

7. The Government of Queensland.
8.        "       Victoria.
9.        "       South Australia.
10.       "       Western Australia.
11.       "       Tasmania.
12.       "       India.

It will not be possible to carry out the undertaking by a private Company without Government assistance. As electric cables are perishable, provision must be made for renewing or duplicating them when circumstances require it. It is also obvious that the reduced charges which are proposed will require a greatly increased business to yield a sufficient profit to meet dividends on capital. The Company would, therefore, require a subsidy for a term of years or until the business increased to such a volume as to render the line self-sustaining. But as the subsidy would be borne by so many Governments it would fall lightly on each.

The first step to be taken is to ascertain to what extent the several Governments would be disposed to co-operate in establishing the work.

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*(Appended to Letter dated London, 10th July, 1886.)*

## TELEGRAPH FROM CANADA TO AUSTRALIA.

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LETTER TO THE PREMIER OF CANADA BY SANDFORD FLEMING.

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OTTAWA, Oct. 20, 1885.

*The Right Hon. Sir John A. Macdonald.*

SIR,

I had the honour a few years back to submit to the Canadian Government a scheme for forming a great Inter-Colonial and Inter-Continental Telegraph system, a prominent feature of which was the laying of an electric cable across the