

[FOR THE CRITIC.]

HOW I SECURED A BONANZA.

CHAPTER II.—Continued.

"This is rather dry work," said Dave, with one of his knowing winks. Taking the hint, I supplied the longed-for liquid refreshment, and Dave proceeded to "spin his yarn."

"I had a bad streak of luck down at Tangier, and was so completely hustled, I didn't know which way to turn. There were lots of ducks off the coast, and I determined to give up mining, and shoot ducks for the Halifax market. But there was the rub—I had no powder or shot, and no credit, or cash, to buy with. But I never was stuck yet, and I soon hit on a plan to raise the wind. I found a piece of old lead pipe, and melted it down into a solid lump, and you could hardly tell it from a piece of gold amalgam. This I carefully wrapped in my handkerchief, and took it down to old Hawkins. No one knew better than I that he bought all the stolen gold that the miners offered him. He was behind the bar when I went in, and sang out—"No use, Dave, I won't give any credit until you pay that six dollars you owe me."

"Who wants your credit," says I, "they as —, "come into the back room, I wish to speak to you."

In he goes, and I follows, and shuts the door. The room was middling dark, so I pulled out the chunk of lead, and without unwrapping it, handed it to him.

"What is it," he asked.

"Don't give me away, old man, that's full of gold! I stole into the crusher last night, and scraped the plates, and there's over two hundred dollars worth of gold and quicksilver in that lump.—Hush! don't let any one hear, for Heaven's sake!"

"I'll give you ten dollars for it, and call the debt square," said he.

"No you don't, old man!"

"If you don't take it, you'll get nothing," and I knew that he tumbled to me, and was trying to frighten me into taking his price.

"You don't mean to split on a fellow?" I asked in a quaking voice.

"Well, it's a go; but sixteen dollars for two hundred, after all the risk I have run—It's too bad!"

"I'll throw in the drinks, and going up stairs, Hawkins secreted the lead, and hurried down.

Out into the shop I goes, and calls all hands up for the beer. Old Hawkins secretly slipped the receipted bill into my hand, and after I had purchased a large supply of powder and shot, I bid him a most affectionate adieu, and hurried out of town. Gentlemen, since that little transaction, Hawkins and I are "two."

If Dave would have confined his sharpness to men of the Hawkins' stamp, outsiders would have no cause to grumble, as it was a clear case of "diamond cut diamond." In spite of his little infirmities, he was a capital companion for a day's sport, and Ralph and I felt that we had made a valuable acquisition to our party when Dave agreed to join us in our sports on the morrow.

It was late when the miners shouldered their packs and started on their three mile tramp through the woods, so bidding good night to our host, we retired to the snug sitting room adjoining our bed room. A cheerful fire was burning in the wood stove, and as the necessary ingredients were at hand, we determined on a hot drink before turning in. Ralph brewed one of his favorite punches, which, as we were too sleepy for conversation, we soon disposed of, and then hurried into bed. Everything was scrupulously clean, and the bed, with its snowy sheets, looked most inviting. Ralph made some indistinct remark about downy couches, turned over, and was soon fast asleep.

CHAPTER III.

A DAY'S SPORT.

Before daylight, we were roused by Dave, and resisting our first impulse to sleep on and start at a more reasonable hour, we hurriedly dressed, and gulped down a very meagre breakfast by candle-light.

The wagon was at the door by the time we had finished, and Ralph and I stumbled sleepily into the back seat. Dave appeared with a long, single-barreled gun in his hand, and a comical-looking one-eyed retriever at his heels. Raising the dog, he placed it under our seat, and taking his place beside the driver, we were off for the beach. The morning was foggy and chilly. Some children that we passed on the road, loomed up to the height of giants, while small cottages assumed the guise of extensive homesteads. As my teeth chattered with the cold, I mentally resolved that this should be the last time that the paltry prospect of securing a few birds should draw me from my couch at such an early hour.

"We are likely to put up some partridges down the road," said Dave, so we languidly charged our breech loaders, and peered sleepily into the fog.

"Dave, who were those two pretty girls who waited on the table last night?" enquired Ralph, evidently speaking from his thoughts.

"Brown's daughters, by his first wife."

"Hum," and Ralph relapsed into silence. The sun now began to assert his away, the fog slowly rolled away, and a fine panorama of harbor and woodland, bold headlands, and quiet valleys, was spread before us. On our right, across the harbor, the large settlement of West Chizzetcook glittered in the sunlight; but what took our eyes were the large flocks of sea-birds that were winging their flight to the feeding grounds around the entrance to the harbor.

(To be Continued.)

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MAIL CONTRACT.

