

Correspondence respecting a Reserved Bill of the Canadian Parliament, intituled "An Act to Regulate the Construction and Maintenance of Marine Electric Telegraphs."

No. 1.

The Earl of Dufferin to the Earl of Carnarvon.—(Received June 17.)

My Lord,

Government House, Ottawa, June 4, 1874.

I HAVE the honour to inclose a copy of a Bill which I have thought it desirable to reserve for your Lordship's approbation.

Accompanying the Bill is an Order in Council explaining its provisions, and insisting with very great force on the desirability of the object it is intended to effect.

My Government attach the very greatest importance to the measure, and have requested me to urge their views upon your Lordship in the strongest possible language.

I have, &c.
(Signed) . DUFFERIN.

Inclosure 1 in No. 1.

An Act to regulate the Construction and Maintenance of Marine Electric Telegraphs.

HER Majesty, by and with the advice and consent of the Senate and House of Commons of Canada, enacts as follows :—

1. This Act shall apply—

(1.) To every Company or association of persons hereafter authorized by any special or general Act of the Parliament of Canada or under the provisions of this Act, to construct or maintain telegraphic wires or cables in, upon, under, or across any gulf, bay, or branch of any sea, or any tidal water within the jurisdiction of Canada, or the shore or bed thereof respectively, so as to connect any province with any other province of the Dominion, or to extend beyond the limits of any province.

(2.) To every Company authorized to construct or maintain such telegraphs before the passing of this Act by any such special or general Act of the Parliament of Canada, or by any other special Act or Charter of any of the provinces constituting the Dominion and at the time of the passing of this Act in force in Canada.

2. The term "Company" in this Act shall mean any Company or association of persons in the preceding section mentioned.

3. The Company shall not place any telegraphic wire, cable, or work connected therewith in, under, upon, over, along, or across any gulf, bay, or branch of the sea or any tidal water, or the shore or bed thereof respectively, except with the consent of all persons and bodies having any right of property or other right, or any power, jurisdiction, or authority, in, over, or relating to the same which may be affected or be liable to be affected by the exercise of the powers of the Company.

4. Before commencing the construction of any such telegraph or work as last aforesaid, or of any buoy or sea-mark connected therewith, except in cases of emergency for repairs to any work previously constructed or laid, and then as speedily after the commencement of such work as may be, the Company shall deposit in the office of the Department of Marine and Fisheries a plan thereof for the approval of such Department. The work shall not be constructed otherwise than in accordance with such approval. If any work is constructed contrary to this provision, the Department of Marine and Fisheries may, at the expense of the Company, abate and remove it, or any part of it, and restore the site thereof to its former condition.