

initial two-days later despatch), reached San Francisco on time-table date, and duly connected with the "St. Louis" at New York on Wednesday, the 12th April.

I note that the "Mariposa's" January mails were sent on from New York on the 18th of that month by the "St. Louis" and "Germanic," and arrived in London on the 26th.

H. Stephenson Smith, Esq.,
Resident Agent for New Zealand, San Francisco.

I have, &c.,
W. GRAY, Secretary.

No. 135.

The Hon. the PREMIER to the AGENT-GENERAL.

SIR,—

Premier's Office, Wellington, 15th May, 1899.

I have the honour to acknowledge the receipt of your memorandum of the 7th ultimo, forwarding copy of a letter received from Messrs. W. Weddel and Co., making certain representations with regard to the times at which the New Zealand mails depart from and arrive in London.

Messrs. Weddel and Co.'s representations will receive consideration. In the meantime, however, I should be glad to know whether, if the mails were closed in London on any other day of the week except Saturday, and at Auckland on any other day than Monday, the services of the swiftest vessels would be secured across the Atlantic.

I have, &c.,

W. C. WALKER, for the Premier.

The Hon. W. P. Reeves, Agent-General for New Zealand, London.

VANCOUVER MAIL-SERVICE.

PROPOSED RENEWAL. CESSATION. SUBSEQUENT ARRANGEMENTS.

No. 136.

The GENERAL MANAGER for the COLONIES, New Zealand Shipping Company, Christchurch, to the Hon. the PREMIER, Wellington.

(Telegram.)

Christchurch, 31st October, 1898.

SUPPLEMENTARY Order Paper, dated 28th October [see No. 6], indicates proposal to extend Vancouver mail-service subsidy for one year. From letter just received from London think it most unlikely that the Canadian-Australian Company will agree to continue service on a yearly contract.

No. 137.

The SECRETARY, General Post Office, Wellington, to the GENERAL MANAGER for the COLONIES, New Zealand Shipping Company, Christchurch.

SIR,—

General Post Office, Wellington, 5th November, 1898.

I have the honour to forward herewith copy of a resolution passed by the House of Representatives on the 3rd instant relative to the San Francisco and Vancouver mail-service.

I shall be glad to learn as early as possible whether your company is prepared to continue the service between Wellington and Vancouver for one year from the 1st April, 1899, and on the present conditions.

The General Manager for the Colonies,
New Zealand Shipping Company (Limited), Christchurch.

I have, &c.,

W. GRAY, Secretary.

No. 138.

The GENERAL MANAGER for the COLONIES, New Zealand Shipping Company, to the SECRETARY, General Post Office, Wellington.

New Zealand Shipping Company (Limited), Christchurch,

SIR,—

8th November, 1898.

I have the honour to acknowledge the receipt of your letter of the 5th instant, asking whether the Canadian-Australian Royal Mail Steamship Company is prepared to continue the service between Wellington and Vancouver for one year from the 1st April, 1899, on the present conditions, and to inform you that we have cabled to London for instructions, and will communicate with you again on receipt of reply.

I have, &c.,

The Secretary, General Post Office, Wellington.

ISAAC GIBBS, General Manager.

No. 139.

The SECRETARY, Chamber of Commerce, Wellington, to the Hon. the POSTMASTER-GENERAL.

SIR,—

Wellington Chamber of Commerce, Wellington, 20th January, 1899.

I have the honour, by direction of the council of this Chamber, to respectfully forward for your consideration the copy (at foot) of a resolution adopted at a meeting of the council in reference to the Vancouver service.

I have, &c.,

The Hon. the Postmaster-General.

S. CARROLL, Secretary.