

transmitted the press despatch of the Niagara's news to Boston and New York.

It is unnecessary now to say under what rule of the New Brunswick line the agent of the Associated Press will act on the arrival of future steamers at Halifax, but you and your friends may rest assured that no legitimate efforts will be wanting to protect the interests of the public, which, in this matter, are also the interests of the press.

I observe that the Nova Scotia directors call Johnson & Zabriski, rather facetiously, the agents of the United States Associated Press. But there is no man of common observation who does not know that this claim is destitute of every particle of truth. There is not a solvent newspaper between Halifax and New Orleans for which Johnson and Zabriski, John T. Smith, or any of that gang of adventurers, can fairly claim to act as agents. I know there are three or four journals whose editors, feeling dissatisfied with me because I choose to respect *general* interests instead of their *special* interests, would gladly break loose from all our arrangements, if they could do so safely; but I apprehend that the good time so long predicted by these gentlemen is now much further off than it appeared to them to be five or ten years ago; and the longer they live, I venture to hope, the better they will like us.

Mr. Johnson, as I suppose you already know, is a gentleman from Philadelphia, who for many years past *has lived by his wits*, and has, semi-annually, or as often as he could find a green-horn who would engage to pay his bills, started some immense news-reporting business for the special purpose of extinguishing the New York Associated Press, and blowing its agents out of their boots. These spasmodic efforts of that gentleman usually result in securing to him a neat tile, a glossy coat and shiny boots; and all goes on swimmingly as long as his (admitted) eloquence enables him to use the pockets of the verdant fools he entraps. But when they fairly get their eyes open, and find they are bankrupt, or in a fair way to become so, then there happens a serious collapse, and Mr. Johnson retires to the shady side of the Philadelphia small beer shops, until he can find some other youth who has more money than brains, when the same manipulations are gone through with, and in due time the same result is reached.

Thus it has been for eight or ten years past, and thus, I presume, it will be to the end of Mr. Johnson's natural life. In the meantime, the affairs of the Associated Press will go steadily onward, its agent caring no more for Mr. Johnson's, or Mr. Zabriski's, or Mr. J. T. Smith's opposition, than he would for a special bull of the Pope.

Very truly yours,

D. H. CRAIG.

The annexed communication from Peter Cooper, Esq., President of the American Telegraph Company, to the President of the Nova Scotia Telegraph Company, will enable you to form a correct idea of the views of gentlemen here whose position is such as to place their acts beyond even a suspicion of impropriety or unconcern for the true interests of the commercial public.

D. H. C.

[Here follows a copy of the telegram to Mr. Cogswell, which will be found on page 1.]