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No. 970

R. W. Barker

Nov. 14th 1877

on application

for a P.O. at The

Pritchard Settlement

F286

authorised

Recom'd C \$40
25 families

PMGen'l
authorizes 8th
29 Apl 78

No. 970

Post Office Inspector's Office

Kingston, Ont., 14th November 1877

Sir,

Referring to the accompanying request from the Council of the township of Stanhope, in the County of Haliburton, for the establishment of a Post office, I beg to state that I have recently been in the vicinity of the proposed site, and have to report the result of my enquiries as following:

The Pritchard Settlement, where it is proposed to establish the office applied for, is situated between a chain of lakes running north and south through the township of Stanhope forming what is known as the Island, and cuts that portion of the township off from the rest of it. The people living in the settlement do their banking and postal business at Minden, which is some thirteen miles distant, as there is no means of communication by road with any other place, the settlement is therefore isolated, and postal accommodation is needed there. There are some twenty five families living on the Island and to them an office would be a great benefit. Whilst the Peterson office was open it was situated directly on the road between the Settlement and Minden, within about five miles of Mr. Beatty's, the proposed new site and it was made use of by the settlers, but that office was closed last spring and there is no probability of its being re-opened.

The proposed Post office site is on Lot No 8, in the 5th Concession at the residence of Mr. Joseph Beatty, thirteen miles distant from Minden, and six miles from Carnarvon, but there is no passable road between Mr. Beatty's and the latter office.

An office at the proposed site would have to be supplied from Minden, unless the road to Carnarvon was put in order and then a connection could be made at that point, but to make such a connection of value, and prevent mails from lying over there a week the starting point of the Carnarvon and Minden service would have to be changed to Minden which would enable the Courier from Beatty's to meet the mail at Carnarvon on its arrival from Minden and the mail from Carnarvon could go out same day. If, therefore, an office is established at Mr. Beatty's and I am of opinion that one is needed there, I would advise that it be supplied from Carnarvon once a week, at a cost of about \$40 a year, and that the starting point of the Carnarvon and Minden service be changed to Minden, provided of course that the road above mentioned is made passable, otherwise Minden would have to be the point of supply and a service to that place would cost \$70 per annum.

A former Petition was sent to you asking for a Post office at the above mentioned site, and I returned it with my Report No. 613, of the 13th August 1875.

The annexed sketch will explain the position of the places referred to herein, and also of the site proposed for the office at Mr. James Melville's which forms the subject of my Report No. 971.

I have the honor to be

Sir

Your most obd't serv't

R. W. Barker

P.O. Inspector

The Honorable

The Postmaster General

Ottawa