

SPEECHES
OF
MR. DECOSMOS
ON
THE ESQUIMALT GRAVING DOCK AND CANADIAN
PACIFIC RAILWAY,
AND
THE ALASKA BOUNDARY LINE.

HANSARD REPORT

(Corrected.)

HOUSE OF COMMONS.

Thursday, 21st Feb., 1878.

CANADIAN PACIFIC RAILWAY.

MOTION FOR CORRESPONDENCE.

MR. DECOSMOS moved for a copy of all correspondence in 1877 and 1878, and not now before Parliament, between the Imperial, Dominion, and British Columbia Governments respecting the Canada Pacific Railway; and also a copy of all correspondence in 1877 and 1878 between the said Governments respecting the Graving-dock at Esquimalt. He said that this resolution might have been separated into two parts, but he knew of no good or sufficient reason why the Government should make any objection to it as it was drawn. The House would recollect that last year, notwithstanding the fact that the Governor-General had visited British

Columbia, and notwithstanding the fact that despatches had passed between the Government of British Columbia and the Imperial Government—and he presumed that despatches had passed from this Government to the Imperial Government—they had had no copy whatever of the despatches which had passed with regard to the position of the Dominion Government respecting the Canadian Pacific Railway; that was, so far as the settlement of the difficulty relative to British Columbia was concerned. They had had a despatch, however, he believed, from the Imperial Government, which had been communicated to the House, and the hon. the Premier had last Session stated that the Government were in possession of no despatches, leaving the House to infer that His Excellency the Governor-General had taken the business of settling the British Columbia difficulty apparently out of the hands of his responsible advisers, and had done as he thought proper in the matter. In other words, they were to assume that the despatch of His Excellency the Gover-