

Company to enjoy exclusive right to Line upon performance of certain conditions.

XIV.—The Corporation hereby created shall have the sole and exclusive right to build, make, occupy, take or work the said Line or any Line of Telegraph between Saint John's and Cape Ray, or between any other Points in this Island (excepting only the existing Line between Saint John's and Carbonear) for the full period of Fifty Years from the passing of this Act; subject nevertheless to the right of Pre-emption by the Government of this Colony, as hereinafter provided; and during the said period of Fifty Years, no other Person or Persons, Body or Bodies Politic or Corporate, shall be permitted to construct, purchase, take, or operate, any Line or Lines of Telegraph on this Island, or to extend to, enter upon, or touch any part of this Island, or the Coast thereof, or of the Islands or Places within the jurisdiction of the Government of this Colony, with any Telegraphic Cable, Wire, or other means of Telegraphic Communication, from any other Island, Country, or Place whatsoever. Provided, however, that if the said Line of Telegraph shall not have been completed from Saint John's to Cape Ray, or other point on the Western Coast of Newfoundland, and a Communication by Telegraph across Prince Edward Island, or the Island of Cape Breton, or otherwise established with the Continent of America, within Five Years from the passing of this Act, the exclusive privileges granted by this Section shall cease.

Provision for purchase of Line by Government.

XV.—If at any time after Twenty Years from the passing of this Act, it shall be deemed advisable by the Governor in Council that the Lines of Telegraph and other Property of the said Company, shall be Transferred to and Vested in the Government of this Island, it shall be lawful for the Governor to cause a Written Notice to be given to the said Company, which shall be served upon the President, or Director or Manager in this Island, which Notice shall state that the Government has decided upon becoming the Holder of the said Lines and other Property; and thereupon the Governor and the Company shall each choose an Arbitrator, and the Arbitrators so chosen shall Appraise the Telegraph Lines, Wires, Cables, Apparatus, Vessels, and all other Property connected therewith, and if they cannot agree, they shall choose a Third as Umpire, and if they do not make such choice, the Supreme Court shall appoint an Umpire, and the appraisement of any Two of them shall be taken as the true and just value of said Property; and after the expiration of One Year from the time the award of the Arbitrators shall have been communicated to the Government and the Company, and after the payment made or tendered in manner hereinafter provided, all and singular the said Telegraphic Lines, Wires, Cables, Apparatus, Vessels, and other property so Appraised, shall become the Property of Her Majesty, for the benefit and public use of this Island, and shall be thenceforth held free and discharged from all claims of such Company or Shareholders thereof, or any person whomsoever; and the Government shall draw Warrants on the Treasurer of this Colony for the payment to such Company of the amount so awarded as aforesaid, and the payments in discharge of such Warrants shall be made or tendered by the Treasurer aforesaid to the President and Directors of the said Company, or their Director or Manager in this Island, as the Governor shall direct and appoint; but this Section shall not apply to any Lands Granted to the said Company, by virtue of the Tenth and Twenty-second Sections of this Act, nor to the Proceeds thereof, or any Land or Property purchased with such Proceeds, nor to the Bonuses to be paid to the Company, or to any Land or Property purchased with the same or any part thereof, nor to any Mines or Minerals, or the Property connected with the Management or Working of such Mines or Minerals.