

CANADA.

CERTIFIED COPY of a REPORT of a COMMITTEE of the HONORABLE
THE PRIVY COUNCIL, approved by HIS EXCELLENCY the
GOVERNOR-GENERAL IN COUNCIL, on the 8th June, 1886.

On a memorandum, dated 22nd May, 1886, from the Minister of Public Works, submitting a communication from the High Commissioner for Canada in London, enclosing a copy of a circular addressed by the Colonial Office to the Agents General of the Australian Colonies, on the subject of the proposed establishment of telegraphic communication by cable from those Colonies to San Francisco, the last paragraph of which is as follows:—

“In view of the completion of the Canadian Pacific Railway, “it would seem to deserve consideration whether such a cable, if “constructed, might not more advantageously have its terminus “in British Columbia,”

The Minister represents that several communications have been received from Mr. Sandford Fleming, C.E., setting forth the scheme of a Company, represented by him, to connect either Queensland or New Zealand with Vancouver, B.C., by way of Fiji and Hawaii, by which it appears that the estimated cost of the Cable would exceed £2,000,000 (say \$10,000,000) and that as it is the intention of the Company to very greatly reduce the rates at present existing for telegraphic messages between England and Australia, the Company would require assistance from the different Governments interested, in the