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GALWAY PACKET CONTRACT TRANSFER.

RETURN to an Order of the Honourable The House of Commons,
dated 16 July 1860;—for,

COPIES “of the proposed ASSIGNMENT of the GALWAY PACKET CONTRACT to the Government of *Canada*, and any COMMUNICATIONS stating the Conditions or Modifications on which the Sanction of Her Majesty’s Government is sought to that Transfer.”

Treasury Chambers, }
2 August 1860. }

S. LAING.

THIS INDENTURE made the 6th day of July 1860 BETWEEN THE ATLANTIC ROYAL MAIL STEAM NAVIGATION COMPANY Limited (hereinafter called “the Company”) of the one part, and THE HONOURABLE SIDNEY SMITH the Postmaster General of Canada acting for and on behalf of the Government of Canada of the other part: WHEREAS by articles of agreement dated the 21st day of April 1859 between the Commissioners for executing the office of Lord High Admiral of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Ireland (hereinafter called “the Admiralty”) for and on behalf of Her Majesty of the one part, and the Company of the other part, the Company covenanted to convey Her Majesty’s mails fortnightly from Galway in Ireland to Boston in the United States of America, and from Boston to Galway and fortnightly from Galway to New York in the United States of America, and from New York to Galway alternately by means of steam vessels to be provided by the Company, and the Company thereby covenanted to fulfil other conditions of the contract thereby entered into between the Admiralty and the Company: And in consideration of the due and faithful performance by the Company of all the services thereby contracted to be by them performed, the Admiralty agreed that there should be paid to the Company out of monies to be provided by Parliament, so long as they performed the whole of the services thereby contracted for, a sum after the rate of 1,500*l.* for each entire voyage out or home, the payments to be made by bills and on production of certificates as therein expressed, but subject to deductions as therein expressed: And it was thereby agreed that the contract should commence not later than the month of June 1860 and should continue in force for seven years or until the expiration of 12 calendar months’ notice from the Admiralty as therein expressed: And it was thereby provided that without the consent of the Admiralty signified in writing under the hand of one of their secretaries the contract or any part thereof should not be assigned underlet or disposed of: AND WHEREAS negotiations have for some time past been proceeding between the Company and the said Sidney Smith, as such Postmaster General of Canada, for the purchase and assignment of the benefit of the recited contract with the Admiralty and the said Sidney Smith, as such Postmaster General, has offered to become the purchaser thereof, for and on behalf of the Government of Canada, at the price or sum of 35,000*l.* a year for the period of seven years from the 26th day of June 1860, which offers the Directors of the Company have accepted, certain arrangements having been concurrently made to their satisfaction for capitalizing the said yearly sum, so as to free the Company from all risk of non-payment of the said yearly sum, and to provide them immediately with the value thereof in cash towards satisfying their immediate financial requirements,