

APPENDIX No. 1

If you desire to quote prices, kindly forward your tender in time to reach here on or before 24th instant.

I have the honour to be, sir, your obedient servant,

(Sgd.) E. F. JARVIS,
Actg. Deputy Minister of Militia and Defence.

Q. Now, you say that letter was sent to Mr. Macoun, to B. J. Coughlin & Co., and to the Orford Copper Company of New York?—A. Yes, sir.

Q. Now, I notice there is a memorandum there, signed by yourself, I think. It is close to that correspondence, addressed to the late deputy minister, Colonel Pinault, asking if you would send a similar letter to any other firm; can you find that?—A. It is a memorandum from Mr. McCann, an officer of the department, dated the 12th of April, 1906, to Colonel Pinault, who was ill at the time at his residence. It reads:

'Do you wish me to send a similar letter to any other firm?'

And the deputy minister replied to it:

'Yes—you better have this letter signed by Mr. Jarvis, as acting deputy minister.'

Q. Who is McCann?—A. He is an official of the contract branch of the department, but at that time the work connected with the arsenal was largely, or in fact entirely, handled by the deputy minister himself, and Mr. McCann was the clerk, who did that particular work for the deputy minister, and therefore, when Colonel Pinault was ill at his residence, Mr. McCann appears to have gone to him and got instructions.

Q. What about the first instructions as to sending out this letter for tenders; there were three letters on the 12th of April?—A. That would appear to be the same day.

Q. Yes, but there are no instructions on the file to send them out?—A. Well, it was not necessary to get instructions.

Q. You then had verbal instructions?—A. No, there would be no instructions from the deputy minister at all; I was acting deputy minister; it is quite possible Mr. McCann drafted the letters and went to the deputy minister with them.

Q. How did you come to send these letters to these people? Did you have instructions?—A. It wasn't necessary for me to have instructions, I was acting deputy minister.

Q. How did you pick on these firms?—A. If he got the instructions they were brought to me, I suppose, and I signed the letters.

Q. It was on April 12 these letters were sent to these firms, on that same date, Mr. McCann writes to the deputy minister asking if he will send similar letters to other firms?—A. Yes.

Q. I am asking how it was these three were selected? Mr. Macoun, B. J. Coghlin & Co., and the Orford Copper Company?—A. I do not know anything about the selection; they were made in the usual way in the contract branch; when we want any supplies of that kind we see who are able to supply them and send them a letter.

Q. To those on the patronage list—they are taken from the patronage list?—A. Yes, from that list if you like.

Q. Would the Orford Copper Company be on that list?—A. Yes, they may be, I do not know any reason why they shouldn't.

Q. But they are in New York?—A. It is just possible, when the firms in Canada that can supply copper are so limited in number, that there may be firms outside the country on the list.

Q. In regard to the automatic labour-saving machinery for the Arsenal, the firm of Potter & Johnston were not on the list?—A. It seems not.

Q. Then with regard to the Orford Copper Company, was there any communication from them on the files in the department showing that they were not in a position to supply the copper?—A. I do not know, sir.

O. You might refer then to a letter, I think it is the 23rd of April—no, perhaps