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## POSTAL TELEGRAPH SERVICE

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### SEA AND LAND.

TO THE HONOURABLE

WILLIAM MULOCK,

*Post Master General, Canada.*

OTTAWA, JANUARY 1ST, 1902.

SIR :—

I did myself the honour on the first day of the new Century to address you, through the public press, on the subject of "A State-owned Telegraph Service Girdling the Globe." On the preceding day, six British Governments practically inaugurated such a service by formally joining in the execution of a contract for establishing a trans-Pacific cable from Canada to Australia and New Zealand. This joint undertaking, known as the Pacific Cable, may be regarded as the first great ocean link in a projected chain of Pan-Britannic Telegraphs under State control.

I felt that I could not too strongly emphasize the importance of the undertaking and the far-reaching influence of the act of co-partnership entered into in the closing hours of the old century; an act, resulting from thirteen years' deliberation, which has been constitutionally ratified by the Imperial Parliament and by the Parliaments of Canada, New South Wales, Victoria, Queensland and New Zealand.

Since the beginning of the year various public bodies throughout the Empire, and more particularly the General Council of the Australian Chamber of Commerce, have affirmed "the unspeakable importance of a system of State-owned Telegraph and Cable lines connecting all the severed portions of His Majesty's Dominions."

It is not surprising, therefore, that it gave great satisfaction when you announced to the Australian Chamber of Commerce on May 16th last, that you had been gathering information to submit to the Canadian Government in regard to the establishment of a State-owned Cable across the Atlantic, and the transfer of the land telegraphs of the Dominion to the Post Office Department.

The announcement appeared in the press the following day, and opened up the prospect to Australasians that they would soon be brought into telegraphic touch with the Mother Country, through