

E. AFRICA
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890

known Cable Co. Steam Service

1910

1910
Last Previous Paper

London comes with 13. Cables off. 10/10
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W. India see also CA. Send the 890
copy of 17 Nov. 1910. copy of 39256
copy of 25 Nov. 1910. copy of 39256
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CA 787. Repurchase,
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GENERAL POST OFFICE, LONDON,

8 January 1910.

1053

Dear Sir,

I have your reply of the 4th instant to my letter of the 24th of last month.

I now send you a copy of a letter from the Union Castle Company dated the 29th of last month and also of one of the same date addressed privately to Mr. Buxton by Mr. P. A. Molteno, M.P., a director of the Company.

You will see that Mr. Molteno assumes that the Postmaster General is acquainted with the negotiations which have taken place between the Colonial Office and the Union Castle Company regarding the establishment of a service on the East Coast of Africa by the Company's steamers. If therefore you can arrange accordingly, Farnall would like, before a meeting with the Company takes place, to have particulars as to these negotiations and a copy of any correspondence which has

passed

ad, Esq. C.M.G.

passed. Can you manage to let us have the information
early next week?

Yours very truly,

Henry L. Kingsford

C O P Y .

The Union Castle Mail Steamship Co., Ltd.,

3 and 4 Fenchurch Street,

London, E.C. 29th December
1909.

The Secretary,

GENERAL POST OFFICE, E.C.

1053

10 JAN 10

Sir,

We beg to acknowledge receipt of your communication of 23rd instant, No. 543221, with reference to the extension of this Company's Service to East African ports.

Although we have every hope that the importance of the East African trade may justify His Majesty's Government in affording a subsidy whereby the Suez route might be adopted by our steamers, it would be impossible for us without such a subsidy to incur the heavy expense of the Canal dues.

We are, Sir,

Your obedient servants,

THE UNION CASTLE MAIL STEAMSHIP COMPANY LIMITED,

(Sgd) Donald, Currie & Co.

Managers.

C O P Y.

22

3 Fenchurch Street,
London, E.C.

29th December 1909.

My dear Buxton,

I am writing you informally about the East African service which we have recently established. You are no doubt aware that we have been very strongly pressed by His Majesty's Government through the Colonial Office, quite apart from other public pressure, to establish a service of British steamers on the East Coast. We shall need the support of all the authorities if we are to carry on this service, as it will undoubtedly entail a considerable loss at first.

What we should like is that the Post Office should help us so far as they can with some payment for carrying parcels and letters on that coast. In regard to the time occupied, we shall be just about the same in proceeding to Mombasa as the other all-sea services, with the exception of the route via Marseilles, as we would deliver in 33 days owing to the fact that on East Coast steamers would connect with

with our fast Mail Steamers at Durban. I do not know what arrangements may be made for the carrying of mails between Mozambique, Zanzibar and South Africa. Possibly you might be able to help us in this connection as well. The Union-Castle Company will be writing you officially on the subject, and I thought it well to send you a line informally beforehand in the hope that you may be able to give the matter your favourable consideration.

With all good wishes for the coming election and the new year.

Believe me,

Yours sincerely,

(Sgd) P. A. Molteno.

The Rt. Hon. Sydney Buxton, M.P.
7, Grosvenor Crescent, S.W.