

Number.	Date.	Description of Document.
114	25 Nov. 1862.	Copy of a Despatch from the Governor of Victoria, on the subject of establishing postal communication <i>viâ</i> Panama

Enclosure in No. 16.

GOVERNOR SIR H. BARKLY TO THE DUKE OF NEWCASTLE.

Government Offices, Melbourne,
25th November, 1862.

MY LORD DUKE,—

The enclosed letter from the Postmaster-General of New Zealand, together with a Minute thereupon by the Postmaster-General of Victoria, have just been handed to me by my Chief Secretary, as elucidating the views of my advisers on the subject of establishing postal communication, *viâ* Panama.

As the mail for England closes in a few hours, I have not time to say more than that I entirely concur in those views, so far as they affect the inexpediency of any contract being entered into for the purpose, which would endanger the continuance of the Suez line.

I have, &c.,

H. BARKLY.

His Grace the Duke of Newcastle, K.G., &c.

Enclosure (A.) in Enclosure in No. 16.

THE POSTMASTER-GENERAL OF NEW ZEALAND TO THE CHIEF SECRETARY IN VICTORIA.

Melbourne, 19th November, 1862.

SIR,—

I have the honor to inform you that by a recent act of the Legislature of New Zealand, a sum of thirty thousand pounds (£30,000) per annum has been granted for five years towards the maintenance of a monthly steam mail service to and from Great Britain, *viâ* Panama, and the Government of that Colony has determined to co-operate with the Government of New South Wales in the task of organising such a service. In furtherance of this object, I am about to proceed to Great Britain, fully authorised to take such measures as may seem desirable to be taken on the part of the Colony of New Zealand. Having reason to believe that the united exertions of the two colonies named will be successful in establishing a steam Postal service *viâ* Panama, I do myself the honor to enquire whether the Government of the Colony of Victoria are prepared to join them in guaranteeing the necessary subsidy in the proportion of Fifty thousand pounds (£50,000), by New South Wales, and Thirty thousand pounds (£30,000) by New Zealand, and, if not, whether they will agree to apply to the colonial contribution towards the expense of this line, when fixed, the same rate of apportionment as at present obtains with respect to the route *viâ* Point de Galle and Suez.

I need scarcely point out that, by the adoption of this rule, the Colony will not be called upon to contribute except for and in proportion to any advantage gained, and that, unless the rule be adopted, much difficulty leading to confusion will probably attend the conveyance of any correspondence from or to the Colony of Victoria along the route in question.

I have, &c.,

CROSBIE WARD,
Postmaster-General of New Zealand.

The Honorable the Chief Secretary.

Enclosure (B.) in Enclosure in No. 16.

MINUTE ON A LETTER FROM THE HONORABLE CROSBIE WARD ON THE SUBJECT OF STEAM POSTAL COMMUNICATION VIA PANAMA.

General Post Office, Melbourne, 25th November, 1862.

THE proposals contained in the letter from the Honorable C. Ward, on the subject of steam vessel communication with England, *viâ* Panama, are such as I cannot recommend for the favourable consideration of the Cabinet.