC WORKS. The contractor is Robert Campbell, of Almonte, and his was the lowest tender.

Mr. SPROULE. Was any application made to the department by the town to furnish a site? Or did they voluntarily offer the site?

The MINISTER OF PUBLIC WORKS. That happened some considerable time before I was in the department. The building is on ground belonging to the corporation.

Mr. SPROULE. In some cases the town furnishes the site and in other cases the government pays for the site. It seems to me that all places should be treated alike. Where an application is made for a post office, the town should be called on to furnish the site. It is not fair that in one case the government should pay for a site and in another the town should furnish it.

Guelph—public building, addition to, \$21,000.

The MINISTER OF PUBLIC WORKS. For many years the accommodation for the public has been altogether too small. I asked the chief architect to visit Guelph himself and look carefully into the present requirements and a little to the future, so that we might not be called upon to again make any additions. He found that the lowest estimate he could make would come

to something over \$21,000. I found that to make a temporary addition would not give the public satisfaction and that we should soon be called upon to make further improvements, so that the report of the chief architect was adopted. It will cost us this amount to complete the work. This expenditure is very well warranted from the revenues received from the government at that city. The postal revenue is \$25,000, and the customs over \$113,000.

Mr. HENDERSON. Is the inland revenue office in the same building?

The MINISTER OF PUBLIC WORKS. I am not prepared to answer that question as my officer has not put into this memorandum the revenue from inland revenue.

Mr. HENDERSON. Have tenders been called for or has the contract been let?

The MINISTER OF PUBLIC WORKS. I do not think the contract has been let, but tenders have been called for.

Mr. HENDERSON. It is understood there Mr. Kennedy has the contract.

The MINISTER OF PUBLIC WORKS. Now that my hon. friend mentions the name, I believe that Mr. Kennedy was the lowest tenderer.

Mr. SPROULE. What will the building cost in full?

The MINISTER OF PUBLIC WORKS. I have not the cost of the original building. That was begun in 1874 and completed in 1877.

Mr. SPROULE. What will the present addition cost?

The MINISTER OF PUBLIC WORKS. It will cost \$30,000. Nine thousand dollars were spent last year, and \$21,000 are required this year, which makes \$30,000. The contract is not yet let. We advertised for tenders, and I remember that the tenders came before the deputy minister and myself, and the amount was something over \$27,000.

Mr. HENDERSON. Did the government own the site on which the addition is being erected?

The MINISTER OF PUBLIC WORKS. Yes.

Public works—chargeable to income, public buildings, Ontario—Kingston military buildings, stable accommodation for field battery, \$5,000.

The MINISTER OF PUBLIC WORKS. This vote has been taken several times, I believe. A demand was made a number of years ago for suitable accommodation for the field battery, Royal Canadian Artillery. They want a stable for forty horses. There has been great difficulty about the site, but that has now been purchased at \$5,000, which is represented to us as a very reasonable price. Later on I intend to ask the House for a vote for the erection of the