

(No. 84.)



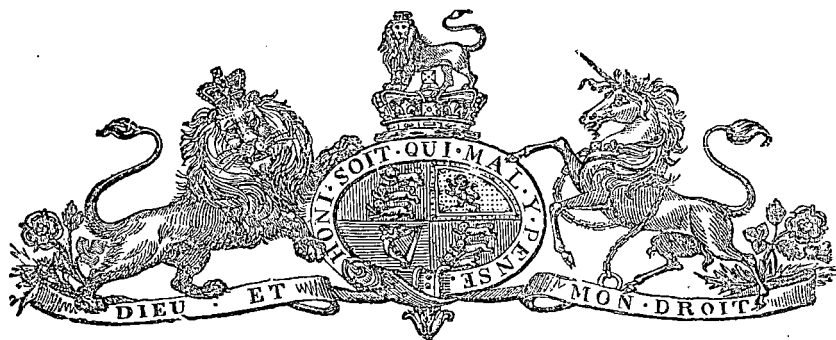
1861.

T A S M A N I A .

D E S P A T C H .

BI-MONTHLY MAIL.

Laid upon the Table by Mr. Innes, and ordered by the House to be printed,
27 September, 1861.



TASMANIA. [CIRCULAR.]

Downing-street, 3rd August, 1861.

SIR,

I HAVE to acquaint you that it had been determined by Her Majesty's Government that the 2nd Bi-monthly Mail for Penang, Singapore, and China, namely, that dispatched from London on the 20th and via Marseilles on the 26th of each Month, should be discontinued, but that, as you will learn from the enclosed copy of a letter from the Lords Commissioners of the Treasury, in consequence of representations that have been made to Her Majesty's Government, they have consented to the renewal of this Mail.

You will also find that in relief of the Public Revenue the postage of the correspondence between the United Kingdom and China, and also between China and the Australian Colonies, will be raised to One Shilling per letter up to half an ounce.

I have the honor to be,
Sir,

Your most obedient humble Servant,

NEWCASTLE.

Governor Sir H. E. F. YOUNG, C.B.

MR. HAMILTON to SIR F. ROGERS.

Treasury Chambers, 31st July, 1861.

SIR,

I AM desired by the Lords Commissioners of Her Majesty's Treasury to state, for the information of His Grace the Duke of Newcastle, that in consequence of a strong representation addressed to this Board by a body of gentlemen connected with, and to a great extent representing the Trade with China, and also of gentlemen urging strongly the interests of the Australian Colonies who waited upon the Chancellor of the Exchequer, my Lords have consented to the renewal of the second Monthly Mail with China, the discontinuance of which had been recently determined upon.

My Lords, however, have in relief of the public revenue, determined to raise the postage of the correspondence between the United Kingdom and China, and also between China and the Australian Colonies, to One Shilling per letter up to half an ounce.

My Lords would have been glad, had time permitted, to ascertain the views of the Australian Colonies on this subject, before finally deciding on the measure of an increased postage rate; but seeing that the question of the re-establishment of the second Mail was regarded as very urgent by the Deputation, and that the importance of this communication to the Australian Colonies was forcibly urged by the gentlemen who represented those Colonies in the Deputation; and seeing also, that it was the general feeling of the Deputation that no objection would be felt to the proposed increase of postage on the China correspondence, my Lords did not hesitate to anticipate what they presume will be the feeling of the Colonies, and sanction the measure at once, rather than delay what was represented as so important for the interests of all persons connected with the Trade with China.

I am to request that the Duke of Newcastle will take the earliest opportunity of communicating with the several Colonies on this subject. Should they demur to taking their share in the cost of this additional service, by means of the proposed increase in the rate of postage, my Lords would have to consider the propriety of discontinuing it, which can be done at a short notice, under the arrangement they are able to make with the Peninsular and Oriental Steam Navigation Company.

In conclusion I am to request that, you will move His Grace to cause the Government of Hong Kong to be informed of the intention to re-establish the second Monthly Mail to China, and to increase the rate of postage on letters to and from China, with the view to defray the additional expense which will be thereby incurred.

I am, &c.,

G. A. HAMILTON.

Sir F. ROGERS, Bart.