

And afterwards sent another telegram containing these words :—

CONROU, 16th April, 1859.

To Mr. A. T. Williams, Superintendent.

Do not let any of the locomotives or rolling stock leave Port Hope. I will see you this afternoon.

J. B. FORTUNE.

Possession is a great thing. It must have been a matter of astonishment to the Smith directors to see a train made up, and in legal possession of the road in spite of such legal objections, and of still greater wonderment that I actually set off for Peterboro' at one o'clock or only half an hour later. It was now my turn to be ironical and turning to James Smith, I told him that after all, I considered myself a lucky fellow, inasmuch as my engine had been in a shed of theirs and in their keeping for one night and had been got out of it again, but I would not run such another risk and would for the future change and lodge my engines for the night at Peterboro'. He said, "Don't insult me." And I scarcely meant to insult him, as the allegation that they were capable of trickery, it seemed to me, would be looked upon by a Smith as a compliment.

I soon left him and went off to my friend Roger. I told him to get bills out, stating the running time to Peterboro', and to advertise it in the *Atlas*, over my name as proprietor. That was done, and thereupon a telegram was despatched to Toronto to bring down the bondholders. The bondholders came in the persons of Messrs. Woodruff and Cumberland, and the road was said to be transferred from the Company to the Bondholders. I was called a trespasser and many other names, and it was whispered that Mr. Birmingham, the station master of the Grand Trunk Railway, had been ordered to take his Company's trespassing stock off the Lindsay and Peterboro' track. I met Mr. Birmingham and he said; People say that the Company wont let you run: would it not be better that you should see Cumberland? I refused to act upon that suggestion. Mr. Birmingham then said he had received orders to bring the Grand Trunk cars back. I said, O yes, you