

FURTHER PAPERS RELATIVE TO

No. 19.

Copy of a Letter from Mr. F. I. SCUDAMORE to the Hon. JOHN HALL.
General Post Office,

London, 23rd September, 1867.

SIR,—

Not printed.

I have duly received your letter of the 8th July last, enclosing a copy of the instructions which you had caused to be prepared for the guidance of the officers employed as Mail Agents on board the Mail Packets between Wellington and Panama, with a printed table, showing in what mail each description of correspondence forwarded from Wellington by the packets in question should be forwarded, the postage to be levied on such correspondence, and the amount to be credited in each case to the London office.

Having examined this table, the only observations to which it has given rise are the following:— Under the head of "Foreign Countries through the United Kingdom," the table states that letters are liable to a postage of 6d. per half-ounce, and books to a postage of 4d. per four ounces "in addition to foreign rates as per table;" and the credit to be given to the London office is stated to be 3½d. per ounce for letters, and 5½d. per pound for books, "and the foreign rates as per table."

No. 11 of Panama
Papers, 1867,
E.—No. 1.

All these sums, however, are incorrect. The rates set down in the table which is there referred to, and which was sent to you in my letter of the 1st November, 1866, include not only the foreign, but also the British territorial rate.

The rates to be collected in New Zealand on correspondence for Foreign Countries, through the United Kingdom, should therefore be 5d. on letters, and 3d. per four ounces on books, in addition to the rates in the table sent from hence, and the rates to be accounted for to this office should be the several sums specified in that table, without the addition of 3½d. per ounce on letters, and 5½d. per pound on books.

I have, &c.,

The Hon. John Hall, Wellington.

F. I. SCUDAMORE.

No. 20.

Copy of a Letter from Mr. F. HILL to the Hon. JOHN HALL.

General Post Office,

London, 29th November, 1867.

SIR,—

Not printed.

With reference to your letter of the 8th of July last, with enclosed copy of instructions, and a table drawn up for the guidance of the New Zealand Mail Agents, showing the manner in which correspondence forwarded from New Zealand and Australia, by the route of Panama, to British Colonies and Foreign States in America, and to my reply of the 23rd of September, I beg to inform you that the Agent of this Department at Panama, to whom I sent a copy of your letter above referred to, has represented that it would be a great convenience to his office at times when the pressure of work is very great, if all correspondence from New Zealand and Australia for British America, Bermuda, British Guiana, and all places in the British West Indies, except Jamaica, were sent in mails for the British Packet Office at St. Thomas, instead of to Panama; and I have to request that you will be good enough to give directions accordingly. Letters for Jamaica should continue to be sent to Panama.

I have further to state that correspondence for the Colonies of Bahamas and British Honduras should, for the present, be sent in the mails for London, in order that it may be included in the mails made up here for those Colonies, and which are now forwarded through the United States.

I am, &c.,

The Hon. John Hall, Wellington.

F. HILL.

No. 21.

Copy of a Letter from Mr. G. ELLIOTT ELLIOTT to the SECRETARY, General Post Office, Sydney.

General Post Office,

Wellington, 5th March, 1868.

SIR,—

No. 20 of this
series.

I am directed to forward to you the enclosed copy of a letter received from the General Post Office, London, pointing out the manner in which it is desired the correspondence from New Zealand and the Australian Colonies, by the route of Panama, to British Colonies and Foreign States in America, should in future be forwarded, of which change I request you will be good enough to inform the other Australian Colonies.

I have, &c.,

The Secretary, General Post Office, Sydney.

G. ELLIOTT ELLIOTT,

Secretary.

No. 22.

Copy of a Letter from Mr. G. ELLIOTT ELLIOTT to the SECRETARY, General Post Office, London.

General Post Office,

Wellington, 6th March, 1868.

SIR,—

Nov. 29, 1867,
No. 20 of this
series.

I have the honor to acknowledge receipt of your communication noted in the margin, intimating that correspondence from New Zealand, by the route of Panama, to British Colonies and Foreign States in America, should in future be forwarded in the manner pointed out in your letter, and to inform you that instructions have been given accordingly.

A copy of your letter has been sent to the Postmaster-General, New South Wales, with a request that the several Australian offices be instructed also to forward the correspondence in the manner indicated by your letter.

I have, &c.,

The Secretary, General Post Office, London.

G. ELLIOTT ELLIOTT,

(for the Postmaster-General.)