

Contracts for Mail Service.

Meteghan and Railway Station.

At the time the Department renewed the contract for this service without tender at \$200 per annum, it had before it an offer at the rate of \$72 per annum, the loss from the transaction amounting to \$512 for the term. The present Government, on becoming aware of the facts, cancelled the contract and put it up to tender in combination with the service between Meteghan Station and railway station. The result is that the two services which cost \$240 per annum are now had for \$95 per annum, a saving of \$580 for the term.

The service has been in the hands of the present contractor, Mr. E. E. Sheehan, since it went into operation on the 1st June, 1883, and has not been let by tender during that time.

The following correspondence appears in connection with the letting of the last contract for the service :—

CORRESPONDENCE.

METEGHAN, N.S., 4th December, 1893.

DEAR SIR,—Not knowing the name of the Postmaster General, and your name being handed to me by a friend saying you were Deputy Postmaster General, I take the liberty of asking you if the tenders for mail contract are coming out soon for the conveyance of mails from Meteghan to Meteghan Station. Four years ago the tenders came out about this time. If you are not going to call for tenders, I will carry the mail from Meteghan to Meteghan Station for seventy-two dollars a year, if you will allow me the same privilege as you allow the contractor that carries it now.

Hoping to hear from you at an early date in regard to tenders coming out, or if you will accept my offer.

I remain, &c.,

WILLIAM GERMAN.

WM. WHITE, Esq.

OTTAWA, 9th December, 1893.

SIR,—I have the honour to acknowledge the receipt of your letter of the 4th inst., asking whether tenders are to be invited for the mail service between Meteghan and Meteghan railway station, and offering to undertake the service for \$72 per annum. In reply I am to say that the contract for this service does not expire until the 31st March, 1895, and that the Postmaster General is not in a position at this date to state what arrangements will be made after the present contract expires.

I am, &c.,

ARTHUR LINDSAY,
Superintendent.

Mr. W. GERMAN,
Meteghan, N.S.

WEYMOUTH, N.S., 17th October, 1894.

DEAR SIR,—I wish to drop you a line in reference to the contract for carrying the mail between Meteghan Station and Meteghan. The distance is six miles and the mails are carried out and back twice a day, making twenty-four miles.

Mr. Sheehan, the present carrier, offers to take it again for the same rate, \$200, which I think you will find is low enough; but Mr. S. keeps a hotel and goes to train and this helps him out. He has good teams and is all ready for the work, and I would recommend you to continue the present contractor another term. His rival will be a bitter Grit if up at tender, and I much prefer Mr. Sheehan, who voted for me twice to the rival who is one of the most active Grits in Clare.

The terms are low and you better continue them again.

I am yours sincerely,

H. L. JONES.

The Honourable
Sir A. P. CARON, K.C.M.G.,