

CONVEYANCE OF MAILS *VIA* SUEZ.

5 E.—No. 3.

A STATEMENT of CREDITS allowed to the Australian Colonies in 1866, on Accounts for previous Years.

PENALTIES INFLICTED and PREMIUMS EARNED on the Performance of the Mail Packet Service between Point de Galle and Sydney, from 1st July, 1860, to 31st December, 1865.					Amount of Reduction of Subsidy for the abandonment of Admiralty Survey of Packets from 16th August to 31st December, 1865.	TOTAL CREDITS TO COLONIES.
Dates to	Penalties.		Premiums.			
	No.	Amounts.	No.	Amounts.		
					£ s. d.	£ s. d.
31 December, 1860	1	200	3	150		
31 March, 1861	4	800	6	300		
30 June, 1861	10	2,000	6	300		
30 September, 1861	...	...	6	300		
31 December, 1861	1	200	2	100		
31 March, 1862	2	400	3	150		
30 June, 1862	2	400	5	250		
30 September, 1862	...	...	3	150		
31 December, 1862	...	...	...	...		
31 March, 1863	...	...	5	250		
30 June, 1863	4	800	6	300		
30 September, 1863	1	200	1	50		
31 December, 1863	...	...	...	...		
31 March, 1864	...	...	4	200		
30 June, 1864	...	...	7	350		
30 September, 1864	...	...	1	50		
31 December, 1864	...	...	2	100		
31 March, 1865	...	...	6	300		
30 June, 1865	...	...	4	200		
30 September, 1865	9	1,800	...	...	62 10 0	
31 December, 1865	4	800	...	...	125 0 0	
	38	7,600	70	3,500		
Excess of Penalties over Premiums...				*4,100		
		7,600		7,600	*187 10 0	
*Half divisible between the Colonies				2,050	93 15 0	2,143 15 0

No. 2.

Copy of a Letter from the Hon. E. W. STAFFORD to the Right Hon. the EARL of CARNARVON.

(No. 389.)

MY LORD,—

Colonial Secretary's Office, Wellington, 7th December, 1866.

In the absence of the Governor, I have the honor to transmit to your Lordship the copy of a Memorandum addressed to His Excellency by the Postmaster-General of New Zealand, on the subject of the contribution of New Zealand towards the cost of the Steam Postal Service *via* Suez.

I have, &c.,

The Right Hon. the Earl of Carnarvon.

E. W. STAFFORD.

Enclosure in No. 2.

Memorandum by the Hon. JOHN HALL for His Excellency the GOVERNOR, on Suez Mail Service.

1. MINISTERS respectfully request His Excellency to forward to the Secretary of State the following Memorandum on the subject of the contributions to be paid by New Zealand to the cost of the Mail Service between Galle and Sydney.

2. Previous to the conclusion of the contract with the Peninsular and Oriental Company for the conveyance of mails from Galle to Sydney, which came into operation in February last, New Zealand was, in common with other Australian Colonies, invited by the Imperial Government to join in guaranteeing one-half of the cost of the new service on terms similar to those on which she contributed to the subsidy under the previous contract. This invitation is contained in a Treasury letter of 16th November, 1864, forwarded in Mr. Cardwell's Despatch of 25th November, 1864.

3. The only answer which has been given to the proposal of the Imperial Government is contained in a Memorandum by Mr. Weld, dated 20th February, 1865, forwarded by the Governor to the Secretary of State on the 2nd March, 1865. In that Memorandum it is stated that the Colonial Ministers are not prepared to recommend the General Assembly to agree, without stipulation, to the