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SEVENTEENTH REPORT
OF
THE POSTMASTER GENERAL,
ON
THE POST OFFICE.

Presented to both Houses of Parliament by Command of Her Majesty.



LONDON:
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SEVENTEENTH REPORT.

TO THE RIGHT HONOURABLE THE LORDS COMMISSIONERS OF HER MAJESTY'S TREASURY.

MY LORDS,

IN presenting to your Lordships the Seventeenth Annual Report upon the Post Office, being the Report for the year 1870, I regret that this part of my duty as Postmaster General does not devolve upon my predecessor, the Marquis of Hartington, under whose direction the measures I have to review were introduced.

During the 12 months embraced in the present Report the energies of the Department and its powers of expansion have been put to a severe test by the concurrence of no less than three events, any one of which would have been sufficient to distinguish the year as a remarkable one.

Remarkable features of the year.

These were,—

- I. The acquisition of the Telegraphs by the State and their affiliation upon the Post Office as the Department charged with their management.
- II. The Postal changes which came into operation in October.
- III. The interruption in our Foreign communications caused by the war.

As regards the transfer of the Telegraphs to the Post Office it is unnecessary for me to do more than refer to the fact, an able and comprehensive Report by Mr. Scudamore, Second Secretary to the Department, having been submitted to your Lordships by Lord Hartington. In that Report, which has since been presented to Parliament,* is given the fullest information on every point connected with the transfer from the first conception of the undertaking down to the latest particulars. I confine, myself, therefore, to giving in the Appendix, and this I do merely for purposes of reference and comparison in future years, a table (No. I.) showing the number of messages forwarded from Postal Telegraph stations in the United Kingdom during each week of 1870, from the date of the transfer up to the 31st of December.

Telegraphs.

The changes which came into operation in October were,—

October changes.

- I. The introduction of a Halfpenny Card Post.
- II. The reduction of postage upon Newspapers to one halfpenny, without restriction as to weight or superficial area.

* Parliamentary Paper, C. 304, Session 1871.

III. The reduction of postage upon Patterns and Samples from one penny for four ozs. to one halfpenny for two ozs., the maximum limit of weight remaining as before, viz., 12 ozs.

IV. A similar reduction in respect to Book Packets (including circulars when wholly or in great part printed, engraved, or lithographed) up to a maximum weight of 14 lbs.

I.—AS TO POST CARDS.

Post cards.

The number of post cards passing through the chief office at St. Martin's-le-Grand on the 1st of October is estimated at 575,000. The average daily number, as ascertained during one week in December, is about 96,000.

From an enumeration that has been made, the post cards circulating through the post offices in the United Kingdom during one week are found to number about 1,668,000,—1,374,000 in England, 167,000 in Scotland, and 127,000 in Ireland.

II.—AS TO THE REDUCTION OF POSTAGE UPON NEWSPAPERS.

Newspapers.

Your Lordships are aware that the Post Office Act of last session not only reduced the amount chargeable upon newspapers in their transit through the Post, but abolished the impressed stamp. Thus, newspapers which had previously passed indiscriminately under either an Inland Revenue or a Post Office stamp became subject to the Post Office alone; an alteration which has tended to the convenience of the Department, and, as a matter of account, has had the effect of swelling its receipts to the amount probably of about 120,000*l.* a year.

During the quarter ended the 31st of December the newspapers circulating through the Post in the United Kingdom are estimated to have been about 22,500,000, as against 20,000,000 in the corresponding quarter of 1869.

III.—AS TO THE REDUCTION OF POSTAGE UPON PATTERNS AND SAMPLES.

Patterns and samples.

In making this reduction, which was in addition to one earlier in the same year, when the postage had been reduced from 2*d.* to 1*d.* for every 4 ozs., and the maximum weight from 24 ozs. to 12 ozs., the Department took the precaution of expressly insisting that the privileges of the sample post should for the future be strictly limited to bona fide patterns and samples. The transmission of other articles at the sample rate was never sanctioned.

The public felt aggrieved at the restriction, and, as the difficulty of defining samples in all cases could not be overcome, it was decided to reduce the Inland letter postage to such an extent as would enable the public to send through the post in closed covers not only patterns and samples, but also any light articles for a moderate charge; thus abolishing altogether the distinction between letters and samples, and providing a cheap and convenient post for small parcels.

The present and proposed postal rates are set forth in a return which was presented to Parliament some little time ago. That return is inserted in the appendix, although as regards money orders, what is spoken of as prospective has, as your Lordships are aware, already come into operation.

IV.—AS TO THE REDUCTION OF POSTAGE UPON BOOK PACKETS, Book packets and circulars.
INCLUDING CIRCULARS.

In 1870 the number of circular letters, the postage upon which was paid at the General Post Office in money, amounted to 1,540,488, or 410,633 less than in the previous year, the explanation of which is that in 1869 the prepayment of postage in money was restricted to letters posted at the chief office, whereas it has since February 1870 been extended to the district offices as well as the branch offices at Lombard Street and Charing Cross. Dividing the year into two periods, one before and the other after the introduction of the halfpenny stamp, the result stands as follows :—

Number of circulars prepaid in money at the General Post Office during the nine months ended September 30, at the 1 <i>d.</i> rate -	1,144,534
Number of circulars prepaid in money at the General Post Office during the three months ended December 31,	
At the 1 <i>d.</i> rate -	210,283
At the $\frac{1}{2}$ <i>d.</i> rate -	185,671
	<hr/> 395,954
Total number during the year -	<hr/> 1,540,488

Taking book packets, circulars, and pattern and sample packets together, the whole number passing through the Post during the quarter ended the 31st December is estimated to have amounted to about 21,630,000.

I now come to the interruption in our foreign communications caused by the war. Interruptions caused by the war.

Very early in the campaign it became necessary to make fresh arrangements for forwarding to their destination mails which had previously gone through France. The first to be diverted from their ordinary course were naturally the mails for Baden, Bavaria, Wurtemberg, and other parts of South Germany, and these were soon followed by the mails exchanged between this country and Italy and Greece. S. Germany. Italy. Greece. Owing to a reduction of transit rates, which had just formed the subject of a new Postal Convention with the North German Confederation, the change of route was not in any case attended with an increase of postage.

Meanwhile the vessels belonging to the North German Lloyd, America. which sail under the German flag, had ceased running, and it had become necessary to send to Liverpool, for despatch by the Cunard or Inman Packets on Saturdays, the mails for New

York which used to leave *viâ* Southampton on Tuesdays. This reduction in our means of communication with America entailed considerable inconvenience upon the public, at the same time that the diversion of the mails to Liverpool caused a pressure of some severity upon the packet office there, as well as upon the office in Dublin, through which the return mails pass on their way to England.

Malta. The subsequent withdrawal of some of the French packets still further interrupted our communications. The packets for Malta went only thrice a month instead of once a week, whilst others, as, for instance, those leaving St. Nazaire for the W. Indies on the 8th of every month, were suspended altogether.

India. As the war proceeded and the hostile forces approached Paris, the risk of interruption to our Indian mails became more and more imminent and caused serious uneasiness to the Department. This feeling, which was not long in communicating itself to the public, the subsequent investment of the capital served to enhance. The mails had now to branch off at Amiens and go round by Rouen and Tours, at a cost, in point of time, of from 30 to 40 hours; but even this circuitous route could not long be depended upon, and nothing remained but to abandon Marseilles altogether as the line of communication for our Indian mails. There was only one alternative—to send them through Belgium and Germany by the Brenner Pass to Brindisi, and thence by Italian packets to Alexandria—a route which has not since been departed from, *continued in 1847*

France. But it was in respect to the mails for France herself, and especially for Paris, that the greatest perplexity prevailed. As soon as Amiens was threatened—Amiens the very keystone of our postal communication with the interior and South of France—it became evident that the route *viâ* Calais would not remain available much longer. The alternative routes that presented themselves were *viâ* Dieppe and *viâ* Cherbourg or St. Malo, and no time was lost in making the necessary arrangements with the Brighton and South-western Railway Companies. By both companies trains were kept in constant readiness at the terminus in London and vessels remained under steam at Newhaven and Southampton, prepared to start at the shortest notice according to the course events might take. Late in the evening of the 26th of November intelligence was received in London that the line of communication through Amiens was closed and the mails were diverted from Calais to Cherbourg; within the next four days Cherbourg was exchanged for Dieppe; and Dieppe soon afterwards for St. Malo.

Pigeon post. As to the means adopted for maintaining communication with Paris, the Pigeon Post has become matter of history. Letters intended for this novel mode of transmission had to be sent to the head quarters of the French Post Office at Tours, where, it is understood, they were all copied in consecutive order, and by a process of photography transferred in a wonderfully reduced

form to a diminutive piece of very thin paper such as a pigeon could carry, the photographic process being repeated on their arrival in Paris for the purpose of obtaining a larger impression. They were essential conditions that these letters should be posted open without cover or envelope, and that they should be registered; that they should be restricted to 20 words; that they should be written in French in clear and intelligible language, and that they should relate solely to private affairs and contain no allusion either to the war or to politics. The charge was fixed at 5*d*. for each word (the name and address counting as one word) and 6*d*. for registration. The following return gives the number of letters sent from London to Tours, for despatch by Pigeon Post to Paris during the investment:—

PIGEON POST.

Dates.	Mails.		Dates.	Mails.		Dates.	Mails.	
	Day.	Night.		Day.	Night.		Day.	Night.
1870								
Nov. -	—	18	Dec. 13 -	48	729	Jan. 6 -	48	1044
" 13 -	3	61	" 14 -	—	18	" 7 -	—	6
" 19 -	6	58	" 15 -	—	27	" 9 -	—	1
" 21 -	6	25	" 16 -	—	36	" 10 -	—	5
" 22 -	12	21	" 17 -	—	22	" 11 -	—	—
" 23 -	8	21	" 19 -	—	21	" 12 -	—	4
" 24 -	6	70	" 20 -	—	25	" 13 -	—	4
" 25 -	7	37	" 21 -	—	13	" 14 -	—	6
" 26 -	3	38	" 22 -	—	16	" 15 -	—	6
" 28 -	—	48	" 23 -	—	14	" 16 -	—	12
" 29 -	—	34	" 24 -	—	8	" 17 -	—	10
" 30 -	—	17	" 25 -	—	3	" 18 -	—	10
Dec. 1 -	—	19	" 26 -	—	15	" 19 -	—	7
" 2 -	—	14	" 27 -	—	18	" 20 -	—	12
" 3 -	—	34	" 28 -	—	13	" 21 -	—	5
" 4 -	—	32	" 29 -	—	10	" 22 -	—	11
" 5 -	—	30	" 30 -	—	6	" 23 -	—	13
" 6 -	—	26	" 31 -	—	9	" 24 -	—	6
" 7 -	—	81	1871.			" 25 -	—	6
" 8 -	—	30	Jan. 2 -	—	9	" 26 -	—	9
" 9 -	—	23	" 3 -	—	16	" 27 -	—	6
" 10 -	—	42	" 4 -	—	9	" 28 -	—	9
" 12 -	—		" 5 -	—	4			
	48	729		48	1044	Total -	48	1,186

I have already had occasion to refer to a reduction of the transit rates through Germany. In the early part of the year proposals were received from the North German Postal Confederation to resume the negotiations, which had failed in 1868, for a new postal convention on the subject of transit rates; and Mr. Page, one of the assistant under secretaries of the Department, was desired to proceed to Berlin for the purpose of discussing the points at issue, and arranging, if possible, the terms of a new convention. This mission proved entirely successful and led to a reduction in the letter rate of postage between the two countries from 6*d*. to 3*d*. the half ounce, and also, most opportunely as it afterwards proved, to a reduction of transit charge upon all British mails passing through Germany. This convention further stipulates that after the 1st of January 1873

Transit rates:
Germany.

the German transit rates on mails between Great Britain and Denmark, Sweden, Norway, and Russia shall be still further reduced.

Brindisi route.

In the preceding observations I have also explained the necessity the Department was under to abandon the Marseilles route for our Indian mails, and to send them *viâ* Brindisi. Between Brindisi and London the distance is 1,734 miles. By the first outward mail the journey was accomplished in 79½ hours, or within one hour of the time set down in the itinerary drawn up by the Italian Post Office, being at an average speed of about 22 miles an hour, including all delays necessary for the several transfers of the mails from boat to railway, and vice versa. By the first homeward mail the distance was traversed in 89½ hours.

The Italian packets, by which on the first adoption of the route the mails were conveyed between Brindisi and Alexandria, have since been replaced by those of the Peninsular and Oriental Company from Marseilles; and the Department, thus relieved from its payment to Italy on account of sea service, has been enabled to make a small reduction in the postage.

On the whole the change from Marseilles to Brindisi has been decidedly advantageous to the public. *Viâ* Brindisi the postage is lower than it was *viâ* Marseilles; and the route has proved to be the more expeditious of the two.

Gradual disappearance of
¼ oz. scale.
Italy.

I am happy to be able to report that further steps have been taken towards the removal of the inconvenient quarter-ounce scale. In January last an agreement was come to with Italy to adopt the unit of half an ounce, except as regards letters between this country and Sicily transmitted by French packet, which, owing to the amount payable to France for conveyance, could not be included without augmenting the postage. Even in respect to these, however, some small advantage has been given in respect to weight, and the 3rd of an ounce can now be sent for the same postage as was formerly charged upon the quarter ounce.

Spain.

The quarter ounce scale has also given place to the scale of a third of an ounce in the case of letters between this country and Spain.

Norway:
Reduction of
postage.

The postage upon letters between this country and Norway, whether sent by the land route *viâ* Denmark or by private ship direct, has been reduced from 7*d.* to 6*d.* the half ounce.

Netherlands:
Book post.

A book post under the usual regulations has been established between this country and the Netherlands, and arrangements have been made for a pattern post with Spain at a low rate of postage.

Spain:
Pattern post.

P. & O. Com-
pany:
Alteration of
contract.

Several new contracts have been entered into for the conveyance of mails by sea. Of these the most important is one made with the Peninsular and Oriental Steam Navigation Company for the East India, China, and Japan Mail Service. This contract was in substitution of that made in November 1867, by the terms of which the Department had bound itself, not

only to pay a subsidy of 400,000*l.* a year, but, whenever the annual income of the company from all sources should not admit of the payment of a dividend at the rate of 6 per cent. on the capital employed, to make up the difference—such difference, however, not in any case to exceed the sum of 100,000*l.* On the other hand, whenever the income should be sufficient to admit of the payment of a dividend exceeding 8 per cent., the Department was to receive one-fourth part of the excess.

These conditions gave rise to a series of complicated questions, no one of which probably could have been settled without arbitration; and after two years' experience, little hope remaining that the Post Office would take any benefit under what I may call the fluctuation clauses, my predecessor, in an interview he had with a deputation of the Directors, intimated his readiness to consider any suggestion the Company might have to offer for the substitution of a contract on a fixed basis.

The result of this interview was a new contract getting rid of the fluctuation clauses and providing for a weekly line of packets between Brindisi and Alexandria, and also for a call at Penang, for which the Company had received an extra payment of 4,000*l.* a year. In consideration of these concessions the subsidy has been raised from 400,000*l.* to 450,000*l.* a year.

Upon the whole I am inclined to think that the new contract contrasts not unfavourably with the old one, even in a financial point of view; whilst it unquestionably has the merit of relieving both the Department and the Company from what might have proved a fertile source of embarrassment.

A new contract has also been made with the North German Lloyd of Bremen for the conveyance of mails once a week from Southampton to New York on the principle of paying as nearly as can be calculated the amount of sea postage instead of a fixed subsidy. The sea postage is estimated at 3*d.* an ounce, and this will yield a sum amounting to only one-fourth of what the Department paid under the old contract.

North German
Lloyd:
New contract.

The contract with this Company, which had been necessarily suspended during the war, was resumed as soon as hostilities ceased.

The contract with the London, Belgium, Brazil and River Plate Steam Navigation Company for the conveyance of mails between Falmouth and Buenos Ayres, calling at Rio de Janeiro and Monte Video, having been terminated, an offer was received from the Pacific Steam Navigation Company to take up the lapsed service by establishing a second packet in the month from Liverpool to Rio and Monte Video, on conditions similar to those on which they were performing the single service, and as these conditions provide for the conveyance of the mails (under penalty) at a high rate of speed and for a payment calculated upon the sea postage alone, the offer was accepted and embodied in a contract.

Brazil:
New contract.

The two Companies engaged in the African Mail Service have increased the number of their voyages between this country and

African mails.

the African Coast from three to five in each month, and the Department pays them for the additional voyages a portion of the sea postage.

Communica-
tion with New
Zealand.

There is yet another contract which, although a Colonial and not an Imperial one, I cannot refrain from mentioning; I refer to one that has been made by the New Zealand Government for the conveyance of mails between San Francisco, Auckland, and Sydney. It may be remembered that an independent Mail Service established by this Colony in 1866 between Panama and Wellington came to an end after about two years' existence. In substitution for that service the Colony has now established one via San Francisco, making use of the Pacific railroad between San Francisco and New York, and of the almost daily packet lines between New York and this country. By these means New Zealand, which was the last point on the old route—the route via Suez—becomes the first point on the new one, and receives its mails from England in about 45 days, or 11 days less than formerly.

Parliamentary
returns.

Before turning to our Home Service I would refer to the insertion in the Appendix (Tables, Nos. III. & IV.) of two Returns which have been recently submitted to Parliament—the one showing the estimated number of international letters between this country and America during each of the last six years, and during 1863, with the increase or decrease per cent., and the other showing the particulars of all existing packet contracts.

Home Service:
England.

