

such a line of steamers will afford to emigrants and passengers, this Company hereby binds itself to pay to the contractors, Messrs. McKean, McLarty & Co., the sum of two thousand pounds sterling per annum, for the term of seven years after the commencement of the running of said steamers, at such period as may be fixed by the Government of Canada, and *pro rata* with the payments to be made by said Government on the same; *provided* said contractors shall cause to be made not less than five monthly trips of said steamers, in each year, from Portland to Liverpool, and from Liverpool to Portland; said sum of two thousand pounds sterling, herein provided for, to be paid according to the provisions of a contract hereafter to be entered into with said McKean, McLarty & Co., for the establishment and maintenance of said line of steamers upon the general terms and conditions of their tender for the same to the Government of Canada; *provided* this Resolve shall *first* be approved by vote of the stockholders of this Company, and the necessary and requisite authority to make said contract, on the part of this Company, shall be obtained from the Legislature of the State of Maine.

"B. CUSHMAN,  
"Clerk."

The contract, as I have intimated, was formally accepted by Mr. Bellhouse on the 16th July, 1853. The first vessel of the line arrived in Quebec, as per the *Quebec Mercury*, of 10th May, 1853, which states that "the Steamer 'Genova,' Captain Paton, arrived with the mail and passengers at half-past two P.M. yesterday, giving and receiving a salute of cannon as she entered the port. She is a smaller vessel than the contract for the line of new steamers provides; but it so happened that no larger or better vessel could be provided, in consequence of the demand for vessels for the Crimea. It was thought best to send her out to Canada in May, rather than wait to September."

The "Genova" arrived at Montreal on the 12th of May, 1853. Being the first ocean mail steamer which had ever come into the port of Montreal, from England, There was considerable public ex-