

ment with the Associated Press, by immediately increasing their charges to us from seventy-five dollars to one hundred and fifty dollars for each report of three thousand words. Our protests against this imposition were unheeded; and from that time up to the beginning of the present month we submitted to the extortion, and were even disposed to continue the arrangement, so far as relates to *real news*. But, the Nova Scotia Company, having imposed upon us once, thought they could do so with impunity a second time, and they therefore demanded that we should not only pay them one hundred and fifty dollars for sending three thousands words of *news* one hundred and thirty miles, but they actually insisted upon our paying this large sum for *stale news*—that is, news which had been anticipated by previous arrivals in New York, or elsewhere.

The Associated Press resisted this imposition; the majority of the Nova Scotia directors insisted upon their demands, and finally broke off all friendly relations with us. They are now trying, through Johnson and Zabriski and other poor tools, to coerce us into their measures; and this they hope to do by violating all honorable rules of telegraphing. Thus, our report of the Niagara's news was held back from nine o'clock, p. m., on the 4th inst., (Wednesday,) until the afternoon of the 5th, (Thursday,) while in the meantime they sent forward, from Halifax to Sackville, a despatch of that news for certain private speculators in Boston (but not to Johnson & Zabriski, as they falsely assert), *which despatch was handed to the Halifax operator from one to three hours after our despatch was in the operator's hands, with the tolls prepaid from that city to New York*. At the same time, they sent an impertinent message to the manager of the New Brunswick line, to the effect that no messages, public or private, should pass over the Nova Scotia wires until they (the directors) should receive special notice from the Boston speculator—an irresponsible individual connected with the Exchange News Room in that city—that he had received his report in full, and "all right."

True, in part, to their word, the Nova Scotia directors did actually hold back our report, and also all the other most important private messages by the Niagara, some fifteen hours, for which gross conduct the company have made themselves liable for heavy damages.

But schemes of villiany, however shrewdly laid, rarely succeed for any length of time; and this attempt of the Nova Scotia directors to fleece the public, in which they were strenuously seconded by a score or two of disreputable persons in and out of Halifax, was not an exception to the general rule. Their scheme resulted in a miserable failure, but not, as has been falsely charged by the discomfited gang of speculators, through any breach of good faith on the part of the telegraph company this side the Nova Scotia line, for I have the best reasons for knowing that the New Brunswick telegraphers had made no rules for the emergency, nor did they violate any old ones. The fact is, that ten hours before the advance despatch to the speculators had reached Sackville, the agent of the Associated Press at that place had occupied the wires this side of Sackville, and continued, uninterruptedly, to occupy them whilst they were in a condition to do business, until after he received and

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