

No. 185.

The Hon. the POSTMASTER-GENERAL, Wellington, to the SECRETARY, General Post Office, London.

SIR,—

General Post Office, Wellington, 29th March, 1899.

I have the honour to advise you that the mail-service now subsisting between Wellington and Vancouver will not be renewed after the end of this month. The steamer leaving Wellington to-morrow will carry the last outward despatch, and that from Vancouver, due in Wellington on the 1st proximo, the last inward mail.

The Agent-General has already informed you that the service was not to be renewed with this colony, and arranged for correspondence which in ordinary circumstances would have been despatched from your office on the 25th instant to connect with the "Warrimoo" at Vancouver on the 6th proximo, to be sent by way to Suez.

The Agent-General is also being directed by telegraph to ask you to forward by the Brindisi and Naples routes the collection of mail-matter during the thirteen days following the despatch *via* San Francisco. All other correspondence for New Zealand not specially superscribed for other routes should be kept for and forwarded by the next San Francisco mail.

I have, &c.,

W. GRAY, for the Postmaster-General.

The Secretary, General Post Office, London.

No. 186.

The SECRETARY, General Post Office, Wellington, to the Hon. the POSTMASTER-GENERAL, Washington.

SIR,—

General Post Office, Wellington, 29th March, 1899.

I have the honour to confirm the advice which will have been given you by the Resident Agent for this colony in San Francisco that the mail-service hitherto subsisting between Wellington and Vancouver will not be renewed after the end of this month. The steamer leaving Wellington to-morrow will carry the last outward despatch, and that from Vancouver, due in Wellington on the 1st proximo, the last inward mail.

Should the time-table to be arranged for the new service from Sydney to Vancouver by way of Brisbane offer any advantage for correspondence posted after the despatch of the mail for San Francisco it will be utilised.

The course of post between New Zealand and Vancouver *via* Sydney will be about thirty days, as against nineteen days between Auckland and San Francisco.

I have, &c.,

W. GRAY, Secretary.

The Hon. the Postmaster-General, Washington, D.C.

No. 187.

The SECRETARY, General Post Office, Wellington, to the DEPUTY POSTMASTER-GENERAL, Sydney.

SIR,—

General Post Office, Wellington, 29th March, 1899.

I have the honour to inform you that, with the "Aorangi's" departure to-morrow, and the "Miowera's" arrival from Vancouver on or about the 1st proximo, the steamers of this service will cease to call at New Zealand.

It is proposed, however, to despatch correspondence for Honolulu and Canada by way of your office for transmission by the Vancouver steamers if the time-table shows that any advantage will be gained by so doing. I shall be glad to be informed of the conditions on which mails will be conveyed.

In another letter I have referred to the question of the transmission of parcels by way of Sydney.

I have, &c.,

W. GRAY, Secretary.

The Deputy Postmaster-General, Sydney.

No. 188.

The SECRETARY, General Post Office, Wellington, to the POSTMASTER-GENERAL, Honolulu.

SIR,—

General Post Office, Wellington, 29th March, 1899.

I have the honour to advise you that the mail-service hitherto subsisting between Wellington and Vancouver will not be renewed after the end of this month. The steamer leaving Wellington to-morrow will carry the last outward despatch, and that from Vancouver, due in Wellington on the 1st proximo, the last inward mail.

The steamers will in future run from Sydney to Vancouver by way of Brisbane, and it is proposed to make use of the new service for mails for Honolulu if the time-table is found to be suitable. The through time Auckland to Honolulu will be twenty-one or twenty-two days, as against twelve days by the direct steamers of the San Francisco line.

I have, &c.,

W. GRAY, Secretary.

The Postmaster-General, Honolulu, Hawaii.