

Contract No. 1—
Telegraph.

their contract, and they asked for an extension up to the 30th of October, 1876.

128. Would you look at the contract and see if the time named therein for completing the work is the same as that named in their tender?—The time named for the completion in the contract is the 30th of October, 1875.

129. That is nearly a year longer than the time mentioned in their tender?—Yes.

They therefore got better terms than they asked for in tender.

130. So that the contract gives them better terms than the tender calls for on that subject?—Yes.

Dwight wanted modifications and Department treated that as impossible.

131. Are you of the opinion that Dwight declined to take the contract, or that he was refused the contract—you say you have not got the original correspondence with you?—My impression at this moment is that Mr. Dwight, while perfectly willing to take the contract wanted certain modifications to be made which rendered it impossible to give it to him.

132. And that the Government declined to contract on the terms offered?—Yes.

Waddle & Smith, the next lowest, were willing to take the work.

133. Then the next lowest tender was from Waddle & Smith. Do you know whether they were willing to take the contract?—I can only infer from the fact that they tendered, that they were willing to take the work.

134. Your opinion is that they were willing?—Yes.

Tenders to have been received up to 22nd July, 1874.

135. Have you any means of knowing now when tenders were to be received by the Department for this work?—The advertisement said up to the 22nd of July, 1874.

136. Look at the tender of Sifton & Glass, and say what time that was received by the Department?—There is a stamp on it marked July 22nd.

137. Is that the last day named?—Yes.

138. You find that stamp on part of the envelope attached to the tender?—Yes.

Sifton, Glass & Co's, received on that day.

139. And from that are you of the opinion that it was received on that day?—Yes.

Practice to attach envelopes to tenders.

140. Is it the practice to attach portions of the envelope to all the tenders?—Yes, as much as we can.

None attached to Fuller's, nor to other three.

141. Is it attached to Fuller's tender?—I do not see it in Fuller's contract.

142. Is there any envelope showing when Dwight's tender was received for section one?—It has none.

143. Has Waddle & Smith's?—No.

144. Are you aware of any special reason for attaching the envelope to the tender of Sifton & Glass?—There is no reason.

Alterations in S. G. & Co's tender.

145. Do you notice any alterations in their tender from the tender as it originally stood?—There are.

Reduce their intended offer from \$520 to \$492, wood; \$200 to \$180 per mile prairie.

146. Are they to reduce the price or to raise it?—They reduce the price.