

The same words telegraphed between Canada and Australia, or New Zealand, as an ordinary message, would be charged:—

(1) Under the Empire Cable Tariff—

157 letters at 1 penny..... 13 shillings, 1 penny. (\$3.14).

(2) Under the present tariff,—

32 words at 2 shillings, 4 pence..... 74 shillings, 8 pence (\$18.67).

The same sentence transmitted between Australia or New Zealand and Canada as a press message, would be charged:—

(1) Under the Empire Cable Tariff—

157 letters at $\frac{1}{2}$ of a penny. 4 shillings, 4½ pence. (\$1.09).

(2) Under present tariff—

32 words at 9 pence. 24 shillings. (\$6.00).

Without departing from the policy of maintaining transmission charges by the Empire Cables, sufficiently high to cover all working expenses, we have in these calculations a distinct indication of the very marked cheapening in over-sea telegraphy which is quite possible in the near future.

At the present day the cost of cabling is much too great for the majority of people. It is practically prohibitive to emigrants, as well as to many others; and those who are forced to use the wire in extreme cases, resort to it as seldom as possible. Owing to geographical circumstances, cheap over-sea telegraphy equally with cheap land telegraphy, concerns the British in various parts of the world, more than any other people, and they cannot have cheap telegraphy too soon. A stage has been reached in the history of the world, when their wishes and their wants, their aims and their aspirations, seek the freest and speediest means of expression.

While it may be difficult at first sight, to grasp the full significance of some of the foregoing statements, it may at least be averred that they are made with the utmost confidence in their soundness. There is reason to hope and believe that time will make them plain, and reveal the inestimable value to be attached to an unbroken chain of state-owned cables connecting the self governing British communities in both hemispheres. It is believed most thoroughly that the proposal will eventually be consummated, and that by bringing the several governmental units, now separated by great oceans, into one friendly neighborhood, electrically and telegraphically, results will follow of the most satisfactory character,—commerce will be quickened, the ties of sympathy will be made more effective, the bonds of sentiment will become more enduring, and by this means, unity, strength and permanence will be assured to the family of nations constituting the new Empire.

S. F.