

members of the Government have received since the Liberals came into power.

When this extravagant Contract (entered into without the consent of the Provincial Government) came to a termination,* Mr. Hyde was left in the enjoyment of a very liberal appropriation for conveying the Mails, which has given him a monopoly of the passenger traffic on one of our most productive line of roads ever since. His charge for conveying a passenger hence to Pictou, for a long time, was thirty-five shillings, at present it is 25s.—while a passenger on the western line can be conveyed to Windsor and back, about the same distance, for ten.

H.—Why, was this “extravagant Contract entered into without the consent of the Provincial Government?” Because it was for conveyance of English and Canadian Mails as well as Colonial, and was paid by the British Government. How criminal then for Hyde to spend in this country £7000 of English Sovereigns. But “Hyde was left in the enjoyment of a very liberal appropriation for conveying the Mails, which has given him a monopoly of the passenger traffic on one of our most productive line of roads ever since.” This is not true. When this contract terminated, the mails over this line, were put up to *public competition*, and Mr. Hyde got it because his tender was the lowest. The mails did not go with coaches, and therefore gave no monopoly; the fact is, Hyde’s superior line of stages has kept all others off, and will continue to do so, until his opponents get smarter men to help them than the Financial Secretary.

Mr. C.—It is quite evident then, that Mr. Hiram Hyde has been to this country rather a costly importation. It is likewise equally evident and clear that he has been maintained by the public from the day he honored us with the light of his countenance. How well he has thriven and managed his own business, with all these advantages, may be gathered from the

* Mr. C.—By a clause in the Contract, if the Government saw fit to discontinue it in any time within eight years from the date of it, the sum of £778 sterling, or £968 15s. currency, was to be paid to the contractor. This sum was paid in 1846. Will Mr. Hyde inform us who received the benefit of that?

H.—Mr. Hyde informs you that he received every penny of it. The British Government do not repudiate their contracts, nor cancel them without the consent of the Contractors.