

No. 12.

The Hon. the POSTMASTER-GENERAL, Wellington, to the Hon. the POSTMASTER-GENERAL, Washington.
 (Telegram.) Wellington, 25th January, 1909.
 GLAD if you confirm report introduction penny postage United States to New Zealand.
 [P.O. 09/28.]

No. 13.

The Hon. the POSTMASTER-GENERAL, Washington, to the Hon. the POSTMASTER-GENERAL, Wellington.
 (Telegram.) Washington, D.C., 26th January, 1909.
 REPORT unfounded.
 [P.O. 09/28.]

No. 14.

The Hon. the POSTMASTER-GENERAL, Wellington, to the Hon. the POSTMASTER-GENERAL, Washington.
 General Post Office, Wellington, 2nd February, 1909.

SIR,—

Penny Postage.

I have the honour to confirm my telegram of the 25th ultimo, and to acknowledge the receipt of your reply of the 26th idem.

I beg to thank you for your telegram, and to say that, now that the minimum letter-postage both ways between the United States of America and the United Kingdom is 1d., I should be exceedingly glad if you could see your way to agree to the same rate from the United States to New Zealand. As you are aware, the New Zealand Government has recently arranged to subsidise a line of steamers to make a close connection with your subsidised line at Papeete in order to improve the mail communication between our respective countries.

I have, &c.,

J. G. WARD, Postmaster-General.

The Hon. the Postmaster-General, Washington, D.C.

[P.O. 09/28.]

No. 15.

The SECOND ASSISTANT POSTMASTER-GENERAL, Washington, to the Hon. the POSTMASTER-GENERAL, Wellington.

Post Office Department, Office of the Second Assistant Postmaster-General,

SIR,—

Division of Foreign Mails, Washington, D.C., 16th March, 1909.

Referring to your letter of the 2nd ultimo, I have the honour, by direction of the Postmaster-General, to inform you that this Department cannot consider favourably the proposal for the reduction at present of the rates of postage applicable to articles mailed in the United States addressed for delivery in New Zealand.

I have, &c.,

JOSEPH STEWART,

Second Assistant Postmaster-General.

The Hon. the Postmaster-General, Wellington.

[P.O. 09/28.]

No. 16.

The Right Hon. the SECRETARY OF STATE FOR THE COLONIES to His Excellency the GOVERNOR.

MY LORD,—

Downing Street, 29th April, 1909.

I have the honour to request that you will inform your Ministers that the Secretary of State for India has been requested by the Government of India to secure the acceptance by the postal administrations of the Empire of letters from the British Indian post-offices situated in the French settlements in India, if stamped like letters from ordinary British post-offices in India.

2. I have to explain that the post-offices in question have been established in many cases for over a century on French territory, and they are treated in India precisely like ordinary British post-offices.

3. The French Government has consented to letters from the post-offices in question being treated in the same way as letters from post-offices in British territory on condition that similar treatment is extended to letters posted in French post-offices in the settlements in question.

4. His Majesty's Government have agreed, as far as the United Kingdom and Crown colonies are concerned, to comply with the condition laid down by the French Government, to which they feel that no reasonable exception can be taken, and letters addressed to the United Kingdom and any Crown colonies or protectorates will be accepted as fully stamped, if stamped in the same manner as letters posted in British India, whether posted in the British post-offices in the French settlements or in the French post-offices there.