

are both dead. On your return you asked leave of absence to go to New York to promote an extension of the line to England, and spoke confidently of being able to extend it across the Atlantic and connect Europe with America. Up to this time I never heard the idea suggested, and though reading the English and American papers, never saw any allusion to the practicability of such an enterprise. As no capital could be got in Halifax, you naturally sought in London and New York for co-operation and assistance. I do not, of course, know what took place abroad, but of this I have no doubt, that until you went to New York nobody had suggested or taken any step towards promoting an Atlantic telegraph. As the original pioneer and projector of this great work, it appears to me, that you ought to place yourself in your true position, and that, if not included among those who are to be honored and rewarded, you should at least endeavor to obtain from your countrymen, and from the world at large, who are to be benefited, the recognition which you deserve as the *originator* and *practical prime mover* of the great enterprise now so happily brought, by a combination of public-spirited and able men, to a fortunate consummation. It ought not to be forgotten that the very line across Newfoundland now used by the Anglo-American Co. was originally, at great pecuniary sacrifice and risk of health, explored by you, and constructed by yourself as Chief Engineer of the New York, Newfoundland, and London Telegraph Company.

Believe me,

Very sincerely yours,

(Signed),

JOSEPH HOWE.

London, 25 Savile Row, Feb. 12, 1867.

*Extracts from MR. JOHN W. BRETT'S published letters to MR. GISBORNE.*

LONDON, July 12, 1852.—“Major Carmichael Smith, a friend of your Hon. Mr. Howe, has just called and given me your plan.”

LONDON, May 26, 1853.—“Are you now prepared to co-operate in opening up telegraphic communication between Newfoundland and Ireland?”

LONDON, July 8, 1853.—“On my return from Paris I found your satisfactory letter of 4th June. Let me recommend you to secure in our joint names an exclusive privilege for establishing a submarine telegraph between Newfoundland and Ireland for 50 years.”

LONDON, April 21, 1854.—I should be glad, therefore, of a line from you, stating clearly whether, as agreed, this is to be carried out between us as Brett & Gisborne's Atlantic Telegraph here, and *vice versa* in America.”

From the above it is manifest that MR. CYRUS W. FIELD and his associates could not have become interested in MR. GISBORNE'S enterprise before the spring of 1854. This sustains us in our recent view that the pretension of Mr. C. W. FIELD to be the originator of this great project is simply preposterous.—*Shareholder, Montreal.*