

1880.
 —
 VICTORIA.

LETTERS, ETC., PER ORIENT STEAMERS.

RETURN to an Order of the *Legislative Assembly*,
 Dated 8th September 1880, for—

A RETURN showing—

- (1.) The number of Letters, Newspapers, and Packets despatched and received by the Orient steamers since the 1st January 1880, and the amount of Postage paid to the Orient Company for the same.
- (2.) The number of Letters, Newspapers, and Packets despatched from Victoria, including those received from other colonies by the supplementary mail forwarded *via* Adelaide by the Orient steamers, and the amount of Postage paid to the Orient Company for their conveyance.
- (3.) The amount of Postages received by the Government from the public for the conveyance of the Letters, Newspapers, and Packets despatched according to the foregoing Returns.
- (4.) The time occupied by each Orient steamer in the delivery of Mails out and home.
- (5.) The time occupied by the subsidised steamers of the P. and O. Company in performing a similar service.
- (6.) The loss which the general revenue has sustained by the decrease in Postages on Letters, Newspapers, and Packets despatched from other colonies by the P. and O. steamers.

(*Mr. Deakin.*)

Ordered by the Legislative Assembly to be printed, 26th October 1880.

[Approximate Cost of Return.—Preparation, not given; Printing (775 copies), £7 10s. 0d.]

By Authority: JOHN FERRES, Government Printer, Melbourne.

No. 1.

RETURN showing the Number of Letters, Packets, and Newspapers Despatched and Received by the Orient steamers since the 1st January 1880, and the amount of Postage paid to the Orient Company for same.

DESPATCHED.

Vessel.	Date.	Letters.	Packets.	Newspapers.	Paid to Masters of Steamers.
					£ s. d.
"Orient"	January 31	1,472	111	1,145	6 2 8
"Lusitania"	February 20	371	20	80	1 10 11
"Garonne"	March 15	846	86	525	3 10 6
"John Elder"	April 6	1,394	63	751	5 16 2
"Chimborazo"	April 21	994	96	740	4 2 10
"Sorata"	May 3	885	56	454	3 13 9
"Cuzco"	May 18	1,749	76	693	7 5 9
"Aconcagua"	June 1	1,286	60	644	5 7 2
"Orient"	June 15	1,654	72	875	6 17 10
"Cotopaxi"	June 28	902	40	574	3 15 2
"Lusitania"	July 13	1,287	89	1,459	5 7 3
"Liguria"	July 27	2,009	121	1,554	8 7 5
"Garonne"	August 10	1,624	153	1,515	6 15 4
"Potosi"	August 24	1,502	69	962	6 5 2
"Chimborazo"	Sept. 7 and 8	1,998	146	1,315	8 6 6
		19,973	1,258	13,286	83 4 5

RECEIVED.

Vessel.	Date.	Letters.	Packets.	Newspapers.	Remarks.
"Lusitania"	January 19	1,094	...	1,450	No payment made by this Department upon Letters received.
"Garonne"	February 16	1,051	...	1,005	
"John Elder"	February 28	873	...	1,051	
"Sorata"	April 2	2,710	...	6,537	
"Chimborazo"	April 5	5,279	...	17,947	
"Cuzco"	April 19	1,106	...	1,987	
"Aconcagua"	May 5	1,198	...	1,649	
"Orient"	May 12	1,351	...	1,608	
"Cotopaxi"	May 28	1,738	...	2,622	
"Lusitania"	June 13	2,025	...	2,400	
"Liguria"	June 27	1,549	...	1,614	
"Garonne"	July 18	1,774	...	2,226	
"Potosi"	July 21	1,756	...	1,927	
"Chimborazo"	August 11	1,167	...	2,033	
"John Elder"	August 22	1,398	...	1,772	
		26,069	..	47,828	

T. W. JACKSON,
Deputy Postmaster-General.

General Post Office,
Melbourne, 17th September 1880.

No. 2.

RETURN showing the Number of Letters, Packets, and Newspapers despatched from Victoria, including those received from other Colonies by the Supplementary Mails forwarded *via* Adelaide by the Orient steamers, and the amount of Postage paid to the "Orient Company" for their conveyance.

FROM VICTORIA.

How Despatched.	Date.	Letters.	Packets.	Newspapers.	Remarks.
1880.					
"Victorian"	May 18	4	No payment is made to the "Orient Company" for Supplementary Mails forwarded from this Colony <i>via</i> South Australia, the gratuity being paid only to the masters of the steamers conveying the Mails to Adelaide.
Overland	June 1	1	
"Victorian"	June 17	312	19	22	
Overland	June 29	94	
"South Australian"	July 1	466	25	553	
Overland	July 13	51	2	101	
"Victorian"	July 15	497	4	67	
"South Australian"	July 29	342	5	261	
"Victorian"	August 12	683	27	381	
"South Australian"	August 26	722	95	184	
"Victorian"	September 9	298	23	100	
		3,470	200	1,669	

FROM OTHER COLONIES.

There is no record in this office, which is not in any way advised, of the contents of sealed Mails received from other Colonies for onward transmission per "Orient" steamers. Nor is any gratuity paid for such Mails by this Department, which merely places them on board on behalf of the despatching colony.