During the year the number of Head Post Offices in the United Kingdom was increased from 839 to 844. 17 towns were provided with additional mails from London and eight towns with additional mails to London, four of the number enjoying the double accommodation. These were Arundel, Bognor, Chichester, and Eastbourne, and the following table shows the hours of the arrival and despatch of the mails before and after the change:—

Day mails.

		Before the change.		After the change.	
		Arrival.	Despatch.	Arrival.	Despatch.
Arundel	-	4.0 a.m. 12.50 p.m.	9.25 a.m. 8.35 p.m.	4.0 a.m. 12.50 p.m. 6.0 p.m.	9.25 a.m. 2.35 p.m. 8.35 p.m.
Bognor	-	6.20 a.m. 12.40 p.m.	11.45 a.m. 9.0 p.m.	6.20 a.m. 12.40 p.m. 6.30 p.m.	10.0 a.m. 2.10 p.m. 9.0 p.m.
Chichester	-	4.20 a.m. 12.30 p.m.	11.45 a.m. 10.50 p.m.	4.20 a.m. 12.30 p.m. 6.10 p.m.	10.10 a.m. 2.10 p.m. 10.50 p.m.
Eastbourne	-	6.10 a.m. 12.45 p.m.	1.55 p.m. 7.20 p.m.	6.10 a.m. 12.45 p.m. 4.55 p.m.	10.25 a.m. 1.55 p.m. 7.20 p.m.

The largest number of mails, at present, that any one town has daily is nine. Beginning with the towns that have not less than two daily, the comparison between 1869 and 1870 stands thus:—

Year.	Towns having a Night and Day Mail.		Towns having Three Mails daily.		Towns having Four Mails daily.		Towns having Five Mails daily.		Towns having Six Mails daily.		Towns having Seven Mails daily.		Towns having Eight Mails daily.		Towns having Nine Mails daily.		Total number of Post Towns in England and Wales.
	From London.	To London.	From London.	To London.	From London.	To London.	From London.	To London.	From London.	To London.	From London.	To London.	From London.	To London.	From London.	To London.	
1869	-	301	285	86	87	26	66	14	21	4	6	1	2	2	—	—	570
1870	-	357	258	76	94	63	82	27	43	2	7	3	2	1	—	1	573

In the 15th annual Report upon the Post Office it was stated that communication had been established with several suburban places by means of supplementary mails “leaving London about midnight, so as to admit of letters posted too late for the “ordinary night mails being included in the first delivery in the “morning.” This system of midnight despatches has since been extended to 120 additional post towns, and the number of letters which thus obtain an earlier delivery amount to about 130,000 a week. At Brighton, for instance, about 1,500 letters arrive every night, and fall into the 1st delivery in the morning instead of the 2nd as formerly; whilst at Carlisle the letters arrive about one o’clock on the day following their despatch from London and are delivered at midday instead of in the evening.

Midnight despatches.

Concurrently with this system of midnight despatches out of London, the Provinces have been very generally provided with a late day mail despatch, a despatch intervening between the last ordinary day mail and the night mail, by means of which letters for about 260 post towns, on the other side of London arrive no later than before, although posted later to the extent of about four hours and a half on the average. At the same time the Department gains the advantage of receiving and disposing of, overnight, a large number of letters which would otherwise come by the ordinary night mails and add to the pressure in the morning.

Late day mail despatches.

On the 1st January 1870 the Channel Islands obtained a communication with England daily during winter as well as summer. This, with the opening of telegraphic communication on the 21st of December last, has, I have reason to believe, given unqualified satisfaction to the islands.

Channel Islands: Daily communication.

Between the towns in East Lincolnshire and those in the North of England the means of interchanging letters were materially improved in the course of the year by the use of

Other improvements.

night trains on the Great Northern Railway between Peterborough and York. To give only a few instances of the result of the change :—

1. A letter posted at Louth at 8 p.m. would now be delivered at York at 7 a.m., instead of at 2.30 p.m. as before the change.
2. A letter posted at Alford at 8 p.m. would now be delivered at Sunderland at 7 a.m., instead of at 5 p.m. as before the change.
3. A letter posted at Spilsby at 8 p.m. would now be delivered at Newcastle-on-Tyne at 7 a.m., instead of at 5 p.m. as before the change.
4. A letter posted at Boston at 9 p.m. would now be delivered at Durham at 7 a.m., instead of at 5 p.m. as before the change.
5. A letter posted at Grimsby at 8 p.m. would now be delivered at Darlington at 7 a.m., instead of at 4 p.m. as before the change.
6. A letter posted at Spalding at 9 p.m. would now be delivered at Edinburgh at 9 a.m., instead of at 8.30 p.m. as before the change.

Letters posted at any of these towns in time for the night mail now reach all places north of York the next morning in time for the first delivery, instead of the following afternoon or evening.

By means of a contract concluded in 1870 with the Penrith, Keswick, and Cockermouth Railway Company the Department obtained the use of all the trains on the line, and was enabled to effect considerable improvement in the Post to Keswick.

Scotland.

In Scotland a similar contract was entered into with the North British Railway Company. By this means additional postal accommodation has been given to parts adjacent to the line. Between Holytown and Newmains, and between Alva and Dollar, there is now direct mail communication by railway twice, and between Stirling and Port Monteith, and between Ratho and Kirkliston once, daily in each direction. In the course of the year several of the Posts in Scotland were increased in frequency ; as, for instance, the Whitehouse and Skipness Post from three to four days a week, and the Auchnacraig and Tobermory Post from three to six days ; whilst others, as the Posts between Oban and Kilninver, and between Kilninver and Easdale, were converted from foot into horse posts.

At Greenock the appointment of a large auxiliary force, a measure rendered necessary by the extraordinarily rapid growth of the town, has been the means of expediting the delivery of letters in the morning ; while, by an alteration of time in the departure of the mail, a wider interval for reply is obtained to the extent of 20 minutes.

Ireland.

In Ireland important alterations took place in the course of the year, whilst others were decided upon to which it has been impossible as yet to give more than very incomplete effect.

At the General Post Office in Dublin a new and spacious office has been opened in which Post Office business, instead of being any longer distributed among several rooms in different parts of the building, is brought together in one room and transacted across an open counter.

In the course of the summer the Comptroller of the Circulation Department proceeded to Dublin and the postal arrangements of that city underwent at his hands a thorough revision. To that gentleman's suggestions, which involved the establishment of Suburban Sorting Offices, it has unfortunately, not even yet been possible to give effect, owing, as I understand, to some delay in procuring suitable premises. Milltown has gained a delivery in the evening, and the locality of Clonskeagh enjoys much better accommodation than before, from being for postal purposes connected with Milltown instead of Dundrum; but the more important of the alterations suggested by Mr. Boucher remain in abeyance for the reason already assigned. As soon however, as the offices shall be ready the postal accommodation will be very much improved. An additional collection will be given to the suburbs at 11.40 in the morning, and to the confines between the suburbs and the city at 2.15 in the afternoon, while Drumcondra as well as Glasnevin will gain a midday delivery. Nor will the city itself be without some advantage. In addition to a sixth delivery—to take place at half-past three in the afternoon as the hour most convenient, for business purposes—two more collections will be established one at 2.30 p.m. and the other at 9.

Throughout the United Kingdom Road and Railway Boxes have been erected during the year; deliveries in towns have been accelerated by the employment of additional hands, and in rural districts new walks or beats have been established and old ones extended so as to include fresh places. United Kingdom.

In proceeding to give some statistics of the general progress of Post Office business during the past year I adhere to the usual form of Table, not because, under the altered circumstances, it is any longer either complete in itself or incapable of improvement, but for the purpose of facilitating comparison with previous years. General progress of Post Office business.

General Progress of Business.

	Number of Letters delivered.				Number of Inhabited Houses.				Population.				Number of Book Packets, Newspapers, and Pattern Packets delivered.				Amount of Money Orders issued.				POST OFFICE SAVINGS BANK				Total Number of Depositors in Post Office Savings Bank and old Savings Banks combined.																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																															
	1869.		1870.		1869.		1870.		1869.		1870.		1869.		1870.		1869.		1870.		1869.		1870.		1869.		1870.																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																													
	Number of Policies.	Annual Premium.	Amount.	Number of Policies.	Annual Premium.	Amount.	Number of Policies.	Annual Premium.	Amount.	Number of Policies.	Annual Premium.	Amount.	Number of Policies.	Annual Premium.	Amount.	Number of Policies.	Annual Premium.	Amount.	Number of Policies.	Annual Premium.	Amount.	Number of Policies.	Annual Premium.	Amount.	Number of Policies.	Annual Premium.	Amount.	Number of Policies.	Annual Premium.	Amount.																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																										
ENGLAND AND WALES	2,023	6,846	153,993	2,300	6,610	177,092	1,064	246,102	22,317	1,315	303,028	26,463	80	5,599	1,501	78	161	355	225	5,599	1,501	78	161	355	225	5,599	1,501	78	161	355	225	5,599	1,501	78	161	355	225	5,599	1,501	78	161	355	225	5,599	1,501	78	161	355	225	5,599	1,501	78	161	355	225	5,599	1,501	78	161	355	225	5,599	1,501	78	161	355	225	5,599	1,501	78	161	355	225	5,599	1,501	78	161	355	225	5,599	1,501	78	161	355	225	5,599	1,501	78	161	355	225	5,599	1,501	78	161	355	225	5,599	1,501	78	161	355	225	5,599	1,501	78	161	355	225	5,599	1,501	78	161	355	225	5,599	1,501	78	161	355	225	5,599	1,501	78	161	355	225	5,599	1,501	78	161	355	225	5,599	1,501	78	161	355	225	5,599	1,501	78	161	355	225	5,599	1,501	78	161	355	225	5,599	1,501	78	161	355	225	5,599	1,501	78	161	355	225	5,599	1,501	78	161	355	225	5,599	1,501	78	161	355	225	5,599	1,501	78	161	355	225	5,599	1,501	78	161	355	225	5,599	1,501	78	161	355	225	5,599	1,501	78	161	355	225	5,599	1,501	78	161	355	225	5,599	1,501	78	161	355	225	5,599	1,501	78	161	355	225	5,599	1,501	78	161	355	225	5,599	1,501	78	161	355	225	5,599	1,501	78	161	355	225	5,599	1,501	78	161	355	225	5,599	1,501	78	161	355	225	5,599	1,501	78	161	355	225	5,599	1,501	78	161	355	225	5,599	1,501	78	161	355	225	5,599	1,501	78	161	355	225	5,599	1,501	78	161	355	225	5,599	1,501	78	161	355	225	5,599	1,501	78	161	355	225	5,599	1,501	78	161	355	225	5,599	1,501	78	161	355	225	5,599	1,501	78	161	355	225	5,599	1,501	78	161	355	225	5,599	1,501	78	161	355	225	5,599	1,501	78	161	355	225	5,599	1,501	78	161	355	225	5,599	1,501	78	161	355	225	5,599	1,501	78	161	355	225	5,599	1,501	78	161	355	225	5,599	1,501	78	161	355	225	5,599	1,501	78	161	355	225	5,599	1,501	78	161	355	225	5,599	1,501	78	161	355	225	5,599	1,501	78	161	355	225	5,599	1,501	78	161	355	225	5,599	1,501	78	161	355	225	5,599	1,501	78	161	355	225	5,599	1,501	78	161	355	225	5,599	1,501	78	161	355	225	5,599	1,501	78	161	355	225	5,599	1,501	78	161	355	225	5,599	1,501	78	161	355	225	5,599	1,501	78	161	355	225	5,599	1,501	78	161	355	225	5,599	1,501	78	161	355	225	5,599	1,501	78	161	355	225	5,599	1,501	78	161	355	225	5,599	1,501	78	161	355	225	5,599	1,501	78	161	355	225	5,599	1,501	78	161	355	225	5,599	1,501	78	161	355	225	5,599	1,501	78	161	355	225	5,599	1,501	78	161	355	225	5,599	1,501	78	161	355	225	5,599	1,501	78	161	355	225	5,599	1,501	78	161	355	225	5,599	1,501	78	161	355	225	5,599	1,501	78	161	355	225	5,599	1,501	78	161	355	225	5,599	1,501	78	161	355	225	5,599	1,501	78	161	355	225	5,599	1,501	78	161	355	225	5,599	1,501	78	161	355	225	5,599	1,501	78	161	355	225	5,599	1,501	78	161	355	225	5,599	1,501	78	161	355	225	5,599	1,501	78	161	355	225	5,599	1,501	78	161	355	225	5,599	1,501	78	161	355	225	5,599	1,501	78	161	355	225	5,599	1,501	78	161	355	225	5,599	1,501	78	161	355	225	5,599	1,501	78	161	355	225	5,599	1,501	78	161	355	225	5,599	1,501	78	161	355	225	5,599	1,501	78	161	355	225	5,599	1,501	78	161	355	225	5,599	1,501	78	161	355	225	5,599	1,501	78	161	355	225	5,599	1,501	78	161	355	225	5,599	1,501	78	161	355	225	5,599	1,501	78	161	355	225	5,599	1,501	78	161	355	225	5,599	1,501	78	161	355	225	5,599	1,501	78	161	355	225	5,599	1,501	78	161	355	225	5,599	1,501	78	161	355	225	5,599	1,501	78	161	355	225	5,599	1,501	78	161	355	225	5,599	1,501	78	161	355	225	5,599	1,501	78	161	355	225	5,599	1,501	78	161	355	225	5,599	1,501	78	161	355	225	5,599	1,501	78	161	355	225	5,599	1,501	78	161	355	225	5,599	1,501	78	161	355	225	5,599	1,501	78	161	355	225	5,599	1,501	78	161	355	225	5,599	1,501	78	161	355	225	5,599	1,501	78	161	355	225	5,599	1,501	78	161	355	225	5,599	1,501	78	161	355	225	5,599	1,501	78	161	355	225	5,599	1,501	78	161	355	225	5,599	1,501	78	161	355	225	5,599	1,501	78	161	355	225	5,599	1,501	78	161	355	225	5,599	1,501	78	161	355	225	5,599	1,501	78	161	355	225	5,599	1,501	78	161	355	225	5,599	1,501	78	161	355	225	5,599	1,501	78	161	355	225	5,599	1,501	78	161	355	225	5,599	1,501	78	161	355	225	5,599	1,501	78	161	355	225	5,599	1,501	78	161	355	225	5,599	1,501	78	161	355	225	5,599	1,501	78	161	355	225	5,599	1,501	78	161	355	225	5,599	1,501	78	161	355	225	5,599	1,501	78	161	355	225	5,599	1,501	78	161	355	225	5,599	1,501	78	161	355	225	5,599	1,501	78	161	355	225	5,599	1,501	78	161	355	225	5,599	1,501	78	161	355	225	5,599	1,501	78	161	355

An analysis of the foregoing Table gives the following results:—

—		England.	Scotland.	Ireland.
Letters delivered,	increase per cent.	3·8	2·8	3·4
"	average number to each house	168	198	68
"	average number to each person	31	25	12
Book packets, newspapers, and pattern packets delivered -	Increase per cent.	21·9	17·7	8·3
Money orders issued -	"	2·9	4·8	3·2
Depositors in P.O. Savings Bank -	Increase per cent.	8·9	8·2	10·7
Balance due to depositors -	Increase per cent.	11·3	14·0	16·3
Proportion of depositors to population		1 : 10	1 : 85	1 : 141
Average amount of deposit to each depositor, including interest		£ s. d. 12 16 1½	£ s. d. 7 15 10½	£ s. d. 16 10 8½
Average amount of insurance to each insurer		76 19 11	66 9 8½	79 12 8½
Average annual premium upon each policy		2 17 5½	2 0 7	2 12 8½

In the above Table there are many remarkable features, but I do not know that there is any one more gratifying than the increase in the average amount of deposit to each depositor. In 1862, being the year following that in which Post Office Savings Banks were opened generally, the average for the United Kingdom was 9*l.* 10*s.* 5*d.*, and in 1865 it was 10*l.* 13*s.* 6*d.*; it is now more than 12*l.*

For further information connected with the Post Office Savings' Banks, as well indeed as the Government Insurances and Annuities, I would refer to the Tables in the Appendix which are in the usual form, and give the fullest particulars of the operations of the Department up to the 31st of December.

The number of Money Order Offices in the United Kingdom rose from 4,061 at the close of 1869 to 4,090 at the close of 1870, when their distribution was as follows:—

	Money Order Offices.				
	At Head Offices.	At Sub-Offices.	At Receiving Offices.		Total.
			Metropolitan.	Provincial.	
England and Wales -	573	1,626	522	366	3,087
Scotland -	137	258	29	29	453
Ireland -	134	383	23	10	550
United Kingdom -	844	2,267	574	405	4,090

The following return gives the number and amount of Money Orders issued in 1870 as compared with 1869, together with the commission charged in the two years:—

	Money Orders issued.				Commission.	
	Number.		Amount.			
	1869.	1870.	1869.	1870.	1869.	1870.
England and Wales } -	8,373,211	8,717,972	£ 16,579,779	£ 17,062,015	£ 147,026	£ 152,566
Scotland -	791,851	838,942	1,533,726	1,607,964	13,757	14,535
Ireland -	646,370	674,611	1,282,130	1,324,008	11,420	11,858
United Kingdom	9,811,432	10,231,525	19,395,635	19,993,987	172,203	178,959

This gives 1*l.* 19*s.* 0*½d.* as the average amount of each Money Order issued in 1870, and 4*·*19*d.* as the average amount of commission on each transaction, such transaction, however, including payment as well as issue.

