

noble the Duke of Newcastle, one of Her Majesty's Principal Secretaries of State, recommending that the said Act should receive Her Majesty's special confirmation, Her Majesty was thereupon this day pleased, by and with the advice of Her Privy Council, to declare her special confirmation of the said Act; and the same is hereby specially confirmed, ratified, and finally enacted accordingly, whereof the Governor, Lieutenant-Governor, or Commander-in-Chief, for the time being, of Her Majesty's Province of Nova Scotia, and all other persons whom it may concern, are to take notice and govern themselves accordingly.

(Signed)

ARTHUR HELPS.

MR. DICKEY TO SIR F. ROGERS.

(COPY.)

31 Fitzroy Square,  
London, 19th August, 1862.

SIR,—

In accordance with your suggestion, at the interview with which Colonel Bazalgette and myself were to-day favored, that I should put in writing an offer already made by the Executive Committee of the Nova Scotia Electric Telegraph Company, to enable Her Majesty's Government to erect a separate wire or wires, on the posts of the Company, from Halifax to Amherst, I have the honor to submit the following brief statement for the information of His Grace the Duke of Newcastle.

On the 18th March last, the Directors instructed C. Twining, Esq., then Secretary, to address to Major General Doyle, at Halifax, a letter, of which the following is an extract: "If the Imperial Government or its officers should deem a separate line of telegraph wire, from Halifax to Quebec, indispensable, that the present Company would undertake to put up a wire on their posts, and keep it at all times in good working order, for a reasonable compensation, which would be under the sole control of the officers of Government."

I need not explain that by this offer it was intended that the Military authorities should have separate and distinct offices, so as to place their correspondence under their exclusive control; nor need I add that this offer, made with a desire to afford every facility to Her Majesty's Government in event of war, was intended to be carried out in a liberal spirit. General Doyle, as I am instructed, without repudiating the offer, stated that this being a matter for the consideration of the War Office, he did not feel himself authorized to enter into any arrangement, and that at that time of the Session there was no opportunity for such a reference.

Sir, I am now prepared to renew that offer, and the directors will be ready at any moment to make the necessary arrangements, upon the most liberal terms, and in any mode that Her Majesty's Government may desire. The acceptance of this proposal, which I doubt not could be extended to New Brunswick, would, while preserving intact the privileges of the Company, save a large outlay of money, even should the Government think it necessary to incur the expense of a separate wire, and it would prevent the interruptions in the working of the Company's lines by means of the proposed new lines of posts and wires, as referred to in our memorial. Should this most reasonable offer be rejected, we pray that His Grace may refer the Act under consideration, with all the papers, for the report of the Law Officers of the Crown, or cause a reference of the whole matter to the Judicial Committee of Her Majesty's Privy Council.

I have, &c.,

(Signed)

R. B. DICKEY,

Director of N. S. Electric Telegraph Company.

To SIR F. ROGERS, &c., &c., &c.