

(Tel.)

HALIFAX, May 6, 1859.

To PETER COOPER, Esq.,

Prest. Am. Co., N. Y., and Prest. Nfld. Co.

Yours of 4th received. We have endeavored always faithfully to discharge our duty to the Associated Press. While under engagement with them we have refused large offers for the use of the wires. All went on well till, on certain news being received from a Cunard steamer bound to Halifax passing Newfoundland, the agent of the Associated Press refused to send or pay for the usual 3000 words from Halifax, on the ground that it was of no use. We declined such an argument on the ground that we had nothing to do with extraneous matters. All we had to do was to send, or to receive payment for, 3000 words on the arrival of the fortnightly steamer. But it seemed to be imagined by the Associated Press that our wires were to be shut up from others by the agreement, but that the Press was to use its own judgment as to the length and price of the message it would receive, which we did not look upon as fair. We remonstrated, but in vain. The messages sent to us, and to parties in immediate connection with us, which the agent must have known we would see, were most violent and abusive. The letter laid before us, by Mr. Hunter, which we presume was on the part of the Associated Press, was arrogant, dictatorial, and defiant. If his own, he made the very same offer to us, on his own account, which now, as recognised agent of the Associated Press, he pronounces illegal in another party. But he writes to us as though we were dependent on him for our existence. You must have been aware all along of the notice of termination, and could have acted accordingly. We cannot help thinking that the Associated Press have imagined that we should have to come to them suing for pardon and patronage. Such was never our intention; we would lose everything rather than our independence; and we also think that they now regret that they did not comply with our well-understood intention—that is, to agree to the payment of the \$150 fortnightly; had they so complied a fortnight ago, we should have given them the preference over every one for the sake of old acquaintance, even though, as I have said, the language of their agent and of others has not been over-polite. You protest against the breaking up of the arrangements with the Associated Press. It is we who protest against the Press for the rupture, unless you mean to join with those who tell us that we have no right to an opinion at all. Of our arrangements with others we cannot speak. If you have legal rights, enforce them. If you can ruin our company, do so. I am largely interested in it, and I will see the whole of it sunk in the sea before I will receive favors flung at me contemptuously. I fancy the rest of the shareholders have the same feeling. If you publish any complaints of us, please to send me a paper containing them, and I think we shall be able to justify ourselves before the public.

We understand that the message sent by the agent of the United States Associated Press was stopped at Sackville by your operators, until the message of the New York Associated Press had reached that office by Express and been sent over the wires. We give you notice that, should