As between the United Kingdom and abroad, the comparison between the years 1869 and 1870 stands as follows:—

YEAR.	Money Orders issued in the United Kingdom for Payment abroad.		Money Orders issued abroad for Payment in the United Kingdom.	
	Number.	Amount.	Number.	Amount.
1869 - - - -	19,192	£ 74,124	111,800	£ 509,943
1870 - - - -	24,674	97,765	125,575	548,624
Increase in 1870 - -	5,482	23,641	13,775	38,681

For purposes of reference in future years, when it may become interesting to inquire to what extent the reduction that has just taken place in the rate of commission has affected the total amount of Money Orders, I give below, after a practice very commonly pursued in the earlier of the annual reports, a statement showing the amount of Money Orders issued, and Money Orders paid at those towns in the United Kingdom where the amount was largest, during the years 1869 and 1870. The

column giving similar information for the year 1860 has been added for the purpose of showing the increase that has taken place during the last decade.

Offices.	1869.		1870.		1860.	
	Issues.	Payments.	Issues.	Payments.	Issues.	Payments.
ENGLAND :	£	£	£	£	£	£
Bath	77,669	75,209	79,963	76,217	69,728	65,603
Birmingham	249,515	476,020	253,196	484,319	194,194	343,077
Bolton	53,715	39,554	52,054	34,331	41,421	23,501
Bradford, Yorks.	96,183	65,606	97,097	69,434	55,656	47,347
Brighton	143,027	130,474	149,725	132,671	111,631	95,248
Bristol	167,116	277,048	167,008	274,990	128,713	223,019
Cambridge	48,355	48,378	47,061	47,022	38,232	38,696
Cardiff	84,452	48,836	89,821	49,987	57,337	28,723
Cheltenham	67,719	57,253	68,011	57,253	53,587	45,109
Chester	53,251	68,521	56,146	69,737	39,137	44,160
Derby	70,713	66,600	71,200	57,295	50,521	45,854
Devonport	46,001	44,135	44,849	45,040	48,870	33,685
Exeter	53,937	80,568	54,119	79,892	49,260	61,954
Gloucester	44,996	42,907	47,109	45,570	32,465	34,699
Halifax	49,828	35,714	49,107	39,411	35,238	27,978
Hereford	36,312	28,378	36,779	29,930	28,371	18,472
Huddersfield	51,467	42,275	50,858	43,963	38,436	30,918
Hull	116,923	174,564	124,018	183,048	90,068	124,967
Ipswich	40,568	47,644	41,341	46,678	35,997	34,899
Leamington	45,452	29,613	46,207	29,364	36,018	31,968
Leeds	166,688	243,373	172,706	254,227	115,895	158,452
Leicester	80,879	93,896	83,394	102,192	52,421	55,757
Lincoln	44,945	30,964	43,963	32,464	36,155	21,650
Liverpool	634,935	509,441	634,990	623,063	381,269	403,651
London	3,180,689	5,516,627	3,264,787	5,598,134	1,835,464	3,242,325
Manchester	438,712	599,276	452,241	602,207	325,192	406,837
Newcastle-on-Tyne	150,742	133,640	162,790	136,024	90,947	90,701
Newport, Mon.	48,652	33,062	51,320	38,259	36,333	23,478
Northampton	48,477	41,350	49,927	45,695	37,481	29,358
Norwich	56,218	88,494	57,355	89,180	46,345	65,641
Nottingham	103,906	113,564	110,693	122,854	84,186	81,507
Oxford	57,915	54,839	60,527	56,690	41,246	46,297
Plymouth	86,456	107,260	88,536	110,890	74,678	75,290
Portsmouth	108,216	97,941	118,524	102,696	98,752	65,915
Preston	56,166	55,325	55,819	55,797	47,870	39,623
Reading	45,564	54,742	44,861	53,037	32,006	38,489
Scarborough	50,422	43,714	51,052	46,855	32,243	27,011
Sheffield	157,611	147,531	158,597	151,279	100,481	105,494
Shrewsbury	47,234	40,373	47,994	41,469	42,345	31,145
Southampton	70,594	77,517	68,859	79,460	71,267	67,978
Stoke-on-Trent	46,229	36,779	47,551	39,290	36,643	29,141
Sunderland	93,505	66,705	97,816	67,942	63,386	47,062
Swansea	62,357	40,645	65,142	42,648	43,998	29,591
Wakefield	40,298	32,431	38,069	32,680	26,030	26,684
Wolverhampton	69,215	47,435	69,224	57,209	53,016	40,112
Worcester	45,066	44,100	43,906	47,517	39,722	37,938
Yarmouth, Norfolk	36,068	51,048	37,113	57,688	26,890	41,321
York	78,339	69,903	77,968	75,247	58,256	58,617
SCOTLAND :						
Aberdeen	51,551	65,369	52,778	71,006	38,684	45,650
Dundee	48,796	43,970	49,804	45,956	34,764	33,350
Edinburgh	219,240	317,107	238,933	349,109	149,061	231,529
Glasgow	271,637	358,517	290,213	395,171	171,774	239,097
IRELAND :						
Belfast	63,734	95,284	66,695	101,354	44,701	60,584
Cork	41,592	57,406	43,754	59,565	34,438	40,111
Dublin	453,190	313,177	467,128	293,331	328,584	238,504

The foregoing Table has been given for purposes of reference and comparison in future years.

Returned
Letters.

I give below the usual statement as regards letters returned within the year, and the mode of their disposal :—

	Total Number of Returned Letters.		Number restored to the Writers.		Number reissued to corrected Addresses.		Number returned unopened to Foreign Countries.		Number destroyed or in hand.	
	1869.	1870.	1869.	1870.	1869.	1870.	1869.	1870.	1869.	1870.
England and Wales.	3,260,204	3,208,434	2,849,451	2,889,031	109,233	80,890	113,265	120,558	208,209	117,853
Scotland -	276,306	280,376	234,822	240,193	14,665	13,418	6,928	7,203	19,895	18,562
Ireland -	298,222	304,084	176,234	199,669	10,006	10,287	28,456	19,321	83,536	74,897
United Kingdom.	3,854,738	3,792,894 Decrease 61,844	3,260,507	3,328,893 Increase 68,386	133,904	104,695 Decrease 29,209	148,647	147,082 Decrease 1,565	311,630	311,224 Decrease 406

Of these letters no less than 11,505 bore no address at all; and of these 11,505 unaddressed letters, 289 were found to contain money to the amount of 3,376*l*.

The number of Post Cards received in the Returned Letter Office between the 1st of October, the date of their introduction, and the 31st of December, was 182,179.

The following return gives the number of Book Packets, Packets of Patterns and Samples, and Newspapers returned for all causes during the year :—

—	Book Packets.	Packets of Patterns and Samples.	Newspapers.
United Kingdom -	864,210	21,683	613,007

Comparing the number returned in the two periods before and after the October changes, *i.e.* during the nine months ended the 30th of September, and during the three months ended the 31st of December, the case stands thus :—

During the nine months ended the 30th of September.

—	Book Packets.	Packet of Patterns and Samples.	Newspapers.
London -	300,473	7,673	328,851
Edinburgh -	19,547	581	9,641
Dublin -	34,170	368	6,679
United Kingdom -	354,190	8,622	345,171

During the three months ended the 31st of December.

			Book Packets.	Packets of Patterns and Samples.	Newspapers.
London	-	-	476,163	12,479	253,018
Edinburgh	-	-	14,648	333	11,002
Dublin	-	-	19,209	249	3,816
United Kingdom	-	-	510,020	13,061	267,836

After making full allowance for packets returned for wrong or insufficient addresses, it is impossible not to see from this comparison that, beneficial as the October changes unquestionably were on the whole, great, although perhaps unavoidable, inconvenience must have been inflicted by the more rigid adherence to rule then introduced.

On the evening of the 7th of January, owing to the simultaneous arrival of four heavy mails—one from America, one from Australia, and two from India—no less than 6,900 registered letters passed through the Chief Office, the largest number on record as having been dealt with at any one duty. The total number of registered letters dealt with in the course of the year (I am still speaking of the Chief Office alone) rose to 2,255,640, being an increase of 209,502 over the number in 1869, or more than 10 per cent. It is worthy of note, and I have pleasure in mentioning it if only as evidence of the efficacy of the hand-to-hand check, that out of these two and a quarter millions of letters during their transit through the Registered Letter Branch only two, and one of these was an official letter, went astray. The number of letters containing coin and compulsorily registered (included in the above) fell from 6,992 in 1869 to 4,869 in 1870, a decrease which, satisfactory as it is, the recent reduction in the rate of commission on Money Orders may, I trust, be the means of materially assisting.

Registered
Letters.

In the United Kingdom the number of registered letters passing through the Post rose from 2,727,763 in 1869 to 3,005,994 in 1870—an increase, as in London, of 10 per cent.; and of these 3,005,994 registered letters the number lost was 12 altogether, or 10 in addition to those to which I have already referred, being at the rate of not quite one in a quarter of a million.

It would be wrong to suppose, however, that the applications for registered letters supposed to be missing were confined to 12, or indeed that in 1870 there was any closer correspondence than in previous years between the number actually lost and the number alleged to be so. In the course of the year a well-known company in the City of London represented that five 1,000*l.* notes had been lost out of a registered letter posted at the Lombard Street Branch Office, and on the evening of the follow-

ing day, after an anxious inquiry on the part of the Post Office, they were found at the company's own offices among the rubbish in the dust-heap.

Enough has, I think, been said to show that a letter once registered is practically safe; and that this is felt to be so may be judged from the high value of the articles entrusted to the Post under the security of registration, and from the amounts that people are content to pay in order to obtain that security. On the 27th of October last a letter was registered for Berlin containing enclosures of the value of 70,000*l.*; and on the preceding 14th of January five letters were registered for Constantinople all by the same person, the postage on which was prepaid to the amount of 78*l.* 3*s.* 8*d.*

Valentines.

There was also an increase in the number of Valentines. The total number passing through the London offices is estimated to have risen from 1,448,841 in 1869 to 1,545,755 in 1870, and, as the following statement shows, the number posted in London (included in the above) from 1,241,864 to 1,306,201 :—

ESTIMATED NUMBER OF VALENTINES POSTED IN LONDON.

Year.	For Delivery in London.	For Delivery in the Country.	Total.
1869 - - -	519,740	722,124	1,241,864
1870 - - -	550,000	756,201	1,306,201
Increase in 1870 -	30,260	34,077	64,337

Late letter fees.

The revenue derived from Late Letter Fees in London, *i.e.* from fees upon letters posted between 6 and half-past 7 o'clock in the evening, advanced from 14,801*l.* in 1869 to 22,159*l.* in 1870, showing an increase of 7,358*l.* This result is as satisfactory as it is unexpected, seeing that the reduction in the amount of the fees made in 1869 was at first attended with some, though very inconsiderable, diminution of receipts. The present hours and conditions of posting are as follows :—

To 6.0 p.m. without a fee.

From 6.0 to 6.45 p.m. on payment of a fee of 1*d.*

From 6.45 to 7.30 p.m. on payment of a fee of 2*d.*

7.30 p.m. being the latest moment for posting letters to go by the mails of the same evening.

Inland revenue Licenses.

The success which had attended the issue of Dog Licenses by the Post Office led to the Department being requested to undertake the issue of the new Establishment Licenses substituted by the Legislature for assessed taxes. The number of licenses of each class issued by the Post Office in the years 1869 and 1870,

and the number issued in the first quarter of the present year, were as follows :—

Description of License.	Number of Licenses issued.		
	1869.	1870.	1871, to March 31.
For Dogs - - at 5s. for each license	473,218	524,077	471,687
Male Servants - 15s. "	—	72,053	64,367
Carriages - 42s. "	—	30,716	27,896
Carriages - 15s. "	—	72,817	67,123
Horse Dealers - 12l. 10s. "	—	10	10
Horses and Mules 10s. 6d. "	—	199,330	181,472
Armorial Bearings 42s. "	—	5,774	5,144
Armorial Bearings 21s. "	—	9,991	9,574
Guns - - 10s. "	—	40,742	4,266
	473,218	955,510	831,539

Thus, in the year 1870 little less than one million of licenses were issued by the Post Office, representing an amount of 451,935*l.*, the whole of which was received and brought to account in the books of the Department preparatory to its transfer to the credit of the Board of Inland Revenue, and, as will be seen, the greater part of this extraneous work falls upon the first quarter of the year.

The explanation of the small number of gun licenses issued in the first quarter of 1871 as compared with the number issued in 1870 is that the year for which gun licenses are issued terminates on the 31st of March, while the year for which all the other licenses are issued terminates on the 31st of December.

In the Appendix will be found the usual Tables, showing the gross and net revenue, the force effective and non-effective, and the expenditure of the Department during the last ten years. These tables do not appear to require any comment from me.

Not in London alone, but at several of the provincial towns, the accommodation at the disposal of the Department has proved so inadequate to present requirements that, notwithstanding every contrivance to economise space, it has, as your Lordships are aware, been found impossible to avoid a very considerable outlay for new buildings. Thus, in addition to alterations and enlargements of many of the existing Post Offices, in several instances of an extensive character and made by the postmasters themselves, new Post Offices belonging to the Department were completed and opened in the course of the year at Cardiff, Leamington, Preston, and Derby, and at the close of the year were either in course of construction or about to be commenced at Maidstone, Northampton, Sheffield, Birmingham, Newcastle-on-Tyne, and Wolverhampton, the one at Sheffield indeed being in so forward a state that it has since been completed.

In London the foundation stone of the new Post Office, exactly opposite the present one in St. Martin's-le-Grand, was

laid on the 16th of December by the First Commissioner of Works in the absence of the Postmaster General.

Old General
Post Office.

In the present building the conversion of the public hall into an office, the necessity for which was deplored by Lord Hartington in the last annual Report, and the erection of a new room over the hall, have given, for purposes of the Department, a large additional space, without which it would have been impossible to deal with the influx of newspapers as swollen by the October changes. To connect this new room with the ground floor two lifts or hoists have been erected similar to those already in use in other parts of the building, by which the sacks of newspapers as well as the attendants in charge of them can be raised and lowered at pleasure.

Staff of offi-
cers.

At the end of 1870 the staff of officers (omitting those exclusively employed on telegraph duties) was as follows, as compared with the staff at the end of 1869:—

On 31st of Dec. 1869.		On 31st of Dec. 1870.	
	I. Officers in British Isles :—		
	1 Postmaster General - - -	1	
	7 Secretary, second secretary, assistant secretary, assistant under secretaries, and secretaries for Scotland and Ireland.	7	
	21 Other superior officers, viz. : heads of departments, chief clerks in the Metropolitan offices, &c.	21	
	17 Surveyors - - - -	17	
	11,679 Postmasters - - - -	11,712	
	2,170 Clerks, &c. - - - -	2,181	
	13,190 Counter men, sorters, letter carriers, messengers, &c.	14,318	
	109 Mail guards and porters - - -	97	
	5 Marine mail officers - - -	5	
27,199			28,359
	24 II. Postmasters, clerks, letter carriers, &c. in the colonies, the posts of which are under the direction of the Postmaster General.	25	
24			25
	47 III. Agents in foreign countries for collection of postage, &c.	45	
47			45
27,270			28,429

Post Office Agents were appointed in the course of the year at Guanape and Port au Prince, and were withdrawn from Pisco and the Chinca Islands, from Puerto Plata, St. Iago de Cuba, and Santo Domingo—making a difference of two, as above.

The large increase under the head of Counter men, Sorters, Letter Carriers, and Messengers is accounted for by the October changes and the growth of Post Office business generally. Of the number added, no less than 750, or considerably more than one half, belong to the London Establishment, and of

these a great part consists of boys. These boys, as your Lordships are aware, are mostly employed in the sorting of newspapers, and whatever apprehensions may have been entertained as to their fitness for the work have been agreeably disappointed. The business has in no way suffered, the per-centage of errors has not increased, and the mails have been despatched with the accustomed punctuality. A similar experiment, although of course on a different scale, has been tried in Scotland, and has, I understand, been attended with equal success.

Of the conduct of the officers during the past year it is my duty no less than it is a pleasure to me to speak in the highest possible terms, and in saying this I wish it to be understood that I refer not to individuals or the members of any particular class or classes, but to all. All alike, those employed in the Provincial as well as the Metropolitan Offices, seem to have been animated by a single object—that of helping to prove, each within his own sphere of duty and to the extent of his ability, that in undertaking the measures of the year, various and extensive as they were, the Post Office had not overrated its powers. It is this spirit of zealous co-operation which constitutes the chief strength of the Department and gives it confidence in the face of difficulties.

About 15 years ago, as your Lordships are aware, appointments to all Post Offices at or above certain limits of value—such limits being now 120*l.* in England and 100*l.* in Scotland and Ireland—were transferred from the Treasury to the Postmaster General, not only, as was stated by the Committee of Inquiry on whose recommendation the transfer was made, “because he is in a position which gives him a greater interest in making good appointments and greater facilities for doing so,” but also as a means of rewarding meritorious officers. 11 of these offices fell to the gift of the Postmaster General during the past year. The salaries and allowances attaching to them, and the names of the towns at which the vacancies occurred, being as follows :—

—	Salary.	Poundage on Stamps. (Estimated.)	Allowance for Assistance.	Allowance for Office Expenses.
Ayr - - -	£ 175	£ —	£ —	£ 60
Bellinasloe - - -	95	11	60	34
Barnsley - - -	200	—	—	55
Dover - - -	300	—	—	Crown Office.
Kingston-on-Thames - - -	250	—	60	90
Leamington - - -	300	—	—	Crown Office.
Limerick - - -	350	—	—	Crown Office.
Macclesfield - - -	130	20	35	45
Malden - - -	90	11	60	35
Norwich - - -	450	—	—	Crown Office.
Perth - - -	220	—	20	50
	(with residence).			

Superannuation and compensation allowances.