SEALED TENDERS, addressed to the Postmaster General will be received at Ottawa until noon, on FRIDAY, 14th May, for the conveyance of Her Majesty's Mails, three times per week each way, between THREE MILE HOUSE P. O. AND FOR R MILE HOUSE STATION,

Under a proposed contract for four years from the 1st July next.

Printed notices containing further information as to conditions of proposed Contract may be seen and blank forms of Tender may be obtained at the Post Office of Three Mile House and at this office

CHARLES J. MACDONALD,
Post Office Inspector,
Post Office Inspector's Office,
Halifax, 2nd April, 1886.



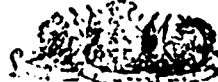
MAIL CONTRACT.

SEALED TENDERS, addressed to the Postmaster General will be received at Ottawa until noon, on FRIDAY, 14th May, for the conveyance of Her Majesty's Mails, three times per week each way, between ISAAC'S HARBOR AND ISAAC'S HARBOR, EAST SIDE,

Under a proposed contract for four years from the 1st July next.

Printed notices containing further information as to conditions of proposed Contract may be seen and blank forms of Tender may be obtained at the Post Offices of Isaac's Harbor and Isaac's Harbor, East Side, and at this office

CHARLES J. MACDONALD,
Post Office Inspector,
Post Office Inspector's Office,
Halifax, 2nd April, 1886.



MAIL CONTRACT.

SEALED TENDERS, addressed to the Postmaster General will be received at Ottawa until noon, on FRIDAY, 14th May, for the conveyance of Her Majesty's Mails, twelve times per week each way, between BEAVER BANK P. O. AND RAILWAY STATION.

Under a proposed Contract for four years from the 1st July next.

Printed notices containing further information as to conditions of proposed Contract may be seen and blank forms of Tender may be obtained at the Post Offices of Beaver Bank and at this office

CHARLES J. MACDONALD,
Post Office Inspector,
Post Office Inspector's Office,
Halifax, 2nd April, 1886.



NOTICE TO CONTRACTORS.

SEALED TENDERS addressed to the water signal, and endorsed "Tender for Cape Tormentine Wharf," will be received until WEDNESDAY the 21st day of APRIL, 1886, inclusively, for the construction of

A WHARF

Cape Tormentine, Westmorland Co., N. B.

According to plans and specification to be seen at the office of the New Brunswick and Prince Edward Island Railway, Music Hall Block, Parkville N. B., at the Office of the Public Works Department, Custom House Building, St. John, N. B., and at the Department of Public Works, here, at each of which places forms of tender can be obtained

Persons tendering are notified that tenders will not be considered unless made on the printed forms supplied, the blanks properly filled in, and signed with their actual signatures.

Each tender must be accompanied by an ACCRUIT bank cheque, made payable to the order of the Honorable the Minister of Public Works, for \$1,500, which will be forfeited if the party decline to enter into a contract when called upon to do so, or if he fail to complete the work contracted for. If the tender be not accepted the cheque will be returned.

This Department does not bind itself to accept the lowest or any tender.

By order,
A. GOBRIE,
Secretary
Department of Public Works,
Ottawa, 24th March, 1886.



Office of Commissioners of Public Charities.

HALIFAX, March 25, 1886

APPLICATIONS will be received at this office until four p.m., on WEDNESDAY, 21st of April next, for the positions of

HOUSE SURGEON AND CLINICAL CLERK, AT P. & C. HOSPITAL.

Rules under which applications are made and any information required, will be furnished on application at this office.

By order,
R. T. MURRAY,
Secretary.



MAIL CONTRACT.

SEALED TENDERS, addressed to the Postmaster General will be received at Ottawa until noon, on FRIDAY, 14th May, for the conveyance of Her Majesty's Mails, twice per week each way, between MIDDLE MUSQUODOBOIT AND MURPHYVILLE.

Under a proposed contract for four years from the 1st July next.

Printed notices containing further information as to conditions of proposed Contract may be seen and blank forms of Tender may be obtained at the Post Offices of Middle Musquodoboit and Murphyville and at this office.

CHARLES J. MACDONALD,
Post Office Inspector,
Post Office Inspector's Office,
Halifax, 2nd April, 1886.



MAIL CONTRACT.

SEALED TENDERS, addressed to the Postmaster General will be received at Ottawa until noon, on FRIDAY, 14th May, for the conveyance of Her Majesty's Mails, three times per week each way, between HOLLAND HARBOR AND PORT HILLFORD.

Under a proposed contract for four years from the 1st July next.

Printed notices containing further information as to conditions of proposed Contract may be seen and blank forms of Tender may be obtained at the Post Offices of Holland Harbor and Port Hillford and at this office.

CHARLES J. MACDONALD,
Post Office Inspector,
Post Office Inspector's Office,
Halifax, 2nd April, 1886.