

ent lines which the Government was likely to control, under the system they had adopted. It seemed to him a most extraordinary case of hardship had been made out. It was shown by the statement of the hon. member for Colchester, which was not controverted by the hon. the Premier, that three persons were now doing the work which this man had formerly done alone. This question had, he must say, been treated with levity, with great carelessness, when the papers connected with it were not forthcoming, although information had been asked months before. This delay on the part of the hon. Minister, whose duty it was to answer such questions, gave rise to attacks such as made to-night. It delayed the public business. The Opposition were not responsible, because these discussions would not arise if the fact could be stated authentically, so as to settle the allegation made by the person in whose behalf this enquiry was moved. It was evident, if Boggs' statements were correct, and they were corroborated by the hon. member for Colchester, that a grave responsibility rested upon those who had not relieved that man. He should not have been punished for an act for which he was not responsible; if the accident occurred through his having been overworked, he should have been retained and placed in another position. After all that had been said by the hon. member for Cumberland, corroborated, as it has been, by the hon. member for Colchester, he trusted the Government would pay serious attention to the management of the road in which such accidents were allowed to occur.

Motion agreed to.

CONVEYANCE OF H. M. MAILS IN CAPE BRETON.

MOTION FOR RETURN.

MR. McDONALD (Cape Breton) moved :

"That a message be sent to the hon. the Senate, requesting that hon. body to transmit, for the information of the House :—

"1st. Copies of all contracts entered into during the year 1875, for the conveyance of Her Majesty's Mails from Sydney to Cow Bay, Little and Big Glace Bays and Bridgeport, in the county of Cape Breton.

MR. PLUMB.

"2nd. Copies of notices for tenders, and the titles of newspapers wherein they were inserted : with all copies of other documents, correspondence, etc., in reference to such contracts ; also copies of all other contracts entered into in the years 1874, 1875 and 1876 in the said county of Cape Breton, with vouchers of payments for said services and transmission of mails."

He said, when these papers came down, he would refer to them fully. He might say, however, that the two old contractors had been suddenly deprived of their contracts, which they had held for a number of years. One of them, who, to his own knowledge, had done the work to the satisfaction of everyone, had been dismissed, and had not even been allowed an opportunity to tender again for the new contract, the Government having entered into an arrangement privately with another party.

MR. HUNTINGTON said the Government had to deal with a contract where the contractor had \$856 for the performance of a tri-weekly mail service. They made an arrangement to give a daily mail for \$900, over the same service, thus paying only \$44 more. The tri-weekly service at \$856 had been turned into a daily service at \$900.

MR. McDONALD said that statement might be correct, but he wished to have the papers brought before the House, as he might require to refer to this matter again. The contract was taken from one man, who had had it for fourteen years, and had been given to another privately and secretly, in violation of the law, and at a figure which enabled him to make considerable profit, as had been proved by the tenders since received by the Government. The contract had been awarded in violation of the law.

MR. HUNTINGTON: Not in violation of the law.

Motion agreed to.

QUARANTINE HOSPITAL AT SYDNEY, C.B.

MOTION FOR CORRESPONDENCE.

MR. McDONALD (Cape Breton) moved for correspondence between the Dominion Government and the Imperial Government in reference to a