The following table gives the amount of superannuation and compensation allowance which began and which ceased to be paid in the year 1870:—

Nature of Allowance.	Began.	Ceased.	Increase.	Decrease.
	£	£	£	£
Superannuation - -	7,024	3,973	3,051	—
Compensation - -	142	580	—	438

Explanation of increase.

In Public Departments of any magnitude experience shows, I believe, that between the pensions falling in and the pensions granted in the course of a year there is little difference of amount. In the instance of the Post Office, however, it will be seen that the pensions granted during 1870 exceeded those that lapsed by more than 3,000*l*. The explanation of this large difference is that prior to 1859 the officers of the Post Office employed in the provinces, constituting the larger portion of the whole number, were not entitled to pensions, and a sufficient period has not since elapsed to adjust the balance. Of those who have retired since 1859, many are still living to enjoy their pensions.

In the sum of 142*l*. set down as the amount of compensation granted in the year are included small allowances, amounting in the aggregate to 67*l*. 12*s*. 8*d*., payable to the widows of four men who, although not all of them belonging to the Department, lost their lives in its service. The residue of the sum under this head consists of compensation to an officer on the Dublin establishment for loss of rooms in the Post Office building.

Age of pensioners.

An examination of the pensions granted during the year shows the results to be as follows:—

—	Total Number of Officers pensioned in 1870.	Number above 60 years of Age.	Average Age.	Average Length of Service.	Average Amount of Pension.
England - -	188	86	57	23	£ s. d. 30 11 11
Scotland - -	18	11	63	28	44 3 11
Ireland - -	19	13	59	22	25 1 10
United Kingdom -	225	110	59½	24	33 5 10

Although the above Table shows for Scotland a very high average of age, affording, as far as it goes, additional testimony to the healthiness of that part of the country, yet England and Ireland bear off the palm in the age of individual veterans, the ages of the two oldest pensioners in each division being in England 81 and 82, in Scotland 72 and 73, and in Ireland 70 and 74.

In the course of the year Lord Hartington sought and obtained your Lordships' authority for appointing medical officers to the Post Offices at twenty-five additional towns; and laid down for their guidance the following instructions, which, while protecting the Department against unnecessary absence on the part of its servants, provide them gratuitously with attendance and medicine in cases of real illness :—

To examine candidates for appointment.

To attend, either at the office or at their own homes, and to supply with medicine all servants of the Department whose pay does not exceed 150*l.* a year; and even to those whose pay exceeds that amount, to give advice during an epidemic.

To visit, on the requisition of the local postmaster, any one absenting himself from duty on the plea of illness.

To certify as to the unfitness or otherwise for further duty of all applicants for superannuation.

To attend especially to the sanitary condition of the local Post Office.

The following is a complete list of the provincial Post Offices which have their own medical officers, with the names of the gentlemen now holding the appointments :—

ENGLAND.

Bath	-	-	-	Biddulph T. Goss, Esq.
Birkenhead	-	-	-	W. G. Macdougall, Esq.
Birmingham	-	-	-	Geo. Jones, Esq.
Bradford	-	-	-	Herbert M. Spencer, Esq.
Brighton	-	-	-	F. W. Salzmänn, Esq.
Bristol	-	-	-	F. P. Lansdown, Esq.
Cardiff	-	-	-	William Taylor, Esq., M.D.
Derby	-	-	-	Frank Iliffe, Esq.
Exeter	-	-	-	J. Grigg, Esq.
Gloucester	-	-	-	John P. Wilton, Esq.
Hull	-	-	-	Henry Gibson, Esq.
Leeds	-	-	-	Thomas Land, Esq.
Leicester	-	-	-	Thomas W. Benfield, Esq.
Liverpool	-	-	-	Benjn. Townson, Esq.
Manchester	-	-	-	Robt. M. Mann, Esq.
Newcastle	-	-	-	W. Christopher Arnison, Esq., M.D.
Norwich	-	-	-	Charles M. Gibson, Esq.
Nottingham	-	-	-	Thomas Worth, Esq.
Plymouth	-	-	-	W. J. Square, Esq.
Portsmouth	-	-	-	F. Waller Way, Esq.
Sheffield	-	-	-	John Hall, Esq.
Southampton	-	-	-	Theophilus W. Trend, Esq.
Sunderland	-	-	-	Henry J. Yeld, Esq., M.D.
Swansea	-	-	-	John Williams, Esq., M.D.
York	-	-	-	Alfred Ball, Esq.

SCOTLAND.

Aberdeen	-	-	-	James Will, Esq., M.D.
Dundee	-	-	-	Matthew Nimmo, Esq.
Glasgow	-	-	-	Geo. H. B. Macleod, Esq., M.D.

IRELAND.

Belfast	-	-	-	J. Walton Browne, Esq., M.D.
Cork	-	-	-	Richard Callaghan, Esq., M.D.

Sanitary condition of Department.

To this system of medical supervision I attach great importance, and it is my intention before long to propose its extension to other Post Offices, among which I may mention those in the important towns of Greenock and Cheltenham, as well as to some of the suburbs of London just outside the jurisdiction of the present district medical officers.

The sanitary condition of the Department during the period embraced in this Report has been good; but as to particulars Dr. Lewis has asked and obtained my permission to reserve them for the report of next year, when he hopes to be able to give, what the continued prevalence of small-pox prevents him from giving now, a full and complete account of that epidemic as well as the previous one of scarlet fever, so far as they shall have affected the Post Office.

Limited extension of annual leave.

Lord Hartington decided in the course of last year that at the Post Offices of a few of the larger towns the period of annual leave of absence should be extended from two to three weeks in the case of some of the clerks, and to four in the case of the others. Elsewhere it remains at one fortnight.

Stores.

To give some idea of the magnitude of the operations in which the Department is concerned, I may observe that in London alone during the past year about 10,565,000 yards of string were used for tying up the letters for the country, and about 17,637 lbs. of sealing wax for securing the bags in which the letters were contained, the bags in use being about 700,000 in number. In England and Wales the quantity of ink supplied for impressing post marks on letters and for obliterating postage stamps was about 4 tons, and the number of forms employed, exclusive of anything in the nature of a book, amounted to 20,692,800.

Since July last all stores for the country exceeding 5 lbs. in weight, which used to be sent with the mails, have been despatched to their destination by luggage train and been paid for at parcels rates. The stores so forwarded during the nine months ended the 31st of March exceeded 114 tons in weight.

As regards the approaching changes in the postal tariff, I had hoped it might be possible to introduce them this very day (the 1st of August), and, although disappointed in this, I will take care that they are not postponed longer than is absolutely necessary to complete the requisite preparations. The effect of those changes upon the number of letters as well as upon the Revenue I expect to be in a position to show in the report for 1871.

I have the honour to be,

My Lords,

Your obedient humble servant,

W. MONSELL.

General Post Office,
1 August 1871.

APPENDIX.

APPENDIX.

TABLE I.

Telegraphic Messages, 1870.

TABLE showing the Number of Messages (exclusive of Press Messages) forwarded from Postal Telegraph Stations in the United Kingdom, during each week in 1870, from the date of the transfer, up to the 31st of December.

No. of Messages.	No. of Messages.
Feb. 5 - 11,918	July 23 - 234,194 Panic continued.
" 12 - 128,872	" 30 - 215,448
" 19 - 135,102	Aug. 6 - 205,302
" 26 - 143,620	" 13 - 212,202
Mar. 5 - 147,206	" 20 - 194,580
" 12 - 156,566	" 27 - 189,673
" 19 - 159,748	Sept. 3 - 189,322
" 26 - 160,775	" 10 - 191,183
Apr. 2 - 165,221	" 17 - 196,710 Doncaster races.
" 9 - 169,562	" 24 - 189,636
" 16 - 157,807 Good Friday fell in this week.	Oct. 1 - 196,266
" 23 - 170,659	" 8 - 197,689
" 30 - 172,746	" 15 - 202,389 Newmarket races.
May 7 - 175,864	" 22 - 202,460
" 14 - 180,674	" 29 - 202,554 Newmarket races.
" 21 - 173,040	Nov. 5 - 194,201
" 28 - 176,811	" 12 - 186,557
June 4 - 191,443 Epsom race week.	" 19 - 200,101 Panic on Stock Exchange.
" 11 - 177,523	" 26 - 193,875
" 18 - 200,294 Ascot races.	Dec. 3 - 186,023
" 25 - 194,696	" 10 - 179,104
July 2 - 185,520	" 17 - 181,636
" 9 - 192,048	" 24 - 179,452
" 16 - 214,419 Panic on Stock Exchange.	" 31 - 144,041 Christmas week.

TABLE II.

Postage Rates.

RETURN showing the RATES of POSTAGE at present chargeable upon LETTERS, PARCELS, and PATTERNS respectively, compared with the RATES proposed to be established under the SCHEME submitted by the POSTMASTER GENERAL to Parliament on the 14th March 1871.

PRESENT POSTAL RATES.

Letters and Parcels.*	Book Packets.	Patterns and Samples.	Rates of Postage on Patterns and Samples prior to the Year 1870.
Not exceeding $\frac{1}{2}$ oz. 1d. Above $\frac{1}{2}$ oz., but not exceeding 1 oz. - 2d. Above 1 oz., but not exceeding $1\frac{1}{2}$ oz. - 3d. And so on.	Not exceeding 2 oz. - $\frac{1}{2}$ d. Above 2 oz., but not exceeding 4 oz. - 1d. Above 4 oz., but not exceeding 6 oz. - $1\frac{1}{2}$ d. And so on, up to a maximum weight of 14 lbs.	Not exceeding 2 oz. - $\frac{1}{2}$ d. Above 2 oz., but not exceeding 4 oz. - 1d. Above 4 oz., but not exceeding 6 oz. - $1\frac{1}{2}$ d. And so on, up to a maximum weight of 12 oz.	Not exceeding 4 oz. - 2d. Above 4 oz., but not exceeding 8 oz. - 4d. Above 8 oz., but not exceeding 12 oz. - 6d. And so on. No pattern or sample packet, however, could be forwarded if it exceeded 24 oz. in weight.

* Except such parcels as come under the regulations of the Book or Sample Post, none are at present transmissible by Post otherwise than at letter rates of postage.

PROPOSED POSTAL RATES.

Letters and Parcels.	Book Packets.	Patterns and Samples.
Not exceeding 1 oz. - - 1d. Above 1 oz., but not exceeding 2 oz. 1½d. " 2 oz., " " 4 oz. 2d. " 4 oz., " " 6 oz. 2½d. " 6 oz., " " 8 oz. 3d. " 8 oz., " " 10 oz. 3½d. " 10 oz., " " 12 oz. 4d. No letter or parcel to exceed 12 oz. in weight.	No change is proposed in the rates of postage on book packets.	It is proposed that the special rates and regulations for patterns and samples shall be abolished, and that these articles shall henceforth be transmissible under the same rates and regulations as letters and parcels.

RETURN showing the RATES of COMMISSION at present chargeable on INLAND MONEY ORDERS, compared with the RATES proposed to be established under the SCHEME submitted by the POSTMASTER GENERAL to Parliament on the 14th March 1871.

Present Rates of Commission.			Proposed Rates of Commission.		
		<i>s. d.</i>			<i>s. d.</i>
For sums not exceeding 2 <i>l.</i>	-	0 3	For sums under 10 <i>s.</i>	-	0 1
„ above 2 <i>l.</i> , but not ex- ceeding 5 <i>l.</i>	-	0 6	„ of 10 <i>s.</i> and under 1 <i>l.</i>	-	0 2
„ above 5 <i>l.</i> , but not ex- ceeding 7 <i>l.</i>	-	0 9	„ of 1 <i>l.</i> „ 2 <i>l.</i>	-	0 3
„ above 7 <i>l.</i> , but not ex- ceeding 10 <i>l.</i>	-	1 0	„ of 2 <i>l.</i> „ 3 <i>l.</i>	-	0 4
			„ of 3 <i>l.</i> „ 4 <i>l.</i>	-	0 5
			„ of 4 <i>l.</i> „ 5 <i>l.</i>	-	0 6
			„ of 5 <i>l.</i> „ 6 <i>l.</i>	-	0 7
			„ of 6 <i>l.</i> „ 7 <i>l.</i>	-	0 8
			„ of 7 <i>l.</i> „ 8 <i>l.</i>	-	0 9
			„ of 8 <i>l.</i> „ 9 <i>l.</i>	-	0 10
			„ of 9 <i>l.</i> „ 10 <i>l.</i>	-	0 11
			„ of 10 <i>l.</i>	-	1 0

TABLE III.

Post Office (United States Correspondence).

RETURN showing the total estimated Number of INTERNATIONAL LETTERS sent to and received from the UNITED STATES during the years 1863, 1865, 1866, 1867, 1868, 1869, and 1870, respectively, and the Increase or Decrease per Cent.

1863.	1865.	1866.	1867.	1868.	1869.	1870.
Number of Letters.	Number of Letters. Increase per Cent. over 1863.	Number of Letters. Increase per Cent. over 1865.	Number of Letters. Decrease per Cent. below 1866.	Number of Letters. Increase per Cent. over 1867.	Number of Letters. Increase per Cent. over 1868.	Number of Letters. Increase per Cent. over 1869.
2,461,440	3,367,697 36·8	4,066,284 20·7	3,916,759 3·7	4,875,802 24·5	5,205,000 8·	6,675,000 27·
Postage 1s.	Postage 1s.	Postage 1s.	Postage 1s.	Postage 6d., commencing 1st January 1868.	Postage 6d.	Postage 3d., commencing 1st January 1870.

Increase—Year 1870 over Year 1863 - - - 171 per cent.
Average yearly Increase over 1863 - - - 24½ per cent.

General Post Office,
24 April 1871.

GEO. CHETWYND,
Receiver and Accountant General.

TABLE IV.—Post Office Packet Service.

RETURN showing Particulars of existing CONTRACTS for POST OFFICE PACKET SERVICE, the Amount Postage (British Share), the estimated Loss on the Service, the Rate of Postage per single letter, Gross Postage on those Letters.

Line of Packets.	Contracts.			Amount of Subsidy.
	When made.	When commenced.	Terminate.	
AUSTRALIA: Point de Galle and Sydney -	17 Nov. 1865	13 Feb. 1868	On 24 calendar months' notice.	(a) 130,000
BRAZIL: Regular Service - - -	{ 13 July 1863 23 June 1868 }	1 Jan. 1864	At end of 1874, if 24 months' previous notice has been given.	(b) 33,500
Additional Services: Liverpool and Buenos Ayres	{ 8 July 1868 3 June 1870 }	{ 28 Aug. 1868 1 June 1870 }	On 6 months' notice -	* 5,418
Liverpool and Valparaíso -	{ 6 July 1869 27 July 1870 24 June 1868 }	{ 13 Sept. 1869 29 July 1870 1 July 1868 }	On 6 months' notice -	* 4,377
CAPE OF GOOD HOPE - -			On 30th June 1876, if 12 months' previous notice has been given.	* 21,267
EAST INDIES, CHINA, and JAPAN -	6 Aug. 1870	1 April 1869	On 31st January 1880, if 24 months' previous notice has been given.	(c) 450,000
NORTH AMERICA: United States: Cunard - - - -	11 Dec. 1868	1 Jan. 1869	On 12 calendar months' notice, but not before 31st December 1876.	70,000
Inman - - - -	9 Mar. 1869	1 May 1869	- ditto - - -	35,000
North German Lloyd -	22 Mar. 1870	6 May 1870	On 12 calendar months' notice, but not sooner than 6th May 1872.	* 7,997
British North America: Queenstown and Halifax -	Contract with Canadian Government - - -			{ 16,250 Imperial payment 8,125
Halifax and St. John's, Newfoundland.	Contract with Newfoundland Government - - -			{ 9,000 Imperial payment 4,500
Intermediate: Halifax, Bermuda, and St. Thomas.	2 Dec. 1867	1 Jan. 1868	At the end of 1877, if 12 months' previous notice has been given.	(d) 19,500
New York and Nassau -	Contract with Bahamas Government - - -			{ 5,416 Imperial payment 2,708
Belize and New Orleans -	Contract with Honduras Government - - -			{ 3,000 Imperial payment 1,500
PACIFIC - - - -	26 July 1864	1 April 1865	On 24 months' notice -	(d) 18,250
WEST INDIES: Regular Service - - -	{ 22 July 1863 26 June 1868 }	1 Jan. 1864	At the end of 1874, if 24 months' previous notice has been given.	(e) 172,914
Additional Services: Liverpool and Puerto Cabello, Tampico, and Santa Martha.	24 Sept. 1869	20 Oct. 1869	On 6 months' notice -	* 2,166
St. Kitts, Nevis, and Montserrat.	26 Sept. 1864	1 Jan. 1864	On 6 months' notice -	490
St. Thomas, Porto Rico, and Havana.	29 Aug. 1866	1 Dec. 1866	On 22nd January 1871 -	2,000
Turk's Island and St. Thomas	Contract with Turk's Island Government - - -			{ 600 Imperial payment 300
WEST COAST OF AFRICA - -	4 July 1866	26 Sept. 1866	On 26th Sept. 1872, if 24 months' previous notice has been given.	20,000

* These figures represent the amounts paid for the services in 1870. The payments in each case being dependent upon the amount of correspondence carried.

(a) The actual payment for the Australian service is 129,500*l.*—an abatement of 500*l.* being made on account of the discontinuance of the Admiralty Survey.

(b) Subject to a deduction of 400*l.* on account of the withdrawal of Naval Agents.

(c) An abatement of 1,500*l.* is allowed by the Company on account of the withdrawal of Naval Agents.

General Post Office, London, 24 April 1871.

