

Enclosure 1, in No. 20.

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To the Honourable the House of Assembly of the Province of New Brunswick in General Assembly convened.

THE petition of the New York, Newfoundland, and London Telegraph Company humbly sheweth,—

That your petitioners have, during the past three years, at a very heavy outlay established telegraphic communication with Prince Edward Island and the east coast of Newfoundland, with the view of eventually connecting Europe and America by a submarine telegraph cable across the Atlantic Ocean. That for the purpose of more effectually carrying out this project, your petitioners have associated themselves with a company duly incorporated in England under the name of the Atlantic Telegraph Company; and that the cable to unite the two continents is now being constructed at a very heavy cost, and will be submerged at the earliest practicable period.

That for the encouragement of an enterprise in which, at the hazard of enormous cost, a scientific experiment so novel, so grand, and of such vast importance to the whole civilized world is about to be tested, the said Companies have received from the Governments of Great Britain and of the United States, as well as from those of Newfoundland, Nova Scotia, and Prince Edward Island, patronage and aid, in the form either of exclusive privileges or of subsidies, conditional on the regular maintenance of telegraphic communication, as well as of the successful accomplishment of the undertaking. That without such encouragement it would be rash for parties to embark in an enterprise in which they peril the sudden loss of their whole capital, and in order to achieve success may be compelled to expend double or treble the amount of it, and still be subject to the peculiar hazards of such an undertaking.

That with a view to the more effective and unobstructed transmission of European intelligence, your petitioners intend to submerge a cable, in continuation of the Atlantic telegraphic cable, direct from Trinity Bay, in Newfoundland, to the most eligible point in Nova Scotia, and thence by the most direct route to the United States, either by an overland or subterranean line through that province, and a submarine cable across the Bay of Fundy, either to the shore of this province or to that of the state of Maine, where your petitioners already possess exclusive privileges. That upon receiving adequate encouragement from the legislature of this province, your petitioners will undertake to conduct the said line of telegraphic communication to and through this province, thus making it, in all time coming, the great highway of telegraphic intelligence between the old and new world. They will also undertake to promulgate on the most favoured terms to the press and people of this province all public and political news simultaneously with the further transmission of the same.

On the vast benefit to the government and people of this province of telegraphic communication with the United Kingdom it is needless to dwell, and your petitioners entertain no doubt that the legislature of New Brunswick, in accordance with the spirit of progress which animates her councils, will recognize the policy as well as justice of affording due encouragement to this great undertaking.

Your petitioners therefore humbly pray that your honourable house will be pleased to grant them such pecuniary encouragement as to your honourable house may seem meet, or in lieu thereof, the exclusive privilege of landing telegraphic wires or cables from Europe on the shores of this province for such period of years as will in some measure compensate your petitioners and the said Atlantic Telegraph Company for so costly and hazardous an undertaking, together with such other powers and privileges as may be necessary for their purposes, and as to your honourable house may seem expedient; and as in duty bound they will ever pray, &c.

For and on behalf of the New York, Newfoundland, and London Telegraph Company.

(Signed) E. M. ARCHIBALD.

25th June 1857.

Enclosure 2, in No. 20.

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A BILL to encourage Telegraphic Communication between this Province and the United Kingdom.

WHEREAS the New York, Newfoundland, and London Telegraph Company, incorporated by the legislature of Newfoundland, have associated themselves with the Atlantic Telegraph Company, duly incorporated in England, for the purpose of establishing complete telegraphic communication between Europe and America by way of Newfoundland; and whereas the establishment of telegraphic communication between this province and the United Kingdom will be of great service to the government and people of New Brunswick, and it is expedient to encourage the said undertaking:

Be it therefore enacted by the Governor, Council, and Assembly as follows:—

I. That for and during the term of twenty-five years from and after the time when the said New York, Newfoundland, and London Telegraph Company shall have established, with or without the aid of the said Atlantic Telegraph Company, or of any other associated line or lines, a telegraphic communication between this province and the United Kingdom, and so long during the said period of twenty-five years as the said telegraphic