

No. 13.

Mr. GRAY to the SECRETARY, General Post Office, Sydney.

(Telegram.)

Wellington, 31st December, 1879.

Re your telegram of 24th, correspondence received from Agent-General identical with that which seems to have reached you. Postmaster-General is of opinion that existing arrangements should not be disturbed. Only one mail seems to have suffered delay. The occasional earlier arrival of one mail would not compensate for the occasional late arrival of another, which would probably be the result of any change.

Secretary, Post Office, Sydney.

W. GRAY.

No. 14.

Mr. GRAY to the AGENT-GENERAL.

SIR,—

General Post Office, Wellington, 3rd January, 1880.

I have the honor to acknowledge the receipt of your communication of the 28th October last, enclosing copy of correspondence from the Secretary of State concerning the instructions given to the American postal authorities respecting the transmission to Europe of the Australasian and New Zealand mails, and suggesting that preference be given on all occasions to the steamer expected to arrive first at Queenstown or Liverpool, as the case may be.

In reply, I have to state that I am quite of opinion with you that the occasional early arrival of one mail would not compensate for the occasional late arrival of another, and that on the whole it would be unwise to disturb existing arrangements. This opinion has been communicated to the Government of New South Wales.

Sir Julius Vogel, K.C.M.G.,

Agent-General for New Zealand, London.

I have, &c.,

W. GRAY,

(for the Postmaster-General.)

No. 15.

The SECRETARY, General Post Office, Sydney, to the SECRETARY, General Post Office, Wellington.

(Telegram.)

Sydney, 5th January, 1880.

THE Postmaster-General is strongly of opinion it would be better to leave despatch of mails from New York to discretion of postal authorities; but suggests, as opinions differ, that matter be referred to the Agents-General of both colonies. Mr. Samuel considers there must be good reason for suggestions made by authorities at Washington.

SECRETARY, General Post Office, Sydney.

The Secretary, General Post Office, Wellington.

No. 16.

Mr. GRAY to the SECRETARY, General Post Office, Sydney.

(Telegram.)

Wellington, 16th January, 1880.

FORWARDING mails from New York to London: Postmaster-General approves of suggestion made in your telegram of 5th instant. In event of Agents-General, however, being unable to agree, matter to be referred to Imperial Post Office for decision.

The Secretary, Post Office, Sydney.

W. GRAY,

Secretary.

No. 17.

The Hon. JOHN HALL to the AGENT-GENERAL.

SIR,—

General Post Office, Wellington, 21st April, 1880.

Adverting to my letter of the 3rd January last, respecting the representations made by the American Post Office with the view of effecting an occasional earlier arrival in London of the New Zealand mails than would be secured by existing arrangements, I have now the honor to enclose for your information copies of telegrams exchanged on the subject with the Sydney Post Office, subsequently to the date of my letter.

2. You will observe that I have deferred to the wishes of the Hon. Mr. Samuel for a further consideration of the matter, and that it has been agreed to accept the decision of the Imperial Post Office in the event of the Agents-General being unable to arrive at a joint conclusion.

Sir Julius Vogel, K.C.M.G.,

Agent-General for New Zealand, London.

I have, &c.,

JOHN HALL.

No. 18.

Mr. CREIGHTON to Mr. GRAY.

SIR,—

San Francisco, 4th August, 1879.

I enclose draft memorandum on the British enclosed mail, addressed by me to the Hon. Mr. Money, Chairman of the Congressional Committee on Postal Affairs. Mr. Money has been on the