TABLE IV.—Post Office Packet Service.

contributed by India or the Colonies towards the Cost of the Service, the estimated Amount of Sea the estimated Number of Letters carried by the Packets in both Directions in 1870, and the estimated

Penalties for Overtime.	Premiums for Undertime.	Contributions by India and the Colonies towards the Cost of the Service.	British Share of Sea Postage on Letters, Newspapers, &c. (Estimated.)	British Loss on the Service (Estimated.)	Rate of Postage per single Letter, excluding Transit Rates.	Estimated Number of Letters carried by the Packets in both Directions in 1870.	British Share of Estimated Amount of Gross Postage on Letters carried in both Directions in 1870.
200 <i>l.</i> for every 24 hours.	On outward voyage, 50 <i>l.</i> for every 24 hours.	Australia and New Zealand, 64,750 <i>l.</i>	£ 38,000	£ 64,398	- - 6 <i>d.</i> - -	No. 2,090,400	£ 32,850
50 <i>l.</i> for every 12 hours.	25 <i>l.</i> for every 12 hours.	{ India, 126,000 <i>l.</i> - Australia and New Zealand, 28,480 <i>l.</i> One-half of the cost of conveyance across the Atlantic by Cunard and Inman Packets of the Mails for Bahamas, Honduras, and British Columbia is repaid by the Governments of these colonies. The amount thus to be recovered for the year 1870 is about 800 <i>l.</i>	40,000	11,895	- - 1 <i>s.</i> - -	430,000	35,500
One-eighth part of ordinary payment for every 24 hours. ditto	- - -		19,000	2,300	- - 1 <i>s.</i> - -	270,000	19,300
50 <i>l.</i> for every 24 hours.	- - -		130,000	147,470	Mediterranean 6 <i>d.</i> India & Ceylon 9 <i>d.</i> China, &c. - 1 <i>s.</i>	2,930,000	114,400
50 <i>l.</i> per day	25 <i>l.</i> per day		41,000	72,136	- - 3 <i>d.</i> - -	{ International, 6,675,000. Transit, 281,000.	40,600
- - -	- - -	{ Canadian Dominion and Prince Edward Island. Newfoundland. To or from the United Kingdom. Intermediate 4 <i>d.</i>	- - -	- - -	3 <i>d.</i> 6 <i>d.</i> 1 <i>s.</i> 4 <i>d.</i>	404,000	6,800
30 <i>l.</i> for every 12 hours.	- - -		6,500	50,725	- - -	71,000	2,650
- - -	- - -		- - -	- - -	- - -	- - -	- - -
- - -	- - -		- - -	- - -	- - -	- - -	- - -
50 <i>l.</i> for every 12 hours.	- - -	- - -	13,000	10,947	- 1 <i>s.</i> 6 <i>d.</i> -	125,000	6,400
50 <i>l.</i> for every 12 hours.	25 <i>l.</i> for every 12 hours.	{ - - - - - - - - - - - -	70,000	118,380	- - 1 <i>s.</i> - -	1,206,000	57,300
One-eighth part of ordinary payment for every 24 hours.	- - -		- - -	- - -	- - -	- - -	- - -
- - -	- - -		- - -	- - -	- - -	- - -	- - -
- - -	- - -		- - -	- - -	- - -	- - -	- - -
50 <i>l.</i> for every 12 hours.	- - -	- - -	6,000	16,423	- - 6 <i>d.</i> - -	143,700	5,300

+ International and Transit Letters only.

(d) The sum of 500*l.* is deducted from this payment in consideration of the Admiralty Survey being discontinued, and a further sum of 250*l.* is deducted on account of no accommodation being required for mail officer.

(e) An additional sum of 2,000*l.* is paid to the Company for landing the mails at Plymouth. Deductions amounting to 1,315*l.* are made on account of the withdrawal of Naval Agents and sorting officers.

GEORGE CHETWIND,
Receiver and Accountant General.

TABLE V.
Post Office (Lost Letters, &c.)

RETURN showing the Number of Registered Letters sent in One Year of a recent Date, and the Number of Registered Letters Lost in said Year.

Year.	Number of Inland Registered Letters and Packets passing through the Post in the Year.	Number of Inland Registered Letters and Packets Lost in the Year.
1870 - - -	3,005,994	12

RETURN showing the Number of Unregistered Letters sent in One Year of recent date, and the Number of such Letters Lost in said Year.

Year.	Number of Unregistered Letters and Book Packets passing through the Post in the Year.	*Number of Unregistered Letters and Book Packets alleged to be Lost in the Year.
1870 - - -	936,375,505	27,913

* Of the above number of letters alleged to be lost, it was ascertained that many of them had either never been posted, or had been delivered.

TABLE VI.

Gross and Net Revenue.

Year.	Gross Revenue from Letters, Books, Packets, &c.	Money Order Commission.	Gross Revenue collected by the Post Office.	Produce of the Impressed Stamp collected by Inland Revenue Office.	Total Postal Revenue.	Total Cost of Post Office Service.	Net Revenue.
	£	£	£	£	£	£	£
1861 -	3,403,691	127,866	3,530,557	134,571	3,665,128	3,161,411	503,717
1862 -	3,496,635	136,954	3,633,589	136,415	3,764,004	2,982,086	831,909
1863 -	3,730,073	144,226	3,874,299	125,156	3,999,455	2,962,061	1,037,404
1864 -	3,967,047	161,979	4,109,026	122,532	4,231,558	3,078,297	1,153,261
1865 -	4,142,066	167,113	4,299,199	124,409	4,423,608	2,941,066	1,482,522
1866 -	4,311,457	166,450	4,477,887	121,780	4,609,667	3,201,661	1,397,986
1867 -	4,376,044	172,085	4,548,129	120,065	4,668,214	3,246,860	1,421,364
1868 -	*4,391,270	175,612	*4,566,883	116,764	*4,683,646	3,266,724	*1,416,922
1869 -	4,472,746	176,490	4,649,236	115,349	4,764,575	3,469,227	1,305,348
1870 -	†4,664,512	184,093	4,848,605	‡80,970	4,929,475	3,485,865	1,463,610
Average Net Revenue of first Five Years							
	Ditto	second ditto	.	.	.	.	£1,001,763
			.	.	.	.	£1,407,046

* The Postage of Public Departments ceased to be treated as Revenue early in the year 1868. The amount charged against those Departments in 1867 was 233,461*l.* and in the year 1868 was 14,797*l.*

† The largely increased cost of the Post Office Service in the year 1869 is principally due to exceptional payments on account of the Packet Service, as shown in the Statement of Force and Expenditure, Table VII.

‡ The Impressed Stamp on Newspapers was abolished on the 30th September 1870, and the Postage thereon increased the Revenue in the last quarter of the year, to the extent probably of from 25,000*l.* to 30,000*l.*

TABLE VII.
Force and Expenditure.

Date.	FORCE.		COST OF COLLECTION AND DELIVERY, OF MANAGEMENT, AND OF MONEY ORDER BUSINESS.												COST OF CONVEYANCE OF MAILS.					TOTAL COST OF POST OFFICE SERVICE.	
	Effective.	Non-Effective.	Salaries, Wages, Pensions, Travelling Allowances, Poundation on Sale of Stamps, Commission on Money Order business, Cost of Uniform Clothing, Medical Expenses, and Cost of Substitutes during annual Holidays or Sickness of Officers and Men, Official Postage, Law Charges, and Incidental Expenses.	Manufacture of Postage Stamps, &c., Printing, Paper, and Miscellaneous Charges.	Stationery.	Buildings and Repairs, Rents, Rates, Taxes, Fuel, and Light.	Total Cost of Collection, Delivery, and Management, and of Money Order Business.	Conveyance by Coaches, Carts, and Omnibuses.	Conveyance by Railways.	Cost of Supply and Repair of Mail Bags and Boxes, Tolls, and Portage, Cost of Apparatus for Exchange of Bags conveyed by Railway, and Miscellaneous Expenses.	Conveyance of Mails by private Ships and by Packets under Contract with Admiralty or Post Office.	Conveyance of Mails over Isthmus of Suez and Isthmus of Panama, and in other Foreign Ports, and Salaries of Admiralty Agents and other Officers in charge of Foreign and Colonial Mails.	Total Cost of Conveyance.	\$	£						
1861	25,376	863	1,214,503	19,414	34,751	85,703	1,354,200	152,508	655,046	25,929	940,657	33,071	1,807,211	3,161,411	2,932,065						
1862	25,285	927	1,249,268	19,291	31,365	84,795	1,384,650	152,280	626,066	22,393	821,067	24,700	1,547,406	2,932,065							
1863	25,492	1,017	1,254,605	18,485	32,132	81,548	1,386,920	140,333	538,512	20,189	837,655	29,542	1,575,231	2,963,051							
1864	26,637	1,131	1,322,945	19,750	32,501	39,790	1,414,986	145,089	565,853	21,807	900,610	29,963	1,693,311	3,073,397							
1865	25,083	1,274	1,295,153	22,064	32,396	75,331	1,424,944	140,517	523,220	22,220	796,399	23,796	1,516,142	2,941,080							
1866	25,594	1,423	1,368,157	23,234	34,969	182,627	1,609,007	139,888	596,085	21,336	817,467	27,898	1,592,674	3,201,681*							
1867	25,902	1,569	1,421,854	23,684	33,033	236,592	1,715,163	140,069	659,575	22,434	783,845	25,764	1,531,687	3,246,660†							
1868	26,263	1,766	1,440,144	25,000	39,014	214,532	1,718,680	139,553	678,927	18,769	777,097	33,698	1,548,044	3,266,724‡							
1869	26,910	1,871	1,465,251	25,000	40,788	115,123	1,686,162	139,316	683,096	17,533	1,056,798	25,932	1,693,065	3,459,227§							
1870	28,078	1,963	1,497,813	47,500	42,561	110,223	1,698,097	138,763	687,296	16,295	963,464	26,290	1,737,768	3,433,965							

* Including 273,297 paid under the Post Office Extension Act, the greater portion of which has been charged to Buildings, &c.

† Including 216,181 ditto.

‡ Including 210,202 ditto.

§ Including 217,544 ditto.

TABLE VIII.
Post Office Savings Bank.

PERIOD.	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20
	Number of Post Office Savings Banks.	Number of Deposits.	Amount of Deposits.	Average Amount of Deposits.	Interest credited to Depositors.	Number of Withdrawals.	Amount of Withdrawals.	Average Amount of Withdrawal.	Charges of Management.	Average Cost of each Transaction, viz., of each Deposit or Withdrawal.	Number of Accounts opened.	Number of Accounts closed.	Number of Accounts remaining open at close of the Year.	Amount, inclusive of Interest, standing to credit of all open Accounts at close of the Year.	Average Amount standing to credit of each open Account at close of the Year.	Total Sum standing to credit of Post Office Savings Banks on Books of National Debt Commissioners at close of the Year.	Balance in hands of Postmaster-General, after allowing for Charges of Management, at close of the Year.	Total Balance in hand, applicable to payment of Depositors, at close of the Year.	Number of Old Savings Banks and Post Office Savings Banks combined, at close of the Year.	Number of the Depositors in Old Savings Banks and Post Office Banks combined, at close of the Year.
From 16 Sept. 1861 to 31 Dec. 1862.	2,555	639,216	2,114,669	£ s. d. £ 6 2	22,189	97,204	438,637	£ 4 10 2	20,591	£ 2 1	205,928	27,453	178,495	£ 1,038,221	£ 9 10 3	£ 1,659,082	35,692	£ 1,694,774	3,157	1,732,555
Year 1863	2,991	842,948	2,651,206	£ s. d. £ 5 2 11	55,204	197,451	1,027,154	£ 5 4 0	25,401	£ 1 6 1	165,984	44,750	319,669	£ 3,377,490	£ 10 11 4	£ 3,328,182	44,413	£ 3,372,595	3,594	1,876,389
" 1864	3,081	1,110,762	3,350,000	£ s. d. £ 5 0 3	100,493	309,242	1,854,849	£ 5 18 8	45,866	£ 1 11 4	226,153	74,964	470,858	£ 4,993,128	£ 10 12 1	£ 4,993,663	5,522	£ 5,001,185	3,659	1,967,663
" 1865	3,321	1,302,509	3,719,017	£ s. d. £ 2 17 1	132,870	407,412	2,318,610	£ 5 13 10	49,587	£ 1 6 1	239,686	99,160	611,384	£ 6,526,400	£ 10 13 6	£ 6,526,390	4,327	£ 6,536,697	3,822	2,078,346
" 1866	3,507	1,525,871	4,400,637	£ s. d. £ 2 17 8	169,172	515,348	2,975,054	£ 5 15 4	59,451	£ 1 6 1	268,542	131,672	746,254	£ 8,121,176	£ 10 17 7	£ 8,231,176	25,791	£ 8,256,967	4,058	2,158,290
" 1867	3,629	1,592,544	4,643,906	£ s. d. £ 2 19 4	207,049	581,972	3,292,900	£ 5 10 9	62,700	£ 1 0 6	284,541	155,612	854,983	£ 9,749,620	£ 11 8 0	£ 9,867,703	47,680	£ 9,915,383	4,268	2,289,347
" 1868	3,813	1,757,303	5,383,638	£ s. d. £ 3 0 8	262,897	637,144	3,669,909	£ 5 15 2	61,880	£ 1 0 6	289,566	179,195	965,154	£ 11,666,655	£ 12 1 9	£ 11,963,053	Nil.	£ 11,969,404	4,331	2,386,654
" 1869	4,047	1,998,644	5,787,218	£ s. d. £ 2 17 10	297,392	716,466	4,297,066	£ 5 17 11	62,060	£ 1 0 6	323,723	203,092	1,085,785	£ 13,434,596	£ 12 9 1	£ 13,755,547	19,386	£ 13,774,933	4,554	2,464,510
" 1870	4,062	2,135,993	5,995,121	£ s. d. £ 2 16 1	337,961	787,172	4,768,187	£ 6 0 10	67,945	£ 1 0 6	333,648	236,590	1,183,163	£ 15,069,104	£ 12 15 3	£ 15,305,040	158,883	£ 15,463,923	4,578	2,567,909

* These sums do not include the dividends according to the Post Office Savings Banks on the 5th January, that is, five days after the close of the account in each year, up to the year 1866 inclusive, but after that year the Securities belonging to the Banks have been valued by the Commissioners for the Reduction of the National Debt, and the amount, including dividends due but not paid at the end of the year, has been inserted in the above return.

† The falling off in the cost per transaction during 1863 and the increase in that cost during 1864 are attributable to one and the same cause, viz., to the payment during 1864 of various charges properly belonging to 1863.

TABLE IX.

Post Office Savings Bank.

BALANCE SHEET.

RETURN of the BALANCE SHEETS of the POST OFFICE SAVINGS BANKS for the Year 1870, showing the Balance due to Depositors, the Amount of Expenses remaining Unpaid, the Value of Securities at the Cost Price less depreciation of those which are Terminable by Lapse of Time, Amount of Cash in hand and Dividends accrued but not received at the end of the Year, and the Surplus or Deficiency of Funds to meet Liabilities.

LIABILITIES.			ASSETS.		
	£	s. d.		£	s. d.
Balance due to Depositors on the 31st December 1870 (including Interest) - -	15,099,104	0 8	Value of Securities at the Cost Price less depreciation of those which are Terminable by Lapse of Time - -	14,509,397	7 6
Amount of Expenses remaining unpaid (pr. tly estimated) - -	25,000	0 0	Amount of Cash in hands of Commissioners for the Reduction of the National Debt - -	126,393	16 10
Surplus of Funds to meet Liabilities -	339,823	16 5	Dividends accrued but not received at the end of the year - -	609,248	10 1
			Total Amount in the hands of the Commissioners for the Reduction of the National Debt - -	-	15,305,089 14 5
			Cash in the hands of the Postmaster General - -	173,521	7 2
			Less Amount required to meet the Payment of Warrants issued, but not cashed on 31st December 1869 -	19,633	4 6
	£ 15,463,927	17 1			158,698 2 8
				£ 15,463,927	17 1
			£ s. d.		
Total Amount received from Depositors, including Interest, to 31 December 1870 - -			39,571,863 10 11		
Total Amount repaid to Depositors, to 31 December 1870 - -			24,472,159 10 3		

Number of Transactions.		Number of Accounts.		
Deposits.	Withdrawals.	Opened.	Closed.	Remaining open.
12,905,290	4,240,481	2,335,321	1,152,168	1,183,153

The total cost of the Post Office Savings Banks from their establishment to the 31st December 1870, including the sum of 25,000*l.* charged as above, was 464,332*l.* 15*s.* 9*d.*

The total number of Transactions, i.e., Deposits and Withdrawals, in the period was 17,154,771.

The average cost of each Transaction was 6*s.*

Prior to the passing of the Post Office Savings Bank Act, 1861, it was estimated (*see* Parliamentary Paper, No. 523, 1861) that the average cost of each transaction would be 7*d.*

General Post Office,
June 1871.

GEO. CHETWYND,
Receiver and Accountant General.

Balance Sheet—*continued.*

RETURN of the BALANCE SHEETS of the POST OFFICE SAVINGS BANKS for the Year 1870, showing the Balance due to Depositors, the Amount of Expenses remaining Unpaid, the Value of Securities at the Cost Price less depreciation of those which are Terminable by Lapse of Time, Amount of Cash in Hand, and Dividends accrued but not received at the end of the Year, and the Surplus or Deficiency of Funds to meet Liabilities. (So far as relates to the NATIONAL DEBT OFFICE.)

