

The Gazette.

MONTREAL, WEDNESDAY, JULY 3.

AUSTRALIAN MAIL SERVICE.

The ocean mail services contemplated by the Canadian Government in the legislation of last session include direct steamship communication between British Columbia and Australia. The establishment of such a service is contingent, of course, upon the co-operation of the latter colonies, and, from a history of the negotiations on the part of New South Wales, there is a prospect of hearty support from that quarter, although as yet it must be confessed that the project is somewhat *in nubibus*. It was in the year 1885 that Mr. Carson Woods, of Sydney, became active in advocating the establishment of mail communication between Australia and Great Britain by way of Canada, and since that time a good deal of correspondence upon the matter has passed. At a conference held in Sydney, in January of last year, a lengthy communication from Captain J. C. Rounding on the proposed Canadian mail service from England to Australia via Montreal and Vancouver was discussed, and the following resolution adopted:—"That the trans-Pacific mail service be referred to the colonies of New South Wales and New Zealand for consideration." On May 9th, 1888, Mr. Lambton, of the New South Wales Government, furnished a lengthy report on the then position of the matter, from which the following is taken:—

"It may, I think, be assumed that not only for postal but for commercial reasons direct communication with America is desirable, but probably the Government would not consent to maintain a line to San Francisco as well as one to Canada, and the question to be considered between this and the expiration of the present San Francisco contract seems to be whether the connection with America should be made at San Francisco, as hitherto, or at a port in British Columbia. As regards expense, a continuance of the present connection would probably be more economical, but there may be good reasons for preferring the connection to be with Canada, especially as via Canada we could, of course, get the same communication with all parts of America and probably quite as rapidly; and it is, I think, generally admitted that now that a regular weekly service is maintained between Australia and Great Britain via Suez, we in New South Wales do not need a Pacific mail service at all, so far as concerns communication with Great Britain, such a service being only necessary to maintain postal and commercial relations with the great American continent. Whether the communication be with San Francisco or with Canada, I do not think matters for postal purposes; and the whole question would seem to be one for Cabinet decision when the present San Francisco contract more nearly approaches termination—presuming, as I have already done, that the maintenance of two Pacific services is not in contemplation. With reference to the route, it can readily be perceived that a branch line to Fiji would not suit New Zealand, and if we are to secure the co-operation of the latter colony in a service which is really more necessary for it than for us, I am inclined to think it will have to be one which includes Auckland, as at present. Any service in which we may secure the co-operation of New Zealand will certainly be a cheaper one for us."

Upon this report the Postmaster-General

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Upon this report, the Postmaster-Gen-
eral placed a minute to the effect that
no immediate action was necessary. A
despatch was received on January 9th,
1889, from the agent-general of New
South Wales in London, forwarding cop-
ies of correspondence on the subject of
the steam service between Vancouver,
New Zealand and Australia, in which it
was pointed out that the New Zealand
Parliament has affirmed that a fortnight-
ly service with Great Britain should be
continued; that the Government should
negotiate with Great Britain, Canada and
New South Wales for a Canadian service
at a reasonable price to the colony; that
if negotiations are favorable, tenders
should be invited for a four-weekly and
a fortnightly service by direct steamers;
and that all correspondence and tenders
be submitted to the next New Zealand
parliament for its consideration and
decision. It is said that the New Zea-
land government considers that its share
of a San Francisco or Canadian service
should not exceed £18,000 a year. The
Sydney Telegraph expresses the view
that if Canada makes a definite proposal

to him their advance pay. Australia

The Marquis of Lorne to go to Victoria.

LONDON, July 2.—Edmund Yates says in
the *World*:—"I hear that the Marquis of
Lorne is quite likely to get the Victoria
governorship. The only difficulty in the
way is the Princess Louise, who does not
want to exile herself in the Antipodes."

Another M. P. Arrested.

LONDON, July 2.—Wm. John Lane, M.P.
of West Cork, has been arrested for inciting

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