

(Tel.)
To H. O. ALDEN, Esq.,
Vice-Prest. Am. Tel. Co.,

HALIFAX, May 23, 1859.

Your telegram of 21st received. In answer thereto I have to remark, that the discourtesy of Mr. Craig has a very great deal to do with the matter. We know nothing, speaking in a business way, of your company, save that it has a line connecting with ours at Sackville, and we must protect our own interests and independence. With the Associated Press we had a contract which we were ready faithfully to fulfil, but which they violated, and then the contract was brought to a close. During the six months from notice you must have been aware of the fact, and you should then have used your exertions to make a new amicable arrangement. We were ready to abide by, what we still are prepared to assert before the world was the equitable reading of the contract. But we have been met with nothing but domineering language and vulgar threats. Accordingly we made a new contract with other parties, and the only course that I can recommend you to pursue is to purchase that contract. We shall be ready, for the sake of the public, to do business as before with the Associated Press upon what we maintain are the old terms, i. e., \$150 for 3000 words by each fortnightly steamer at Halifax—no matter whether received previously at Newfoundland or not. Your talk of good feeling to us seems strange, and stranger still your request "that we would do your company the justice to believe that they have not been parties to Mr. Craig's discourtesies," when I look at a circular from Mr. Craig, dated 10th May, speaking of us in his usual coarse language, to which Mr. Cooper has given his sanction by allowing to be appended to it his communication to me, thus lending his name to a vulgar attack upon the company of which I am paraded in print as the President. Before I would have given a letter of mine to Mr. Cooper to a third party, for similar publication, I would have taken care to see the documents with which it was to be connected, and had it been such a one as that of Mr. Craig's I would for shame's sake have refused. But my name is now passed through the Union as President of a "dishonorable, villainous and scheming" company, and Mr. Cooper endorses the abuse. Then, on the 21st, eleven days after this document has been published, I am informed gravely that your company regrets that the harmony subsisting between the companies should have been disturbed. So do I; but I never lent my name to anything defamatory of Mr. Cooper, or your company, and, whatever be the result of this controversy, shall take care not to do so. Now, I ask of you, in common justice to us, who have had our name vilified in all the New York papers, to publish my letter to Mr. Cooper with the extracts and correspondence annexed, or at least to call together the editors and allow them to hear both sides. I have no fear of the result. Mr. Craig talks of law. I would fearlessly meet him before the New York public with that letter and correspondence, and I should pity the spirit of your people if they did not pronounce us right. You also, by way of further shewing your amicable feeling, persuaded Mr. Stevens to refuse to receive messages from over our lines at Sackville, unless prepaid. I have requested him to give up the attempt, and to let the Associated

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