Securities standing in the Names of the Commissioners for the Reduction of the National Debt on account of the Post Office Savings Banks Fund.		Value of such Securities at the Cost Price, less Depreciation of those which are Terminable by Lapse of Time, exclusive of dividends accrued but not received.	Dividends accrued but not received at the end of the Year.
	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.
Consolidated £3 per Cents - -	379,151 14 6	348,200 8 2	5,532 14 8
Reduced £3 per Cents - -	649,900 0 0	596,333 12 0	4,659 19 11
New £3 per Cents - - -	1,189,229 14 8	1,081,939 18 4	8,527 3 4
New £2½ per Cents - - -	1,000,000 0 0	765,000 0 0	12,160 6 6
Turkish Guaranteed £4 per Cent. Bonds	112,800 0 0	112,777 0 0	1,860 6 11
Advances made to the Commissioners of Church Temporalities in Ireland, per Act 32 & 33 Vict. c. 42. s. 80. -	500,000 0 0	500,000 0 0	1,188 17 0
Advances made under Pensions Commutation Act, 32 & 33 Vict. c. 32. -	191,579 9 0	191,579 9 0	1,642 18 6
Annuities for Terms of years expiring } at various periods of the year 1885 - }	(a) 974,462 8 3 } per annum }	10,913,551 0 0	572,421 0 0
Red Sea and India Telegraph Annuities, expiring 4th August 1908 - }	(b) 3,100 0 0 } per annum }	60,016 0 0	1,255 3 3
	£	14,569,397 7 6	609,248 10 1
Add Value of Securities - -			14,569,397 7 6
Cash Balance in Bank of England -			126,393 16 10
		£	15,895,089 14 5

NOTE.—The value on 31st December 1870 of the several Terminable Annuities (a and b) in Column 1. will be found by adding the sums in Columns 2 and 3 together.

National Debt Office,
14 June 1871.

A. Y. SPEARMAN,
Comptroller General.

Government Insurances and Annuities.

NATIONAL DEBT OFFICE.

An Account of all Moneys received by the Commissioners for the Reduction of the National Debt, and of the Disposal thereof, on account of Contracts for the Grant of Deferred Life Annuities, made between the 1st January and the 31st December 1870, under the Provisions of the Act 27 & 28 Vict. c. 46. s. 2.

Also, An Account showing the Amount of Receipts during the Year on Contracts; the Number and Amount of Payments made on account of Contracts during the Year; the Amount of Expenses during the Year; the Number and Amount of New Contracts entered into; the Total Number and Amount of all current Contracts at the End of the Year; the whole Amount of Capital, distinguishing the manner in which Invested, how much in Cash, how much in Securities, specifying their Nature; the Average Rate of Interest received upon each Class of Investments, and the Table of Mortality and the Rate of Interest used in calculating the Premiums.

The law of mortality which has been observed in the construction of the Deferred Annuity Tables is set forth in the Observations Nos. 13 and 20 of the Report made on the 23rd March 1829 to the Lords of the Treasury by the Actuary of the Commissioners for the Reduction of the National Debt, and printed by Order of the House of Commons on 21st March 1830, in Parliamentary Paper 122. The rate of interest fixed by law for annuities granted under the Savings Banks Acts is 3 per cent.; for other Deferred Annuities granted by the Commissioners for the Reduction of the National Debt under the Act 10 Geo. 4. c. 24, the rate depends upon the price of the public funds on the day the annuity is granted by the Commissioners.

National Debt Office, 31 December 1870.

On Account of Payments on Death.

Also, An Account showing the Amount of Receipts during the Year on Contracts; the Number and Amount of Payments on account of Contracts during the Year; the Amount of Expenses during the Year; the Number and Amount of New Contracts entered into; the Total Number and Amount of all Current Contracts at the End of the Year; the whole Amount of Capital, distinguishing the manner in which Invested, how much in Cash, how much in Securities, specifying their Nature; the Average Rate of Interest received upon each Class of Investments; and the Table of Mortality and the Rate of Interest used in calculating the Premiums.

The law of mortality which has been observed in the construction of the Tables for the insurance of lives of both sexes is that known as the "English Life Table," No. 8, "for Males," published under the authority of the Registrar General of Births, Deaths, and Marriages in England; the rate of interest being taken at 3 $\frac{1}{2}$ per cent. per annum, as fixed by the Act 27 & 28 Vict. c. 43, s. 5.

A. Y. SPEARMAN,
Comptroller General.

POST OFFICE.

(A.)

AN ACCOUNT showing the Amount received by Her Majesty's Postmaster General for the Purchase of DEFERRED ANNUITIES and MONTHLY ALLOWANCES, under Act 27 & 28 Vict. c. 43., from the 1st January to 31st December 1870, and the Disposal of the same.

Receipts.	Amount.	Payments.	Amount.
	£ s. d.		£ s. d.
Balance on 31st December 1869 brought forward - -	224 9 0	Cash paid to the Commissioners for the Reduction of the National Debt for Deferred Annuities and Monthly Allowances - -	3,424 19 10
Cash received for the purchase of Deferred Annuities and Monthly Allowances, viz. :-		Balance in the hands of Her Majesty's Postmaster General on the 31st December 1870 -	328 10 0
Money not returnable - 1,373 9 5			
Money returnable - 2,158 11 5			
	3,529 0 10		
	£3,753 9 10		£3,753 9 10

(B.)

AN ACCOUNT showing the Amount received by Her Majesty's Postmaster General on account of CONTRACTS for the Payment of SUMS at DEATH, under Act 27 & 28 Vict. c. 43., from the 1st January to the 31st December 1870, and the Disposal of the same.

Receipts.	Amount.	Payments.	Amount.
	£ s. d.		£ s. d.
Balance on 31st December 1869 brought forward - -	184 19 11	Cash paid to the Commissioners for the Reduction of the National Debt for Investment on account of Contracts for payment of Sums at Death -	5,870 19 10
Cash received on account of Contracts for payment of Sums at Death - -	5,877 2 1	Balance in the hands of Her Majesty's Postmaster General on 31st December 1870 -	191 2 2
	£6,062 2 0		£6,063 2 0

(C.)

AN ACCOUNT showing the Amount received by Her Majesty's Postmaster General for the Purchase of IMMEDIATE ANNUITIES, under Act 27 & 28 Vict. c. 43., from the 1st January to the 31st December 1870, and the Disposal of the same.

Receipts.	Amount.	Payments.	Amount.
	£ s. d.		£ s. d.
Balance on 31st December 1869 brought forward - -	3,767 12 7	Cash paid to the Commissioners for the Reduction of the National Debt for the purchase of Immediate Annuities -	68,837 12 5
Cash received for the purchase of Immediate Annuities -	67,738 19 6	Balance in the hands of Her Majesty's Postmaster General on the 31st December 1870 -	2,668 19 8
	£71,506 12 1		£71,506 12 1

General Post Office,
March 1871.

GEO. CHETWYND,
Receiver and Accountant General.

AN ACCOUNT showing the Number and Amount of Sums received and paid, and the Number and Amount of Contracts granted by Her Majesty's Postmaster General, under authority of the Act 27 & 28 Vict. c. 48, from the Commencement of Business on the 17th April 1865 to the 31st December 1870, together with the Number and Amount of Contracts in existence on the 31st December 1870, and the Amount paid for Charges of Management.

(1.) An Account showing the Number and Amount of Sums received and paid on Account of Government Annuity and Insurance Contracts from the Commencement of Business on the 17th April 1865 to the 31st December 1870.

Receipts.				Payments.									
From 17 April 1865 to 31 December 1869.		From 1 January to 31 December 1870.		Total.		From 17 April 1865 to 31 December 1869.		From 1 January to 31 December 1870.		Total.			
No.	Amount.	No.	Amount.	No.	Amount.	No.	Amount.	No.	Amount.	No.	Amount.		
To Cash received for the purchase of Annuities, viz.:- For Immediate Annuities For Deferred Annuities Monthly Allowances, Money not returnable For Deferred Annuities and Monthly Allowances, Money returnable	1,227	251,813 19 0	306	67,738 19 6	1,533	349,552 18 6	-	283,970 6 5	-	72,282 12 3	-	361,232 18 8	
To Cash received for Fees on Annuity Contracts (the Charges for Monthly Allowances being included in the Premiums)	309	5,458 10 11	144	1,373 9 5	453	6,832 0 4	4,218	46,687 19 6	2,529	26,069 4 1	6,747	71,787 3 7	
To Cash received from the Commissioners for the Reduction of the National Debt for payment of Annuities, viz.:-	1,063	5,089 18 1	370	2,155 11 5	1,433	7,845 9 6	42	855 11 2	9	346 15 11	51	1,202 7 1	
Gross	-	47,217 15 1	26,761 8 6	-	1,514 12 7	-	16,636 19 4	-	5,870 19 10	-	22,507 19 2	-	3,387 5 3
Less Income Tax	212	4 2	95 10 0	-	-	-	1,600 14 10	27	1,676 10 5	39	3,387 5 3	-	-
To Cash received on account of Contracts for the payment of Sums at Death	24,338	16,821 19 3	9,274	5,877 2	1,83,812	22,699 1 4	-	-	-	-	-	-	5,268 18 5
To Cash received from the Commissioners for the Reduction of the National Debt, for the Payment of Amounts due under Contracts for Sums payable at Death	-	1,458 8 10	-	1,462 11 8	-	2,921 0 6	-	-	-	-	-	-	405,336 12 2
	-	359,715 10 7	-	105,621 1 7	-	465,336 12 2	-	353,811 11 3	-	111,525 0 11	-	-	-

(II.) AN ACCOUNT showing the Number and Amount of CONTRACTS entered into by Her Majesty's Postmaster General from the Commencement of Business on the 17th April 1865 to the 31st December 1870, and the Number and Amount of Contracts in existence on the 31st December 1870.

	CONTRACTS GRANTED.				TOTAL.	
	From 17 April 1865 to 31 December 1869.		From 1 January to 31 December 1870.			
	No.	Amount.	No.	Amount.	No.	Amount.
		£ s. d.		£ s. d.		£ s. d.
Contracts for Annuities granted from the commencement of business on 17th April 1865 to the 31st December 1870, viz. :—						
Immediate Annuities - -	1,226	25,600 17 2	306	6,120 0 0	1,532	31,720 17 2
Deferred Annuities and Monthly Allowances, Money not returnable - -	86	1,681 18 0	20	308 17 6	106	1,990 15 6
Deferred Annuities and Monthly Allowances, Money returnable - -	157	3,074 11 0	37	887 2 0	194	3,961 13 0
Contracts for Sums payable at Death granted from the commencement of business on the 17th April 1865 to the 31st December 1870 - - - - -	2,304	174,352 3 0	385	31,254 5 9	2,689	205,606 8 9
Contracts for Annuities in existence on the 31st December 1870, viz. :—						
Immediate Annuities - -	-	- - - - -	-	- - - - -	1,476	30,632 12 2
Deferred Annuities and Monthly Allowances, Money not returnable - -	-	- - - - -	-	- - - - -	95	1,757 0 6
Deferred Annuities and Monthly Allowances, Money returnable - -	-	- - - - -	-	- - - - -	143	2,920 7 0
Contracts for Sums payable at Death, in existence on the 31st December 1870 - - - - -	-	- - - - -	-	- - - - -	2,480	190,072 6 4

(III.) AN ACCOUNT showing the Amount paid for CHARGES of MANAGEMENT from the Commencement of Business on the 17th April 1865 to the 31st December 1870.

	From 17 April 1865 to 31 December 1869.	From 1 January to 31 December 1870.	TOTAL.
	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.
Salaries and Allowances - - -	1,432 16 2	389 0 6	1,821 16 8
Stationery - - -	1,417 1 10	14 0 6	1,431 2 4
Stamps on Policies - - -	107 10 0	27 10 0	135 0 0
Fees to Medical Officers - - -	291 12 6	85 10 0	377 2 6
Incidental Disbursements, including Travelling Charges - - -	237 7 1	4 7 0	241 14 1
Works executed and Furniture supplied - - -	250 5 10	- - -	250 5 10
TOTAL AMOUNT paid for charges of management, including furniture, books, stationery, and preliminary expenses - - -	3,736 13 5	520 8 0	4,257 1 5
Fees received on the grant of certain Annuities - - -	1,467 3 7	347 9 0	1,814 12 7

General Post Office,
March 1871.

GEO. CHETWYND,
Receiver and Accountant General.

TABLE XI.

AN ESTIMATE of the NUMBER of LETTERS, BOOK PACKETS and CIRCULARS, PATTERN and SAMPLE PACKETS, NEWSPAPERS, and POST CARDS, delivered from each HEAD POST OFFICE in the UNITED KINGDOM during One Week in the Quarter ended 31st March 1871, compared, as regards Letters, with the Number delivered during One Week of the corresponding Quarter in the Year 1870.

ENGLAND AND WALES.

1870. LETTERS.	HEAD POST OFFICES.	One Week in 1871.				
		LETTERS.	Book Packets and Circulars (excluding Post Cards).	Pattern and Sample Packets.	NEWS- PAPERS.	POST CARDS.
11,040	Aberdare - -	12,074	689	37	464	505
9,773	Abergavenny - -	9,496	1,131	46	1,033	431
8,954	Aberystwith - -	9,447	817	68	1,238	779
9,783	Abingdon - -	8,850	1,279	46	990	469
11,620	Accrington - -	11,009	2,640	33	788	1,366
3,594	Acklington - -	2,068	357	20	383	150
6,380	Alford - - -	6,059	525	41	1,307	375
9,179	Alfreton - - -	8,981	853	159	901	976
15,496	Alnwick - - -	16,156	1,187	225	2,477	1,124
4,881	Alresford - -	5,004	481	31	767	279
7,159	Alton - - -	8,016	592	67	1,128	350
11,689	Altrincham - -	13,724	628	173	1,645	1,130
6,003	Amersham - -	6,239	589	50	855	256
4,123	Ampthill - -	4,135	472	67	576	306
9,660	Andover - - -	9,379	968	141	1,450	464
8,464	Arundel - - -	9,130	954	69	1,066	308
11,778	Ashbourne - -	9,136	392	315	3,226	537
8,010	Ashby-de-la-Zouch -	9,137	634	254	1,193	983
20,744	Ashford, Kent -	24,166	2,717	179	2,587	1,769
14,403	Ashton-under-Lyne -	14,159	2,934	37	1,142	1,397
9,248	Atherstone - -	9,305	825	139	2,026	591
5,226	Attleborough - -	5,764	862	83	851	241
5,008	Axminster - - -	5,856	461	44	669	275
10,605	Aylesbury - - -	10,215	1,364	177	1,113	656
4,594	Bakewell - - -	4,733	377	124	296	451
4,017	Baldock - - -	4,365	133	52	134	85
19,966	Banbury - - -	18,368	3,360	306	2,212	1,176
29,766	Bangor - - -	26,959	1,625	360	3,636	1,965
"—	Barking - - -	2,772	238	6	197	126
13,436	Barnet - - -	17,681	1,202	1,158	992	1,134
25,119	Barnsley - - -	33,754	4,858	494	4,061	5,189
15,668	Barnstaple - -	16,187	2,011	141	3,023	769
6,066	Barrow-in-Furness -	7,902	660	104	475	569

* Not a Head Post Office when the Return of 1870 was taken.

Number of Letters, &c. delivered from each Head Post Office, &c. (England and Wales)—*continued*.

1870. LETTERS.	HEAD POST OFFICES.	One Week in 1871.				
		LETTERS.	Book Packets and Circulars (excluding Post Cards).	Pattern and Sample Packets.	NEWS- PAPERS.	POST CARDS.
9,440	Basingstoke - -	10,517	797	37	1,103	285
95,066	Bath - - -	98,682	14,269	1,301	10,675	7,113
"—	Batle - - -	5,008	373	49	119	510
6,428	Bawtry - - -	6,373	601	74	1,213	426
4,482	Beccles - - -	4,468	691	16	539	299
6,858	Beckenham - -	7,582	737	13	548	291
12,470	Bedale - - -	12,906	1,641	369	3,428	961
21,410	Bedford - - -	21,134	3,238	156	1,900	1,266
2,053	Belford - - -	2,321	273	7	748	110
4,542	Belper - - -	4,268	773	65	330	392
2,992	Berkeley - - -	2,864	74	37	542	240
5,349	Berkhempstead -	5,711	657	21	409	269
11,495	Berwick - - -	10,431	1,365	437	1,548	1,196
10,037	Beverley - - -	10,049	1,440	218	1,154	438
6,643	Bewdley - - -	5,966	766	149	1,137	574
5,506	Bicester - - -	5,708	672	78	1,014	372
9,994	Bideford - - -	10,495	1,105	102	1,221	554
6,490	Biggleswade - -	7,137	1,075	65	400	247
9,553	Bilston - - -	8,553	1,520	28	330	930
53,875	Birkenhead - -	51,154	5,461	376	4,425	3,513
314,198	Birmingham - -	308,043	39,632	3,146	17,756	33,313
12,643	Bishop's Stortford -	9,801	775	138	848	1,047
28,171	Blackburn - - -	23,477	5,406	180	1,280	2,972
15,239	Blandford - - -	15,650	610	101	2,402	557
2,296	Bletchley Station -	2,202	69	24	270	98
17,603	Bodmin - - -	18,086	1,878	105	2,209	940
4,153	Bognor - - -	3,798	238	193	343	146
50,218	Bolton - - -	49,466	4,952	630	2,413	5,666
23,631	Boston - - -	23,648	3,812	219	2,408	1,936
4,369	Bourne - - -	4,512	201	28	346	73
12,182	Bournemouth - -	14,411	793	127	1,777	1,423
3,537	Brackley - - -	3,349	516	23	609	461
4,466	Bracknell - - -	4,641	320	89	231	148
4,044	Bradford-on-Avon -	4,198	206	101	538	274
98,550	Bradford, Yorks. -	117,318	12,974	1,293	4,843	16,122
8,119	Braintree - - -	8,489	1,252	39	1,038	395
12,482	Brandon - - -	10,700	1,346	86	2,405	435
6,968	Brecon - - -	7,354	1,055	74	932	271
7,459	Brentford - - -	7,456	625	37	440	636

* Not a Head Post Office when the Return of 1870 was taken.

