

reminded that this principle is already adopted in the United Kingdom, where the Press rate is reduced to less than one-eighth of a penny per word (1s. for 100 words) for any distance. This reduction is made purely in the interest of the general public, and it seems to me that the same principle may with inestimable advantage be applied to the infinitely larger area of the British Empire by means of the Globe-girdling Imperial Cable System.

The second plan, if not so comprehensive as the first, would, if adopted, indefinitely widen the present most restricted and meagre scope of the Press Cable Service throughout the Empire. It would leave the question of selection of news in the hands of those well fitted for the duty. By promoting emulation among representatives of the Press, it would pave the way for a *daily review*, in many instances, of the progress of events and occurrences in the sisterhood of British States, which would do more than any other agency to foster an intelligent intimacy, mould a broad public opinion, promote mutual sympathy, and present the Empire as a living reality to all.

The two plans have each distinct merits. While the first would best meet the needs of much of the outer Empire, the second would probably better suit London and the populous Colonial capitals; it would likewise, as it appears to me, remove every difficulty raised by the various speakers on the 20th ultimo in respect to the selection of matter to be transmitted for publication. I incline to the opinion that the merits of both suggestions should be secured by a combination of the two plans, but this is a point which can be determined by a Joint Committee duly appointed, or by the Boards of Control when they come to be constituted.

EMPIRE CABLES AND CABLE COMPANIES.

A girdle of State Cables, to knit together great regions under the British Flag which are separated by the oceans of the Globe, cannot be established without affecting to some