## Lunæ, 30° die Januarii, 1860.

Ordered, THAT a Select Committee be appointed to inquire into the manner in which Contracts extending over periods of years have from time to time been formed or modified by Her Majesty's Government with various Steam Packet Companies for the Conveyance of Mails by Sea; and likewise into any Agreements or other Arrangements which have been adopted at the Public Charge, actual or prospective, for the purposes of Telegraphic Communications beyond Sea, and to Report their Opinion thereon to The House; together with any Recommendations as to Rules to be observed hereafter by the Government in making Contracts for Services which have not yet been sanctioned by Parliament, or which extend over a series of years.

Ordered, That the Committee have power to Report from time to time.

Martis, 7° die Februarii, 1860.

Ordered, THAT the Committee do consist of Nineteen Members.

Committee nominated of-

Sir Francis Baring. Sir Stafford Northcote. Mr. Henry Herbert. Mr. Corry. Mr. Scholefield. Sir Henry Willoughby. Mr. Dunlop. Captain Leicester Vernon. Mr. Baxter. Captain Gladstone. Mr. Hubbard. Mr. Robert Crawford. Mr. Hope. Mr. Laing. Mr. Bazley. Sir Edward Grogan. Mr. Howes. Mr. Edward Ellice. Colonel Greville.

Ordered, THAT the Committee have power to send for Persons, Papers, and Records. Ordered, THAT Five be the Quorum of the Committee.

Martis, 6° die Martii, 1860.

Ordered, THAT the Minutes of Evidence taken before the Committee on Packet and Telegraphic Contracts (1859) be referred to the Committee.

Lunæ, 7° die Maii, 1860.

Ordered, THAT the Paper relative to Contract Packets [presented 22 July 1853], and Parliamentary Papers, Nos. 10 and 359, of Session 1856; Nos. 304 and 326, of Session 2, 1857; Nos. 19 and 144, of Session 1858; Nos. 230 and 257, of Session 1, 1859; No. 184, of Session 2, 1859; and No. 120, of the present Session, be referred to the Committee.

Martis, 22° die Maii, 1860.

Ordered, THAT the Committee have power to report their Observations, together with the Minutes of Evidence taken before them from time to time, to The House.

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(1860)