

scheme to be proceeded with at the earliest possible date, and without any possible delay. I sent round a few days ago a circular of which you have received a copy. That circular has been very extensively circulated, and it has been well received, and it has been the means of giving information in some quarters where it was very much needed. What I propose to do on Monday, by circular, is to give the widest publicity to the views you have laid before me. I hope that circular also will have the same good effect. I may, in conclusion, thank you for taking the trouble to come on a morning when I know you are busy.

Mr. Carter mentioned that the Chamber had sent special letters to the Chambers of Commerce in Sydney and Melbourne, asking them to use their strongest efforts to prevent any deviation from the scheme of the Pacific cable.

Mr. Drake said he was very glad to hear it.—*Brisbane Courier*.

APPENDED TO FOREGOING REPORT: COPIES OF TELEGRAMS RECEIVED.

From the POSTMASTER-GENERAL, Wellington, to the POSTMASTER-GENERAL, Brisbane.
[See No. 126.]

From HENRY CHARLES MITCHELL, Esq., Sydney Chamber of Commerce, to the POSTMASTER-GENERAL, Brisbane.

Exchange, Sydney, 12th February, 1900.

OUR Chamber has consistently advocated Pacific cable, and will be pleased to see early consummation of same.

From C. HALLEM, Esq., Secretary, Chamber of Commerce, Melbourne, to the POSTMASTER-GENERAL, Brisbane.

Market Street, Melbourne, 12th February, 1900.

By deputation and every possible way have protested against concessions asked for by Eastern Extension.

No. 157.

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

(Telegram.)

Wellington, 13th February, 1900.

ADVISABLE wire your Agent-General if Eastern Company's proposals accepted will mean difference over one hundred thousand pounds annually in earnings Pacific cable, and impress Secretary State that annual maximum risk of loss of twenty thousand to British Government will be doubled. Also represent that at Premiers' Conference three colonies were represented which have always been unfavourable to Pacific cable, whilst New Zealand and Canada not represented at all.

No. 158.

The Hon. the PREMIER, Wellington, to the Hon. J. GAVAN DUFFY, Melbourne.

(Telegram.)

Wellington, 13th February, 1900.

UNFAIR to New Zealand and Canada for Conference of Premiers to consider Eastern Telegraph Company's proposals, knowing, as you and I do, that there were three colonies represented at that Conference inimical to Pacific cable, and I sincerely hope that Victoria will not break faith.

No. 159.

The Hon. the PREMIER, Wellington, to the Right Hon. Sir GEORGE TURNER, Melbourne.

(Telegram.)

Wellington, 13th February, 1900.

SINCERELY hope Victoria will keep faith with Queensland and New Zealand and Canada respecting Pacific cable. At Conference Premiers neither New Zealand nor Canada represented, whilst, as you know, there were three colonies represented which were unfavourable to Pacific cable.

No. 160.

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

(Telegram.)

Wellington, 13th February, 1900.

NEWSPAPER reports state that at Conference Premiers agreed accept Eastern Extension Company's offer with minor changes. On other hand, am informed what was agreed upon was that no action should be taken until it was definitely ascertained what effect adoption of company's proposals would have upon Pacific cable. What is true position? I feel sure, if Eastern Company's proposals accepted, effect would be financially disastrous to Pacific cable. Sincerely hope your colony will keep good faith, and not risk substance for shadow.

No. 161.

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

(Telegram.)

Ottawa, 15th February, 1900.

TELEGRAM received, and representations made at London accordingly.