

No. 8.

MR. R. MOORE TO MR. ROWLAND HILL.

AUSTRALIAN MAILS.

Winchester House, Old Broad-street,
London, E.C., 5th October, 1858.

SIR,—

Referring to the interview with which you favoured me yesterday, I beg to forward you the extracts of Sir E. Belcher's evidence to which I referred.

Were the distance stated in one answer only, it might be treated as an error, which, in fact, when I first read the report, I considered it. But, having checked the distances by nautical calculations which agreed within a margin of 150 miles, more or less, I felt convinced that Sir Edward, who is indisputably the most competent authority, is positively exact.

I am anxious to establish this fact; for, irrespective of our own practical working of the line, (which would not be prejudiced, on that course and within the limits of time we have stated, by a difference of 1,000 miles), it is desirable that you should be satisfied as to this seeming paradox.

The actual distance stands thus:

	Nautical miles.
Queenstown to Colon - - - - -	4,282
Isthmus transit - - - - -	40
Panama to Sydney, <i>viâ</i> Gambier's Islands and Cook's Straits -	6,574
	<hr/>
	10,896
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I am, &c.,

R. MOORE.

Rowland Hill, Esq.,
&c. &c. &c.

Enclosure in No. 8.

EXTRACTS FROM THE EVIDENCE OF SIR EDWARD BELCHER, R.N.

From First Report (ordered 5th June, 1851), "Steam Communication with India," &c.

Captain E. Belcher, R.N., 8th May, 1851, p. 259:—

1908. "Can you state the difference in distance that a screw steamer would run from Panama to Sydney as compared with a paddle steamer?—If the Company had a coal depôt at Gambier's Group, the distance across by Gambier's Group to Sydney would be 6,574 miles; here is a map of the direct route from Panama through Gambier's Group (producing the same); it would be further windward in coming back, which would be particularly advantageous to a screw steamer."

Again, at page 260:—

1914. "It would be 8,128 by the Huaheine (Tahiti) route, and 6,574 by the other route."

And further, when required to trace the course outward and homeward on his map, he says, p. 270:—

1998. "The calculation you have given is on that route?—It is."

No. 9.

MR. T. DAY TO MR. ROWLAND HILL.

PROPOSED AUSTRALIAN AND PACIFIC COMPANY.

Winchester House, Old Broad-street, E.C.
5th October, 1858.

SIR,—

By the direction of Mr. Moore, I have the honor to submit the enclosed papers, as justifying this Company's project.

1. An explanatory note.
2. The corrected proof Prospectus of the Company.
3. A table of distances of the several routes, now under consideration, with a synopsis of the distances, and *pro forma* list of sailings for the Company's liners.
4. A tender this day delivered to the Secretary of the Admiralty.

I have, &c.,

T. DAY,
Secretary *pro. tem.*Rowland Hill, Esq.,
&c. &c. &c.