

a greater proportion to the additional Stock or Carriers rendered necessary than the sum stipulated in the original Contract bears to the Stock and Carriers necessarily employed in its execution.

Lowest tender to be accepted.

IV. And be it enacted, that proposals for Mail Contracts shall be delivered to the Department sealed, and shall be kept sealed until the biddings are closed, and shall then be opened in the presence of the Postmaster General; and the Contracts in all cases shall be awarded to the lowest bidder tendering sufficient security for the faithful performance of the Contract: 5
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Proviso.

Provided, however, that the Postmaster General shall not be bound to consider the bid of any person who shall have wilfully or negligently failed to execute or perform a prior Contract.

Abstracts of tenders to be recorded.

V. And be it enacted, that it shall be the duty of the Postmaster General to have recorded in a well bound book a true and faithful abstract of offers made to him for carrying the Mail, embracing as well those which are rejected as those which are accepted; the said abstract to contain a description of each Contract advertised for public competition, the dates of the offers made, the dates at which they were received by the Postmaster General, the names of the parties offering, the terms on which they propose to carry the Mail, the Sum for which it is offered to Contract, and the length of time the agreement is to continue; and it shall also be the duty of the Postmaster General to put on file and preserve the originals of the propositions of which abstracts are here directed to be made, and to report at each Session of the Provincial Parliament a true copy from the said record of all offers made for carrying the Mail as aforesaid. 15
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Persons employed in the department not to be interested in contracts, &c.

VI. And be it enacted, that if any person employed in the Post Office Department shall become interested in any mail contract, or act as agent with or without compensation in any matter or thing relating to business in said Department for any contractor or person offering to become a contractor he shall be forthwith dismissed from office. 35

Tenders to be accompanied by a written guarantee.

VII. And be it enacted, that every proposal for the transportation of the mail involving an annual cost of more than £50 per annum shall be accompanied by a written guarantee, signed by one or more responsible persons, to the effect that he or they undertake that the bidder will, if his bid be accepted, enter into an obligation, in such time as may be prescribed by the Postmaster General, with good and sufficient sureties, to perform the service proposed. No proposal shall be considered unless accompanied by such guarantee. If, after the acceptance of a proposal and notification thereof to the bidder, he shall fail to enter into an obligation within the time prescribed by the Postmaster General, with good and 40
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