5. Your Ministers will probably see no objection in the special circumstances of the case to extending to the British and French post-offices in the French settlements the advantages already given to the other post-offices of the Empire. No doubt the number of letters affected will be extremely small, but His Majesty's Government would be glad to learn that your Government agree to the concession being made.

Governor the Right Hon. Lord Plunket, K.C.M.G., K.C.V.O., &c.

CREWE.

No. 17.

The ACTING-SECRETARY, General Post Office, Wellington, to the Second Assistant Postmaster-GENERAL, Washington.

General Post Office, Wellington, 17th May, 1909.

I have the honour to acknowledge the receipt of your letter of the 16th March last, declining the proposal of the Postmaster-General of this Dominion for the reduction of the minimum letter postage

from the United States to New Zealand to one penny.

The Postmaster-General regrets that your Administration is unable to see its way at present to agree to the proposed reduction. In the hope that the question will be reconsidered, he desires to mention that the adoption of the penny rate for letters from New Zealand to the United States has resulted in a largely increased revenue; also that as the penny rate has been adopted for letters for the United Kingdom, he believes it would be of material advantage to the trade relations between our respective countries if the same concession were granted in the case of letters for New Zealand.

I have, &c., W. R. Morris, Acting-Secretary.

The Second Assistant Postmaster-General, Washington, D.C. P.O. 09/28.1

No. 18.

The Holl the Acting Postmaster-General to the Holl the Acting Prime Minister. General Post Office, Wellington, 21st June, 1909. [Minute.]

The Hon, the Acting Prime Minister.

Arrangements will be made in New Zealand to pass letters stamped like letters from British India from British post-offices in French settlements in India. J. G. FINDLAY,

For Postmaster-General.

(P.O. 09/2524.)

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