

I will communicate to you immediately any information I obtain on Mr. Benham's return on this subject.

Deeply impressed with the necessity of obtaining the effective co-operation of the Canadian Pacific Railway Company, for the purpose of inspiring the confidence of capitalists as to its success, and the obvious advantage of having a through service from here to China and Japan by one Company, I cabled you after seeing Mr. Benham as follows:-

"Confidential. Long interview with Colonial  
 "Minister last night. Imperial Government  
 "will support fast Atlantic service to extent  
 "£75,000 vessels similar "Teutonic" but will  
 "require Canadian Government invite new tenders.  
 "Agents General and self meet Colonial Minister  
 "Tuesday re cable. Have no doubt Government  
 "will support proposal and appoint Commission  
 "at once arrange details. Pending declaration  
 "policy of Imperial Government think it inadvisable  
 "able shew Fleming's letter October 11th.  
 "Agents-General. Will advise you result meeting.  
 "ing. Shall I come out consult you about these  
 "matters. Think could render you material  
 "assistance. Do not make contents this message  
 "public till further advised".

I received a short time ago a letter from Mr. Parmelee covering copy of one from Mr. Sandford Fleming in regard to the Cable, and asking me to communicate it to the Agents-General. I took the responsibility of withholding it until after the meeting between the Colonial Minister and the Agents General, as I felt sure that the new proposals for the division of the financial responsibility between the Imperial Government and the Colonies would have a very disturbing effect, without doing any

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