

TELEGRAPHIC COMMUNICATION.

9 D.—No. 3.

LENGTH OF CABLE REQUIRED.

Cape Sedans (East Java) to Coepang (Timor)	590 knots
Coepang to Port Essington	525 "
Port Essington to Cape York	635 "
Cape York to Cape Cleveland	619 "
Cape Cleveland to Moreton Bay	655 "
Total direct distance	3,024 knots
5 per cent. slack probably used	151 "
10 per cent spare Cable for subsequent repairs	3,175 knots
	317 "
Total Cable required	3,492 knots
Of which, Main Cable	2,970 knots
Shore ends	522 "
	3,492 knots

ESTIMATED COST OF LINE, TO BE CARRIED OUT IN TWO YEARS FROM THE SIGNING OF THE CONTRACTS.

2,970 knots of Main Cable at £151 per knot	£448,470
522 knots Shore ends at £244	127,368
Insurance 5 per cent. on £575,838	28,792
Total cost of Cable free on board in England	£604,630
13,000 tons of Cable conveyed to Melbourne in sailing vessels specially chartered and fitted with a wrought-iron water-tight cable, tanks, pumps, &c.	98,450
* Two steamers for laying the Cable, each 1,800 tons gross register, fitted with large water-tight cable tanks, with picking up and paying out machinery	70,000
Coals for the two ships during the outward voyage and laying the Cable—in all 600 days at 25 tons per day, 15,000 tons at an average of 50s.	37,500
Wages, stores, provisions, insurance, special stores, and contingencies	59,920
Total first cost and working expenses of steamers	167,420
Six stations, with furniture, instruments, land line, and salaries of clerks during construction of line	43,780
Engineering and Electrical Staff employed to superintend the manufacture in England, and to lay the Cable in Australia	39,866
Expenses of management in England	13,750
Total—stations, salaries, and management	97,396
Interest during construction	62,500
Reserve Fund	100,000
Total cost of line	£1,130,396
Credit by part of first cost of steamers charged to other sections, or by sale of steamers	30,396
Total capital required	£1,100,000

MAINTENANCE, PER ANNUM.

Six stations, including general superintendence	£18,000
Annual cost of steamer and stores	15,000
Direction and Home expense with Engineer	5,500
Renewal Fund	12,000
Total	£50,500

* These steamers will take out 2,000 tons Cable.