Number of Letters, &c. delivered from each Head Post Office, &c. (England and Wales)—*continued.*

1870. LETTERS.	HEAD POST OFFICES.	One Week in 1871.				
		LETTERS.	Book Packets and Circulars (excluding Post Cards).	Pattern and Sample Packets.	NEWS- PAPERS.	POST CARDS.
13,446	Brentwood - -	13,174	1,858	75	1,904	442
9,884	Bridgend - -	10,561	833	198	1,473	648
9,529	Bridgenorth - -	9,927	676	46	1,108	655
26,351	Bridgewater - -	26,486	2,170	142	2,913	2,401
12,294	Bridport - -	12,666	1,467	118	1,401	633
6,929	Brierley Hill - -	7,009	367	61	428	663
7,486	Brigg - -	8,517	1,546	40	1,301	882
6,436	Brighouse - -	5,883	535	50	224	776
101,900	Brighton - -	106,685	8,230	377	7,743	6,667
206,231	Bristol - -	217,757	18,663	4,965	16,063	20,569
3,063	Broadway, Worcester	3,066	144	64	487	193
2,415	B Briton Ferry - -	2,207	180	5	156	104
10,463	Bromley - -	11,040	578	541	651	569
7,086	Bromsgrove - -	6,562	652	66	619	566
5,429	Brough - -	5,576	641	262	1,131	364
6,450	Buckingham - -	6,296	653	36	839	276
5,295	Bungay - -	5,137	477	67	705	275
3,606	Buntingford - -	4,216	603	69	410	231
18,437	Burnley - -	17,432	3,102	139	967	1,810
29,006	Burton-on-Trent - -	29,420	2,806	369	3,181	2,070
4,580	Burton, Westmorland.	5,121	634	30	1,107	287
19,227	Bury, Lancashire - -	21,431	4,106	206	1,577	2,851
22,622	Bury St. Edmund's - -	23,777	1,905	121	2,968	1,617
4,796	Buxton - -	4,756	434	9	556	354
2,518	Caistor - -	2,442	197	161	460	314
5,196	Calne - -	4,931	363	62	525	236
40,313	Cambridge - -	41,410	7,759	211	4,529	2,614
3,294	Camelford - -	2,000	245	11	262	126
27,460	Canterbury - -	28,068	3,134	204	2,903	1,725
49,373	Cardiff - -	49,551	2,850	518	3,344	4,721
4,453	Cardigan - -	3,890	555	19	576	647
54,728	Carlisle - -	54,213	2,021	749	9,709	5,798
16,533	Carmarthen - -	18,512	1,991	208	3,897	1,747
24,364	Carnarvon - -	25,405	1,539	284	3,065	3,308
14,239	Carnforth - -	16,522	1,187	423	3,546	1,021
1,649	Catterick - -	1,444	196	5	349	72
5,167	Chard - -	6,506	619	123	1,163	351
24,931	Chatham - -	27,245	1,646	59	1,596	1,404
1,953	Chatham - -	1,791	132	18	663	188

Number of Letters, &c. delivered from each Head Post Office, &c. (England and Wales)—*continued.*

1870.	HEAD POST OFFICES:	One Week in 1871.				
		LETTERS.	Book Packets and Circulars (excluding Post Cards).	Pattern and Sample Packets.	NEWS- PAPERS.	POST CARDS.
29,093	Chelmsford - -	27,829	3,212	356	3,855	1,090
60,964	Cheltenham - -	62,244	4,569	584	7,389	3,247
6,744	Chepstow - -	6,104	492	58	844	153
7,007	Chertsey - -	3,294	277	24	516	215
57,808	Chester - -	65,321	5,520	1,396	5,296	3,797
27,281	Chesterfield - -	28,629	5,049	759	4,567	1,950
15,007	Chichester - -	18,413	2,217	88	1,885	698
1,822	Chigwell - -	1,909	214	18	169	89
17,579	Chippenham - -	18,797	1,871	201	2,420	1,113
6,626	Chipping Norton -	6,899	650	68	1,186	219
3,636	Chipping Sodbury -	4,111	513	92	725	336
7,906	Chislehurst - -	8,149	660	50	736	300
8,649	Chorley - -	7,357	1,618	31	694	748
4,017	Christchurch - -	4,008	346	20	598	220
10,865	Cirencester - -	10,812	1,113	38	1,548	567
6,968	Clevedon - -	7,524	425	180	616	445
5,227	Clitheroe - -	4,470	1,074	58	624	409
3,798	Cobham - -	3,940	261	106	1,664	396
6,327	Cockermouth - -	6,182	769	54	1,130	441
39,593	Colchester - -	46,776	10,805	1,019	7,998	6,002
3,917	Coleford - -	3,724	418	9	625	144
4,905	Colne - -	5,616	723	49	163	636
7,594	Congleton - -	8,444	1,311	21	925	395
18,630	Conway - -	18,738	792	145	2,317	981
5,691	Corwen - -	7,580	143	118	1,058	637
27,041	Coventry - -	25,589	3,851	194	2,410	1,089
3,751	Cowbridge - -	4,183	384	34	1,044	306
8,754	Cowes, Isle of Wight	8,644	706	115	889	489
6,648	Crawley - -	6,889	408	26	1,220	566
8,025	Crews - -	8,424	649	42	759	525
4,851	Crewkerne - -	4,900	544	30	448	266
2,615	Crickhowell - -	2,369	122	57	1,032	127
2,315	Cricklade - -	2,371	287	23	403	92
38,142	Croydon - -	39,261	5,055	90	2,861	1,915
6,342	Cullompton - -	5,961	744	76	998	351
68,728	Darlington - -	61,538	3,803	1,211	7,203	7,791
12,903	Dartford - -	11,489	853	79	1,081	684
4,696	Dartmouth - -	4,820	424	27	622	287
6,046	Darwen - -	5,271	783	43	264	625

Number of Letters, &c. delivered from each Head Post Office, &c. (England and Wales)—*continued.*

1870. LETTERS.	HEAD POST OFFICES.	One Week in 1871.				
		LETTERS.	Book Packets and Circulars (<i>excluding</i> Post Cards).	Pattern and Sample Packets.	NEWS- PAPERS.	POST CARDS.
5,465	Daventry - -	6,377	714	97	996	640
4,327	Dawlish - -	4,947	421	90	629	233
8,219	Deal - - -	8,224	765	28	1,145	471
73,255	Derby - - -	88,183	10,903	860	7,743	5,648
6,170	Dereham - -	6,468	729	83	696	362
11,025	Devizes - -	11,903	778	65	1,669	696
24,593	Devonport -	28,273	1,686	93	2,970	1,192
19,301	Dewsbury - -	19,829	1,988	477	1,045	2,508
4,151	Diss - - -	4,283	443	—	483	224
24,287	Doncaster -	27,201	3,006	179	2,547	1,700
17,656	Dorchester -	20,063	2,200	240	4,210	711
11,723	Dorking - -	11,497	1,465	84	1,034	469
27,513	Dover - - -	30,381	1,589	1,223	2,240	1,157
4,711	Downham - -	7,651	182	137	1,079	371
5,889	Driffield - -	5,425	1,044	22	1,116	328
9,272	Droitwich - -	8,463	1,620	38	1,159	425
25,983	Dudley - - -	22,325	1,453	102	1,043	2,111
5,691	Dunstable - -	5,677	925	28	624	347
26,290	Durham - - -	24,699	1,526	114	2,734	1,203
3,872	Dursley - - -	4,284	334	78	339	253
3,174	Easingwold -	2,760	327	70	578	161
9,761	Eastbourne -	9,394	1,341	32	1,181	398
5,936	East Grinstead	5,762	974	32	1,000	234
2,203	Eccleshall - -	2,304	316	6	386	191
5,067	Edenbridge -	5,417	638	21	809	272
1,155	Edgware - - -	1,161	157	—	87	58
9,400	Ely - - - -	9,044	736	453	1,527	1,328
3,637	Emsworth - -	3,607	341	19	459	207
4,115	Enfield - - -	4,195	513	15	214	215
2,983	Enstone - - -	2,903	506	25	546	127
2,582	Epping - - -	3,216	284	15	211	179
8,943	Epsom - - -	9,598	1,071	57	924	239
3,751	Esher - - - -	3,691	504	11	334	178
7,504	Evesham - - -	6,657	1,063	27	890	395
101,438	Exeter - - -	112,008	7,281	1,362	9,046	8,700
2,885	Eye - - - -	2,765	136	48	305	111
7,188	Fakenham - -	5,787	519	170	584	327
14,920	Falmouth - -	14,095	1,833	341	1,401	782
9,341	Fareham - - -	7,946	1,132	37	928	409

Number of Letters, &c. delivered from each Head Post Office, &c. (England and Wales)—*continued.*

1870. LETTERS.	HEAD POST OFFICES.	One Week in 1871.				
		LETTERS.	Book Packets and Circulars (excluding Post Cards).	Pattern and Sample Packets.	NEWS- PAPERS.	POST CARDS.
26,546	Farnboro' Station -	27,057	2,297	93	2,447	955
9,914	Farnham - -	11,253	932	97	1,327	932
9,701	Faringdon - -	9,693	1,145	33	1,889	529
14,121	Fence Houses -	16,755	1,239	87	1,230	1,256
10,399	Ferry Hill - -	10,415	585	235	1,539	831
7,560	Feverham - -	7,806	1,122	203	932	676
19,386	Flint - - -	18,735	1,124	326	2,236	783
18,900	Folkestone - -	20,811	2,062	97	2,114	1,169
3,152	Folkingham - -	3,587	137	83	655	158
13,094	Frome - - -	13,466	1,326	136	1,256	1,425
9,090	Gainsborough -	7,693	1,539	42	845	532
23,436	Gateshead - -	23,317	2,301	157	1,862	1,652
38,769	Gloucester - -	37,710	4,081	461	4,611	2,542
9,325	Godalming - -	9,512	1,457	184	1,853	447
12,332	Gosport - - -	12,136	1,083	27	1,062	518
18,868	Grantham - - -	19,109	2,047	130	3,344	685
19,949	Gravesend - -	19,175	3,325	213	1,996	1,393
17,629	Grimsby - - -	18,917	1,444	55	1,915	1,301
11,131	Guernsey - - -	11,278	688	86	3,079	372
17,742	Guildford - -	18,963	1,570	81	1,203	1,855
3,546	Halesworth - -	3,368	702	35	649	172
43,607	Halifax - - -	43,121	5,647	462	2,514	4,044
6,624	Halstead - - -	7,134	894	75	1,093	393
4,109	Harleston - -	3,644	766	34	772	214
3,406	Harlow - - -	3,071	564	15	452	130
8,863	Harrogate - -	8,592	574	38	853	441
7,303	Harrow - - -	7,567	741	27	820	397
10,815	Hartlepool - -	10,700	281	224	159	252
5,362	Harwich - - -	4,951	584	118	596	334
42,244	Hastings - - -	45,318	5,016	307	5,478	3,055
3,283	Hatfield - - -	3,368	172	64	201	94
3,554	Havant - - -	3,604	363	13	388	185
13,383	Haverfordwest -	13,475	1,131	336	2,405	1,012
25,022	Hawkhurst - -	24,931	4,029	303	5,656	1,270
5,576	Hayle - - -	5,657	485	59	636	276
*—	Hayward's Heath -	5,731	640	94	841	233
5,946	Hemel Hempstead -	5,827	1,173	38	658	276
8,151	Henley-on-Thames -	7,523	468	101	475	162

* Not a Head Post Office when the Return of 1870 was taken.

Number of Letters, &c. delivered from each Head Post Office, &c. (England and Wales)—*continued.*

1870.	HEAD POST OFFICES.	One Week in 1871.				
		LETTERS.	Book. Packets and Circulars (excluding Post Cards).	Pattern and Sample Packets.	NEWS- PAPERS.	POST CARDS.
33,068	Hereford	41,199	7,466	114	5,136	2,215
10,181	Hertford	10,102	1,507	40	1,094	446
8,335	Hexham	8,065	1,945	96	1,281	580
2,706	Higham Ferrars	2,537	342	24	366	249
7,683	High Wycombe	7,423	336	106	1,010	482
6,867	Hinckley	6,755	313	200	1,030	584
6,893	Hitchin	6,290	1,509	47	503	507
3,280	Hoddesdon	2,938	591	11	268	118
2,790	Holbeach	2,939	418	23	400	168
5,348	Holyhead	5,632	423	19	637	221
5,718	Honiton	5,876	898	65	1,022	316
7,293	Horncastle	7,250	1,223	211	1,292	493
7,270	Holywell	7,384	1,187	142	754	247
2,241	Horndean	2,165	82	27	533	117
9,142	Horsham	9,144	897	79	1,203	716
10,504	Hownslow	13,452	1,321	86	1,206	583
61,920	Huddersfield	69,304	5,922	814	3,825	5,550
117,863	Hull	183,840	10,699	3,000	10,319	22,987
8,247	Hungerford	7,633	680	94	1,459	307
10,304	Huntingdon	9,573	1,229	64	1,290	461
10,505	Hurstpierpoint	10,681	1,195	247	1,545	525
4,709	Hythe	4,003	676	35	607	246
—	Ilford	2,732	211	16	361	146
4,015	Ilfracombe	4,029	614	13	783	228
8,423	Ilminster	8,733	333	73	1,514	573
1,837	Ingatestone	1,765	95	77	88	101
43,427	Ipswich	42,333	8,227	202	5,871	3,127
21,360	Isle of Man	20,570	1,774	209	4,982	1,583
5,149	Isleworth	4,872	561	14	395	250
4,377	Ivybridge	4,854	887	10	896	327
17,047	Jersey	20,820	1,492	254	4,490	666
9,339	Keighley	9,263	900	60	693	1,461
4,066	Kelvedon	4,407	694	28	786	281
18,912	Kendal	19,545	2,982	200	2,575	2,284
3,130	Kenilworth	3,030	310	58	279	195
4,068	Keswick	3,899	495	98	902	354
7,121	Kettering	7,396	1,271	46	663	563
13,463	Kidderminster	13,407	2,283	177	1,241	909

* Not a Head Post Office when the Return of 1870 was taken.

Number of Letters, &c. delivered from each Head Post Office, &c. (England and Wales)—*continued*.

1870. LETTERS.	HEAD POST OFFICES.	One Week in 1871.				
		LETTERS.	Book Packets and Circulars (excluding Post Cards).	Pattern and Sample Packets.	NEWS- PAPERS.	POST CARDS.
1,782	Kidwelly - -	1,515	148	58	234	68
5,313	Kingsbridge - -	5,046	606	37	1,163	419
32,928	Kingston-on-Thames	31,956	4,079	175	2,622	2,565
3,549	Kington - -	3,610	763	35	645	109
4,990	Knareborough - -	4,528	797	141	622	470
5,112	Knutsford - -	5,302	748	13	696	236
29,996	Lancaster - -	29,337	3,584	155	2,627	1,497
6,273	Launceston - -	6,906	758	56	782	308
6,884	Leamington - -	35,316	5,575	130	5,972	2,052
3,049	Leatherhead - -	3,167	619	9	360	163
5,710	Ledbury - -	5,550	1,397	25	1,079	324
199,595	Leeds - -	192,323	23,742	1,488	12,709	17,705
73,747	Leicester - -	80,700	7,719	834	6,595	7,262
7,526	Leighton Buzzard -	7,213	747	190	700	504
11,905	Leominster - -	12,484	2,269	121	1,600	582
16,140	Lewes - -	15,883	2,544	263	1,850	798
10,242	Lichfield - -	10,143	1,374	106	1,146	599
27,016	Lincoln - -	26,361	4,530	216	2,272	1,448
2,742	Liphook - -	3,112	343	8	512	160
7,908	Liskeard - -	7,811	818	37	1,000	373
452,991	Liverpool - -	446,484	46,487	4,470	35,662	42,659
4,677	Llandyssil - -	3,864	478	103	1,087	238
11,546	Llanelly - -	15,925	1,069	131	1,153	1,569
3,187	Llangollen - -	3,279	369	46	443	684
2,003	Long Stratton - -	2,385	240	21	454	253
2,657	Lostwithiel - -	2,776	203	110	426	72
13,809	Loughborough - -	13,624	2,052	195	1,863	1,302
12,578	Louth - -	11,019	1,352	264	2,084	844
10,008	Lowestoft - -	10,830	1,484	78	946	496
7,616	Ludlow - -	7,922	1,427	57	1,072	851
10,727	Luton - -	11,341	1,678	56	690	690
5854	Lutterworth - -	6,068	901	61	965	690
3,600	Lydney - -	3,651	381	231	377	340
2,299	Lyme - -	2,294	274	18	333	119
9,043	Lymington - -	8,702	1,156	33	1,567	547
22,002	Lynn - -	22,190	1,891	143	3,408	1,309
17,013	Macclesfield - -	15,780	1,658	140	1,436	1,080
17,662	Maidenhead - -	15,344	1,954	155	1,551	500
32,254	Maidstone - -	30,546	5,694	240	4,596	2,224

Number of Letters, &c. delivered from each Head Post Office, &c. (England and Wales)—*continued*.

