

No. 61.

The AGENT-GENERAL to the Hon. the PREMIER.

Westminster Chambers, 13, Victoria Street, London, S.W.,

4th August, 1899.

SIR,—

Referring to my letter of the 27th July last [not printed], I beg to enclose copy of cable-gram which the Agent-General for New South Wales has received from his Government with respect to the Pacific cable [see No. 60].

I have, &c.,

WALTER KENNAWAY (for the Agent-General).

The Hon. the Premier, Wellington.

No. 62.

The Hon. the PREMIER to the AGENT-GENERAL.

SIR,—

Premier's Office, Wellington, 5th August, 1899.

I beg to acknowledge the receipt of your letter of the 16th June, forwarding a copy of joint letter addressed by the High Commissioner of Canada and the Agents-General to the Secretary of State for the Colonies on the subject of the Pacific cable.

I have, &c.,

W. C. WALKER (for the Premier).

The Hon. W. P. Reeves, Agent-General for New Zealand, London.

No. 63.

The Hon. the POSTMASTER-GENERAL, Melbourne, to the Hon. the POSTMASTER-GENERAL, Wellington.

(Telegram.)

Melbourne, 5th August, 1899.

KINDLY wire what you are doing *re* Pacific cable.

No. 64.

The Hon. the POSTMASTER-GENERAL, Wellington, to the Hon. the POSTMASTER-GENERAL, Melbourne.

(Telegram.)

Wellington, 9th August, 1899.

REPLY your message fifth. New Zealand is committed to Pacific cable on terms agreed upon. It is our intention to get House of Representatives ratify proposals by resolution and make necessary appropriation. We think that each colony should have representative on Board.

No. 65.

The Hon. the PREMIER, Melbourne, to the Hon. the PREMIER, Wellington.

(Telegram.)

Melbourne, 11th August, 1899.

LAST night Assembly passed resolution authorising co-operation in construction Pacific cable.

No. 66.

The Hon. the PREMIER, Melbourne, to the Hon. the PREMIER, Wellington.

(Telegram.)

Melbourne, 16th August, 1899.

PACIFIC Cable Board: We have telegraphed to our Agent-General as follows, viz.: "It is very inconvenient for four colonies to have to choose three representatives, but rather than delay matters we will accept the proposed number. Glad to know, however, what is objection to increase of representatives from eight to eleven. Communicate to Secretary of State for Colonies."

No. 67.

The Hon. the PREMIER, Sydney, to the Hon. the PREMIER, Wellington.

(Telegram.)

Sydney, 16th August, 1899.

URGENT. Consider that four colonies should not reopen question of representative Pacific cable, since strong objections made, and that we should proceed to nominate. Dickson suggests, I concur, that probably best way out of difficulty would be that New South Wales and Queensland nominate one, Victoria and New Zealand one, and that the two agree upon a third.

No. 68.

The Hon. the PREMIER, Wellington, to the Hon. the PREMIER, Sydney.

(Telegram.)

Wellington, 17th August, 1899.

PACIFIC cable: In respect to this question New Zealand took initiative. As stated in previous telegrams, it would be gracious act on part of yourself, Premiers Queensland and Victoria