1913. NEW ZEALAND.

UNIVERSAL PENNY POSTAGE

(FURTHER PAPERS RELATIVE TO).

[In continuation of F.-7, presented on the 6th August, 1912.]

Presented to both Houses of the General Assembly by Command of His Excellency.

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No. 1.

The Deputy Postmaster - General, Melbourne, to the Secretary, General Post Office, Wellington.

(Telegram.) Melbourne, 25th October, 1912.

Papua adopts penny half-ounce as rate for letters to any place in British Empire from 1st proximo.

[P.O. 12/316(8).] [Acknowledged, 1st November, 1912.]

No. 2.

The Hon. the Postmaster-General, Wellington, to the Hon. the Postmaster-General, Washington.

Postmaster-General's Office, Wellington, 7th April, 1913.

I have the honour to refer to the letter of the 22nd October, 1909 [No. 7, F.-7, 1910], to your predecessor from the Postmaster-General of this Dominion, urging the desirability of reducing the minimum postage for a letter from the United States of America to New Zealand from 5 to 2 cents, and to the reply from the Second Assistant Postmaster-General of the 6th January, 1910 [No. 8, F.-7, 1910].

In consideration of the representations which have been made to me from time to time of the hindrance to correspondence, both in the United States and in New Zealand, which inheres in the present unequal incidence of postage-rates, I now venture to again raise the matter with the view of asking for it your further consideration. Your administration has now for some seven years accepted from New Zealand letters prepaid at the initial rate of 1d.; but at its last pronouncement it had not seen its way clear to reduce the postage for letters from the United States to New Zealand to an equivalent rate. It may be that the reasons hitherto standing in the way of the desired reduction may have disappeared; and if they have I shall be very glad to have from you the liberty to announce to the public of this Dominion your agreement to levy the lower rate.

I have, &c.,

R. H. RHODES,

The Hon. the Postmaster-General, Washington, D.C. [P.O. 13/49(1).]

Postmaster-General.