

on the contrary, gained additional force by later experience. They consider that the grant for such exclusive privileges is highly inexpedient, not only for the interest of the Province, but of the Empire in general. They are fully aware that it was urged that similar privileges have been conceded by the Legislatures of Newfoundland and Prince Edward Island, without the disallowance of the Crown. But they must reply that the implied sanction of these Acts, given without fully advertent to considerations, the magnitude of which has been ever since requiring a greater development, does not bind them to a continuance in a course of policy which they are satisfied cannot but prove extremely injurious, and this beyond the limits of the colony immediately concerned. An order for the disallowance of this Act will accordingly be submitted to Her Majesty, &c.

(Signed) H. LABOUCHERE.

To Lt.-Governor
Sir G. LEMARCHANT,
&c., &c., Nova Scotia.

23. This Bill was disallowed after the customary reference to the Lords of the Committee of the Privy Council on Trade and Plantations, for their opinion, which was communicated to the Colonial Office in the following letter :

OFFICE OF COMMITTEE OF PRIVY COUNCIL FOR TRADE.

Whitehall, Jan. 11, 1858.

SIR,—In reply, my Lords direct me to observe that, having on many former occasions expressed their opinion that the granting to telegraph companies of the exclusive right to lay wires in any of Her Majesty's Colonies is most injurious to Imperial interests, my Lords are unable to do more on the present occasion than to suggest that no opportunity should be lost that may present itself to the Colonial Government of putting an end to the monopoly of laying telegraphic wires in Newfoundland and its dependencies, which has been granted to the New York, Newfoundland, and London Telegraph Company, a monopoly which appears to my Lords not less injurious to the interests of the Colony than it is to them of this country.

I have, &c.,
JAMES BOOTH.

H. MERIVALE, Esq.

24. The New York Company failed to make any telegraphic connection with Prince Edward Island, but relying on the Nova Scotia Bill becoming law, laid its cable between Newfoundland and the coast of Nova Scotia, at Cape Breton; but its occupation of that coast, for cable purposes, became unlawful upon the disallowance of the Nova Scotia Bill, and was so at the time of Confederation. An occupation thus retained by the Company for its own convenience, and without the sanction of an Act, cannot be deemed as equivalent to a vested interest, which, notwithstanding its being to the public detriment, the Parliament of Canada would be bound to respect.

25. An occupation of Nova Scotia, if permitted to the Anglo Company, coupled with the retention of its exclusive right in Newfoundland, is further attended with disastrous consequences to telegraphic enterprise in the Dominion. So long as the Western Union Company possesses an exclusive contract with the Anglo Company, it retains a practical monopoly of business in the Maritime Provinces. Uniformity in rates