

tion between Canada and British Columbia. It will be obvious to you that the means of any association which may be formed to effect this great design must depend upon the extent of the proposed concession. His Grace, therefore, directs me to ask you to have the goodness to state what breadth of land the Governors of the Hudson's Bay Company are willing to grant for this purpose.

H. H. Berens, Esq.
&c. &c.

I am, &c.
(Signed) FREDERIC ROGERS.

No. 8.

No. 8.

COPY of a LETTER from H. H. BERENS, Esq., to his Grace the Duke of
NEWCASTLE, K.G.

Hudson's Bay House, London,
September 5, 1862.

MY LORD DUKE,

I HAVE the honour to acknowledge the receipt of Sir Frederic Rogers' letter of the 28th August,* and am pleased to observe that your Grace is gratified by the readiness of this Company to meet the views of Her Majesty's Government in reference to the contemplated communication between Canada and British Columbia. In reply to your inquiry as to the breadth of land the Hudson's Bay Company are willing to grant for the purpose of the undertaking, I beg to say that being in utter ignorance of the sort of route projected, and in the absence of any communication from the promoters of the undertaking, it is impossible for me to state to what extent the grant would amount.

I have, &c.

His Grace the Duke of Newcastle, K.G.
&c. &c. &c.

(Signed) H. H. BERENS,
Governor.

No. 9.

No. 9.

COPY of a LETTER from T. FREDERIC ELLIOT, Esq., to H. H. BERENS, Esq.

SIR,

Downing Street, November 21, 1862.

WITH reference to your interview with the Duke of Newcastle on the 18th instant, upon the subject of a proposed Postal and Telegraphic Route from the Canadian frontier to that of British Columbia, at which his Grace understood you to express the willingness of the Hudson's Bay Company to enter into personal communication with some of the gentlemen who are desirous, under certain conditions, of undertaking this scheme, and to confer with them either upon the basis of forming a road through the country comprised in the Charter of your Company, or upon that of the purchase of the whole of the Company's rights, I am directed by his Grace to inform you that he has to-day seen a deputation of the gentlemen referred to, and they, on their part, expressed their readiness to attend the proposed meeting.

The Duke of Newcastle thinks that it would be desirable that you should now arrange an interview either with Mr. Thomas Baring or with Mr. Edward Watkin, and, as it is evident that with a view to any consideration of the second proposal it would be necessary that some details of the property to be sold should be laid before the intending purchasers, he hopes that the Company will be good enough to authorize such information to be given as may be necessary, and as may not be detrimental to their own interests.

I have, &c.

H. H. Berens, Esq.
&c. &c.

(Signed) T. FRED. ELLIOT.

No. 10.

No. 10.

COPY of a LETTER from E. W. WATKIN, Esq., to his Grace the Duke of
NEWCASTLE, K.G.

MY LORD DUKE,

London, December 27, 1862.

REFERRING to the interview which Messrs. G. G. Glyn, M.P., R. W. Crawford, M.P., H. Wollaston Blake, William Chapman, Robert Benson, Captain Glyn, R.N., and myself, had the honour to have with your Grace at the Colonial Office, on the 21st November, in reference to the important question of telegraphic and other means of communication through British territory to the Pacific, I have now to report to your Grace, on behalf of the gentlemen who have moved in this matter, that the subject has