

PLACES.	LETTERS.				BOOKS.			Newspapers.
	Not exceeding $\frac{1}{2}$ oz.	Exceeding $\frac{1}{2}$ and not exceeding 1 oz.	Every additional $\frac{1}{2}$ oz.	Every additional oz.	Not exceeding $\frac{1}{2}$ oz.	4 to 8 ozs.	Every additional 8 ozs.	
New Zealand	Sixpence	One Shilling	Sixpence	Sixpence	Sixpence	Sixpence	} 1d. each.
British Columbia, America, West Indies, and Canada	Sixpence	One Shilling	Sixpence	.....		Letter Rate	
United Kingdom	Sixpence	One Shilling	.....	One Shilling	Fourpence	Eightpence	Eightpence

Letters, books, and newspapers may be transmitted *via* the United Kingdom to the Continent of Europe, the West Coast of Africa, and the Cape of Good Hope, at the same rates as are chargeable by the route of Southampton *via* Suez.

Trade patterns for the United Kingdom, and all places to which these are transmissible *via* the United Kingdom may also be forwarded at the same rates as are charged by the route of Southampton *via* Suez.

Full information as to postage rates for Foreign Countries *via* the United Kingdom, can be obtained on reference to the Tables of Rates.

No. 25.

Copy of a Letter from the Hon. JAMES PATERSON to the Hon. J. DOCKER.
General Post Office, Wellington, 2nd July, 1866.

SIR,— I have the honor to acknowledge the receipt of your letter, dated the 15th ultimo, and in reply beg to acquaint you with the principle which guided this Government in fixing the rates of postage on correspondence *via* Panama.

The Imperial Government having agreed to convey the New Zealand Mails *via* Panama between Southampton and Colon, free of expense, was regarded in the light of a contributor to the through line—the rates of postage, therefore, to the United Kingdom, and to the Continent of Europe, passing through the Knited Kingdom, were fixed at the same rates as are now charged on correspondence by the Suez and Southampton route.

The British West Indies was similarly regarded in respect of any interest they may have in the line of mail steamers between Southampton and Colon, and the rates of postage assimilated to those to the United Kingdom.

The other countries named in the schedule not having any interest in that portion of the service referred to could not be regarded in the same light as the United Kingdom and the British West Indies, and, in the absence of any postal convention, this Government resolved to fix the rates simply for conveyance between New Zealand and Panama or Colon, as the case may be, leaving to these countries to charge such rates on delivery as their postal laws may direct. What these charges may be, this Government has no means of ascertaining, but an Agent has been sent by the s.s. “Kaikoura” to obtain every possible information on this and other points, and on his return I shall not fail to acquaint you with the result.

The third clause of your letter, I apprehend, rather refers to the continuation of the Suez route to New Zealand than to the Panama.

I have, &c.,
JAMES PATERSON,
Postmaster-General.

The Hon. the Postmaster-General, Sydney.

SCHEDULE.

COUNTRIES.	LETTERS.			BOOKS.			REGISTRATION FEE TO PORT OF ARRIVAL.	NEWSPAPERS AND PRICES—CURRENT.
	Not exceeding $\frac{1}{2}$ Ounce.	Not exceeding 1 Ounce.	For every additional Ounce or fraction of an Ounce.	Not exceeding 4 Ounces.	Not exceeding 8 Ounces.	For every additional 8 Ounces or fraction of 8 Ounces.		
British West Indies	Sixpence ...	One Shilling	One Shilling	Sixpence ...	One Shilling	One Shilling	One Shilling	Twopence each
Foreign West Indies	One Shilling	Two Shillings	Two Shillings	No Book Post	... ..	... ..	Ditto	Ditto
British America ...	One Shilling	Two Shillings	Two Shillings	Sixpence ...	One Shilling	One Shilling	Ditto	Ditto
United States ...	One Shilling	Two Shillings	Two Shillings	No Book Post	... ..	... ..	Ditto	Ditto
Central America ...	One Shilling	Two Shillings	Two Shillings	No Book Post	... ..	... ..	Ditto	Ditto
South America ...	One Shilling	Two Shillings	Two Shillings	No Book Post	... ..	... ..	Ditto	Ditto
Madeira	One Shilling	Two Shillings	Two Shillings	Sixpence ...	One Shilling	One Shilling	Ditto	Ditto
Cape de Verde Islands	One Shilling	Two Shillings	Two Shillings	Sixpence ...	One Shilling	One Shilling	Ditto	Ditto
Canary Islands ...	One Shilling	Two Shillings	Two Shillings	Sixpence ...	One Shilling	One Shilling	Ditto	Ditto
The United Kingdom	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	One Penny each
The Continent of Europe, <i>via</i> the United Kingdom	LETTERS, BOOK PACKETS, and REGISTRATION FEES to be charged the same rates as those in force when transmitted by the route <i>via</i> Suez and Southampton ...						...	One Penny in addition to the existing rates
France	LETTERS.—10d. under $\frac{1}{2}$ oz.; 1s. 2d. under $\frac{1}{2}$ oz.; 2s. under $\frac{1}{2}$ oz.; 2s. 4d. under 1 oz.; and so on increasing at the rate of 1s. Colonial Postage for every additional ounce; and 4d. Foreign Postage for every additional $\frac{1}{2}$ ounce or fraction of $\frac{1}{2}$ ounce ...						1s. under $\frac{1}{2}$ oz. and 4d. for every $\frac{1}{2}$ oz. in addition	Twopence each
Ditto	BOOK PACKETS.—7d. under 4 oz.; 1s. 2d. under 8 oz.; and 1s. 2d. for every additional 8 oz. or fraction of 8 oz.							