General Post Office,
Melbourne, 17th September 1880.

T. W. JACKSON,
Deputy Postmaster-General.

No. 3.

RETURN showing "the Amount of Postage received by the Government from the Public for the conveyance of the Letters, Packets, and Newspapers despatched according to the foregoing Returns."

	Number.	Estimated Postage Received.
		£ s. d.
Letters	23,443	732 11 10½
Packets	1,458	15 3 9
Newspapers	14,955	62 6 3
Total	£810 1 10½

General Post Office,
Melbourne, 17th September 1880.

T. W. JACKSON,
Deputy Postmaster-General.

No. 4.

RETURN showing the Time occupied by each Orient steamer in the Delivery of Mails Out and Home.

Vessel's Name.	Despatch of Mail from London.	Arrival at Melbourne.	No. of Days.
	1879.		
"Lusitania"	December 2	January 19	48
"Garonne"	December 31	February 16	47
	1880.		
"John Elder"	January 14	February 28	45
"Sorata"	February 20	April 2	42
"Chimborazo"	February 16	April 5	49
"Cuzco"	March 5	April 19	45
"Aconcagua"	March 20	May 5	46
"Orient"	April 2	May 12	40
"Cotopaxi"	April 16	May 28	42
"Lusitania"	April 34	June 13	44
"Liguria"	May 14	June 27	44
"Garonne"	May 28	July 18	51
"Potosi"	June 11	July 21	40
"Chimborazo"	June 25	August 11	47
"John Elder"	July 9	August 22	44

Vessel's Name.	Departure from Melbourne.	Arrival at London.	No. of Days.
"Orient"	January 31	March 11	40
"Lusitania"	February 20	April 5	45
"Garonne"	March 15	April 26	42
"John Elder"	April 6	May 19	43
"Chimborazo"	April 21	June 1	41
"Sorata"	May 3	June 10	38
"Cuzco"	May 18	July 3	46
"Aconcagua"	June 1	July 11	40
"Orient"	June 15	July 24	39
"Cotopaxi"	June 28	*	*
"Lusitania"	July 13	*	*
"Liguria"	July 27	*	*
"Garonne"	August 10	*	*
"Potosi"	August 24	*	*
"Chimborazo"	September 8	*	*

* These returns have not yet been received.

No. 5.

RETURN showing the Time occupied by the subsidised steamers in performing a similar service.

OUT.

Vessel's Name.	Departure from London.	Arrival at Melbourne.	No. of Days.
	1879.		
Indus	December 5	January 17	43
Assam	December 19	January 28	40
	1880.		
Deccan	January 2	February 12	41
Tanjore	January 16	February 25	40
Bangalore	January 30	March 12	42
Siam	February 13	March 23	39
Assam	February 27	April 12	45
Hydaspes	March 12	April 19	38
Malwa	March 26	May 4	39
Tanjore	April 9	May 18	39
Bangalore	April 23	June 2	40
Siam	May 7	June 15	39
Assam	May 21	June 29	39
Hydaspes	June 4	July 12	38
Kaisar-i-Hind	June 18	July 25	37
Malwa	July 2	August 9	38
Bangalore	July 16	August 24	39

HOME.

Vessel's Name.	Departure from Melbourne.	Arrival at London.	No. of Days.
Siam	January 23	March 4	41
Indus	February 6	March 18	41
Assam	February 20	April 1	41
Deccan	March 5	April 15	41
Tanjore	March 19	April 28	40
Bangalore	April 2	May 12	40
Siam	April 14	May 26	42
Assam	April 28	June 10	43
Hydaspes	May 14	June 25	42
Malwa	May 28	July 11	44
Tanjore	June 11	July 24	43

Later returns of Arrival at London not yet to hand.

T. W. JACKSON,
Deputy Postmaster-General.

General Post Office,
Melbourne, 17th September 1880.

No. 6.

RETURN showing the loss which the General Revenue has sustained by the decrease in postages on Letters, Packets, and Newspapers despatched from other Colonies by the P. and O. Company's steamers.

	£	s.	d.
Amount received from other colonies on account of correspondence despatched by the P. and O. Co.'s steamers during the half-year ended 31st December 1879	10,765	10	6
Amount due to Victoria from other colonies for the half-year ended 31st July 1880	8,690	2	0
Loss to the revenue during the half-year...	£2,075	8	6

REMARKS.

The falling off in the number of letters, &c., despatched from other colonies by the P. and O. Co.'s steamers is accounted for by the fact that New South Wales, New Zealand, South Australia, and Tasmania, still charge the 8d. rate for letters sent *viâ* Brindisi, whereas the postage on correspondence despatched *viâ* San Francisco, or by non-contract steamers, is only 6d. Communications have been addressed to the above colonies urging the adoption of a uniform sixpenny rate.

A larger extent of correspondence for other colonies has been *received viâ* Galle during the half-year ended the 31st July 1880 than under the previous contract, in consequence of the 6d. postage rate being collected in the United Kingdom on letters for all the Australasian Colonies, whether sent *viâ* Brindisi or by any other route.

General Post Office,
Melbourne, 17th September 1880.

T. W. JACKSON,
Deputy Postmaster-General.