

whenever I considered I had any claim under it, I should address myself "to the Commissariat Officer."

From the whole tenor of that correspondence, and from the requisitions that have been almost daily made up to the present time for the transport of troops, &c., under the contract, it is clear that there has been no attempt made to put an end to that contract;—that it still considered in full force and effect.

It appears to me then, that the only question for His Excellency's consideration is, whether the Government can one day give me a requisition to perform certain things under my contract, and the next day give a requisition to a stranger, or any other party, for the performance of something else which I am bound and am always ready to perform under it; whether, in fact, I am bound to keep up a line of steamers to perform my contract with Government, and the Government can give the whole benefit of it to any other party they may select for the performance of it, without reference to me. If such be the use of a contract with Government, it should be generally known.

I cannot but consider the question as so clear, upon a plain, honest, common-sense view of it, that it must be apparent (without reference to any legal opinion), what is due to me under that contract; and I have no doubt that His Excellency's decision will amply justify the opinion I entertain upon the merits of my claim. I have, therefore, humbly to request that His Excellency the Commander of the Forces will be pleased to order payment to me for all the troops, &c., that have been conveyed across Lake Ontario this year, in any other vessel than my own, in the same way as if I had been furnished with requisitions for the performance of such service.

These troops were, as far as I am informed, the head quarters division of the 81st Regiment and of the Rifles, from Kingston to Toronto, and vice versa; the 82nd Regiment and the 20th Regiment, from Kingston to Queenston, and vice versa; and Pensioners, in the *Earl Cathcart*, propeller, from Kingston to Toronto.