1870.	HEAD POST OFFICES.	One Week in 1871.				
		LETTERS.	Book Packets and Circulars (excluding Post Cards).	Pattern and Sample Packets.	NEWS- PAPERS.	POST CARDS.
8,876	Maldon - -	9,809	1,176	97	2,054	739
3,684	Malmesbury - -	3,188	716	71	887	253
7,844	Malton - -	7,525	1,013	80	952	549
17,915	Malvern - -	20,114	1,753	533	2,492	1,084
556,667	Manchester - -	560,179	52,017	6,707	42,819	47,337
3,793	Manningtree - -	4,211	512	13	799	262
13,365	Mansfield - -	13,811	825	466	2,381	665
5,357	March - -	5,246	869	50	435	245
13,491	Margate - -	12,449	1,676	107	1,388	466
3,115	Market Deeping - -	2,810	340	68	533	335
6,745	Market Drayton - -	6,481	891	70	1,073	921
6,584	Market Harboro' - -	6,026	895	108	723	549
4,176	Market Rasen - -	4,050	372	19	989	391
11,047	Marlborough - -	11,586	1,172	67	2,226	827
3,873	Marlow - -	3,807	778	97	446	334
5,737	Maryport - -	5,640	426	104	623	364
9,624	Matlock Bath - -	10,499	996	223	1,219	608
3,963	Melksham - -	4,069	453	69	463	401
7,330	Melton Mowbray - -	7,985	920	77	1,438	604
12,706	Merthyr Tydvil - -	11,244	2,079	158	1,107	849
5,226	Micheldever Station - -	5,379	1,104	192	676	278
20,068	Middlesborough - -	22,605	2,195	306	1,787	1,999
5,858	Middlewich - -	5,181	430	34	614	441
2,769	Midhurst - -	2,922	445	79	320	150
3,324	Millford Haven - -	3,505	89	13	838	223
3,597	Milnthorpe - -	3,437	324	40	700	175
4,045	Mitcham - -	4,522	372	61	149	260
6,703	Monmouth - -	6,520	931	93	895	413
6,349	Moreton-in-Marsh - -	6,598	821	67	1,215	374
9,356	Morpeth - -	8,626	1,533	227	2,794	753
10,126	Nantwich - -	10,199	1,622	98	1,029	594
3,053	Narberth - -	3,227	221	72	606	178
12,807	Neath - -	14,305	1,503	190	1,456	1,063
2,094	Needham Market - -	1,934	302	8	436	114
22,499	Newark - -	21,117	4,238	192	3,165	1,450
16,800	Newbury - -	16,803	2,545	101	2,608	842
127,772	Newcastle-on-Tyne - -	136,851	8,954	1,949	9,941	16,460
11,910	Newcastle-under-Lyne - -	12,324	1,092	88	1,168	1,313
9,667	Newmarket - -	9,837	1,006	75	2,226	389

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Number of Letters, &c. delivered from each Head Post Office, &c. (England and Wales)—*continued*.

1870. LETTERS.	HEAD POST OFFICES.	One Week in 1871.				
		LETTERS.	Book Packets and Circulars (excluding Post Cards).	Pattern and Sample Packets.	NEWS- PAPERS.	POST CARDS.
5,543	Newnham - -	5,292	1,003	58	765	373
48,963	Newport, Monmouth	50,450	3,216	267	2,845	3,993
15,109	Newport, Isle of Wight	14,616	1,360	83	2,960	743
6,824	Newport, Shropshire	6,995	647	128	898	321
7,443	Newport Pagnel -	6,715	1,041	63	1,008	494
15,730	Newton Abbot -	14,221	2,175	124	2,167	646
5,911	Newton-le-Willows -	6,710	221	135	546	369
5,607	Newtown, Montgomery	5,187	778	115	729	358
29,352	Normanton - -	33,550	2,284	396	1,999	3,991
13,511	Northallerton -	12,098	1,615	123	1,688	684
51,016	Northampton -	61,770	8,885	843	7,709	8,259
14,903	North Shields -	13,242	1,907	41	1,177	923
11,347	Northwich - -	11,921	1,169	168	1,216	813
106,817	Norwich - -	117,865	25,834	1,954	21,718	7,732
93,054	Nottingham - -	101,418	8,614	1,900	7,376	10,919
5,619	Nuneaton - -	4,780	659	37	559	358
6,196	Oakham - -	6,033	667	39	1,107	269
23,325	Oldham - -	29,965	8,111	435	2,658	3,697
11,078	Ormskirk - -	9,274	1,534	39	847	1,306
13,430	Oswestry - -	15,134	396	999	2,367	1,473
5,114	Otley - -	4,693	969	16	494	410
5,690	Oundle - -	5,633	383	86	549	335
69,638	Oxford - -	62,456	8,673	503	6,953	8,429
5,440	Pembroke - -	3,827	599	136	733	676
7,175	Pembroke Dock -	5,484	454	18	655	312
20,194	Penrith - -	20,479	4,176	214	3,911	1,306
2,856	Penryn - -	2,682	403	25	318	140
16,066	Pensance - -	13,520	2,045	125	2,906	733
4,932	Pewsham - -	4,610	778	36	740	350
24,235	Peterborough -	27,370	2,425	373	2,096	1,381
6,296	Petersfield - -	6,350	736	87	1,091	280
5,890	Petworth - -	6,602	797	51	1,209	267
67,341	Plymouth - -	68,710	7,077	1,108	5,638	4,892
2,635	Plympton - -	2,901	304	27	534	215
9,768	Pontefract - -	9,599	1,003	181	1,446	921
8,024	Pontypool - -	10,718	929	31	554	306
11,661	Pontypridd - -	10,535	1,244	58	963	430
7,426	Poole - -	7,427	1,163	43	894	484
66,946	Portsmouth - -	66,814	4,628	310	4,922	3,602

Number of Letters, &c. delivered from each Head Post Office, &c. (England and Wales)—*continued*.

1870.	HEAD POST OFFICES.	One Week in 1871.				
		LETTERS.	Book Packets and Circulars (excluding Post Cards).	Pattern and Sample Packets.	NEWS- PAPERS.	POST CARDS.
6,090	Prescot - -	7,139	414	72	828	414
65,284	Preston - -	64,183	7,949	662	5,434	5,921
6,012	Pwllheli - -	8,030	434	104	674	757
17,524	Ramsgate - -	17,202	3,989	114	1,789	842
51,985	Reading - -	47,475	24,382	382	4,535	8,304
5,622	Redcar - -	4,577	604	26	670	266
16,536	Redditch - -	13,934	1,273	454	1,042	753
11,463	Red Hill - -	13,350	1,371	171	1,421	791
10,105	Bedruth - -	7,742	791	105	572	457
10,624	Reigate - -	11,118	1,282	109	984	597
9,197	Retford - -	7,722	868	3	719	566
1,965	Rhayader - -	2,515	171	125	1,248	135
13,901	Rhyl - - -	13,764	1,855	175	2,223	1,194
15,855	Richmond, Surrey -	16,704	1,700	77	1,499	1,148
7,746	Richmond, Yorkshire	7,164	854	77	1,497	540
4,666	Ringwood - -	5,814	397	36	879	273
10,537	Ripon - - -	9,941	1,561	28	1,277	631
44,035	Rochdale - -	42,828	7,752	1,214	2,548	8,941
15,335	Rochester - -	15,317	1,161	205	1,734	1,480
17,638	Romford - -	17,534	1,442	105	2,243	877
6,166	Romsey - - -	5,563	961	28	1,095	369
14,573	Ross, Herefordshire	14,261	3,618	173	2,490	715
32,517	Rotherham - -	33,865	3,869	149	2,463	2,487
8,412	Royston - - -	8,024	1,196	121	1,512	560
7,559	Ruabon - - -	8,213	939	93	1,236	530
26,200	Rugby - - -	28,911	3,098	683	4,457	2,835
5,636	Rugeley - - -	5,658	657	48	874	368
"—	Runcorn - - -	9,732	563	70	637	738
19,126	Ryde, Isle of Wight	23,750	2,536	463	2,923	1,297
5,491	Saffron Walden - -	6,023	698	42	622	279
11,783	St. Alban's - - -	10,173	1,500	70	906	508
14,896	St. Austell - - -	13,777	1,993	161	1,776	811
2,450	St. Clears - - -	2,478	263	19	699	182
14,098	St. Helen's - - -	12,259	2,184	113	1,066	1,276
13,150	St. Ives, Hunts. - -	13,709	891	266	902	853
11,440	St. Neots - - -	11,393	1,628	214	1,475	611
36,847	Salisbury - - -	35,114	5,340	290	5,883	2,415
3,855	Sandbach - - -	3,178	530	24	322	308

* Not a Head Post Office when the Return of 1870 was taken.

Number of Letters, &c. delivered from each Head Post Office, &c. (England and Wales)—*continued.*

1870. LETTERS.	HEAD POST OFFICES.	One Week in 1871.				
		LETTERS.	Book Packets and Circulars (excluding Post Cards).	Pattern and Sample Packets.	NEWS- PAPERS.	POST CARDS.
8,058	Sandwich - -	7,484	1,610	40	1,235	358
1,243	Sawbridgeworth -	1,245	193	8	106	66
9,837	Saxmundham -	9,514	543	201	2,459	787
18,418	Scarborough - -	15,989	3,061	150	2,424	1,822
3,565	Scole - - -	3,278	571	31	940	118
10,339	Selby - - -	11,356	1,116	109	1,481	839
2,921	Settle - - -	3,162	620	41	509	244
11,620	Sevenoaks - -	12,051	1,972	89	1,472	565
13,682	Sheerness - -	17,976	1,419	324	1,783	836
122,038	Sheffield - -	128,688	28,940	2,120	7,824	17,873
5,231	Shepton Mallet -	4,780	906	42	595	311
12,029	Sherborne - -	11,308	1,360	164	1,392	508
5,011	Shiffhall - -	5,106	506	21	821	168
2,940	Shipston-on-Stour -	3,240	585	35	980	167
5,077	Shoreham - -	5,304	805	29	480	416
94,666	Shrewsbury - -	90,444	12,385	3,276	18,277	5,853
4,774	Sidmouth - -	4,651	431	10	675	157
10,948	Sittingbourne -	11,375	1,717	94	1,299	572
8,791	Skipton - - -	8,265	2,118	37	1,186	547
7,653	Sleaford - - -	9,063	936	111	1,299	448
12,839	Slough - - -	11,618	1,071	64	1,463	649
5,144	Soham - - -	4,632	710	73	1,069	305
1,929	Southall - - -	2,127	151	16	178	94
72,960	Southampton -	85,468	8,023	4,527	7,454	7,014
5,766	Southend - - -	6,525	666	12	643	228
22,001	Southport - -	21,871	1,187	34	2,464	1,301
15,418	South Shields -	14,795	1,196	185	855	942
4,086	Southwell - -	5,376	537	123	788	252
10,603	Spalding - - -	10,998	1,338	81	1,465	564
5,009	Spilsby - - -	5,336	438	27	836	424
25,203	Stafford - - -	26,935	3,622	296	3,140	1,799
11,689	Staines - - -	11,716	1,196	24	1,164	509
6,427	Stalybridge - -	5,622	1,585	71	420	553
19,208	Stamford - - -	18,207	1,960	86	1,697	955
1,579	Stanmore - - -	1,880	215	20	229	58
11,395	Staplehurst - -	10,469	2,140	143	1,873	436
2,488	Stevenage - - -	2,572	257	46	243	184
33,082	Stockport - -	31,676	3,094	280	1,899	2,531
19,461	Stockton-on-Tees -	18,606	4,396	253	125	1,338

Number of Letters, &c. delivered from each Head Post Office, &c. (England and Wales)—*continued.*

1870. LETTERS.	HEAD POST OFFICES.	One Week in 1871.				
		LETTERS.	Book Packets and Circulars (excluding Post Cards).	Pattern and Sample Packets.	NEWS- PAPERS.	POST CARDS.
66,376	Stoke-upon-Trent -	70,609	10,285	353	4,234	6,740
5,066	Stone - - -	5,132	609	72	741	274
2,624	Stonham - - -	2,672	68	8	1,197	125
5,118	Stonehouse - -	4,657	890	82	694	683
7,175	Stoney Stratford -	6,746	585	63	872	310
17,120	Stourbridge - -	18,200	1,655	75	2,312	1,278
8,739	Stourport - - -	3,594	334	177	491	309
5,321	Stowmarket - -	4,823	632	37	541	333
8,283	Stratford-on-Avon -	7,413	1,860	66	1,064	463
18,975	Stroud - - -	21,469	2,940	116	2,631	1,215
11,482	Sudbury - - -	10,685	1,370	112	1,808	707
43,710	Sunderland - - -	44,134	8,769	396	3,202	3,137
11,205	Sutton Surrey -	10,792	1,375	240	890	461
5,239	Swaffham - - -	5,890	662	454	861	271
37,075	Swansea - - -	40,841	3,433	331	3,071	2,163
21,755	Swindon - - -	22,021	1,530	448	2,327	773
11,754	Tadcaster - - -	10,796	568	189	1,557	392
3,902	Taibach - - -	3,006	391	33	349	171
8,873	Tamworth - - -	8,532	1,001	98	1,019	564
3,239	Tarporley - - -	2,983	409	18	524	163
38,103	Taunton - - -	39,914	5,735	300	6,384	3,097
7,754	Tavistock - - -	7,235	1,070	83	853	413
8,119	Teignmouth - -	8,062	1,057	46	1,006	479
4,463	Tenbury - - -	4,707	820	66	891	180
6,783	Tenby - - -	7,252	528	283	1,261	576
2,759	Tetbury - - -	2,732	341	17	569	97
4,309	Tetsworth - - -	4,005	461	193	1,061	186
8,631	Tewkesbury - -	8,418	1,282	76	1,336	450
4,031	Thame - - -	3,962	483	38	627	193
23,775	Thetford - - -	23,432	3,007	860	4,269	796
6,320	Thirsk - - -	6,521	767	74	1,233	448
4,551	Thrapstone - -	4,309	740	27	842	297
9,392	Tipton - - -	9,411	1,222	89	470	664
10,498	Tiverton - - -	10,856	1,826	157	1,913	644
6,370	Todmorden - - -	5,584	1,593	66	316	336
36,398	Torquay - - -	37,032	4,692	132	5,321	2,078
7,900	Totnes - - -	8,087	461	181	1,183	610
4,057	Towcester - - -	4,501	694	87	1,060	283
12,216	Tredegar - - -	11,301	442	190	319	346

Number of Letters, &c. delivered from each Head Post Office, &c. (England and Wales)—*continued.*

1870. LETTERS.	HEAD POST OFFICES.	One Week in 1871.				
		LETTERS.	Book Packets and Circulars (excluding Post Cards).	Pattern and Sample Packets.	NEWS- PAPERS.	POST CARDS.
6,073	Tring - - -	6,026	904	40	1,022	324
9,336	Trowbridge - -	9,235	920	194	990	999
28,429	Truro - - -	28,626	3,468	782	3,217	1,987
14,958	Tunbridge - -	15,191	2,394	487	2,613	2,060
26,709	Tunbridge Wells -	30,409	2,799	526	3,190	1,375
15,596	Twickenham - -	17,297	1,240	232	1,705	1,023
4,848	Uckfield - - -	3,852	827	51	784	204
3,865	Ulceby - - -	3,614	468	20	731	233
10,998	Ulverstone - -	8,912	1,292	170	1,607	854
5,167	Uppingham - -	4,875	737	55	918	221
14,246	Uxbridge - - -	13,250	1,369	143	1,169	523
7,408	Ventnor - - -	10,913	956	95	1,788	427
32,306	Wakefield - - -	37,878	4,606	444	3,051	3,794
7,000	Wallingford - -	6,895	1,031	97	964	334
22,454	Walsall - - -	21,457	2,119	199	1,819	3,267
10,792	Waltham Cross -	11,315	2,124	105	1,071	663
3,774	Wangford - - -	4,092	737	28	1,996	106
2,399	Wansford - - -	2,500	144	21	663	100
5,509	Wantage - - -	4,743	864	64	619	331
8,144	Ware - - -	8,120	928	119	969	278
5,758	Wareham - - -	5,514	910	41	1,080	294
7,766	Warminster - -	7,737	795	277	1,232	558
30,608	Warrington - -	39,075	4,691	828	3,441	3,501
13,234	Warwick - - -	12,506	2,651	68	2,095	736
17,884	Watford - - -	19,279	2,540	81	1,940	896
11,298	Wednesbury - -	10,420	2,108	105	543	1,341
2,920	Weedon - - -	2,885	315	8	459	156
6,869	Welchpool - - -	7,191	676	85	1,005	303
7,538	Wellingborough -	7,871	1,231	89	623	627
20,847	Wellington, Shropshire	19,858	3,288	239	4,101	1,503
9,026	Wellington, Somerset	10,263	1,131	138	1,899	822
2,464	Wells, Norfolk -	2,290	252	20	132	83
6,416	Wells, Somerset -	6,194	1,010	56	686	386
2,985	Welwyn - - -	3,010	751	33	275	150
13,323	West Bromwich -	11,982	2,000	94	933	1,496
3,104	Westbury - - -	2,919	289	63	447	225
17,087	West Hartlepool -	17,454	2,112	423	1,144	1,083
18,751	Weston-super-Mare -	19,445	1,996	126	2,533	1,015
8,648	Weybridge Station -	7,556	806	36	968	277

Number of Letters, &c. delivered from each Head Post Office, &c. (England and Wales)—*continued.*

1870. LETTERS.	HEAD POST OFFICES.	One Week in 1871.				
		LETTERS.	Book Packets and Circulars (excluding Post Cards).	Pattern and Sample Packets.	NEWS- PAPERS.	POST CARDS.
19,818	Weymouth - -	25,940	3,479	246	2,678	1,031
11,166	Whitby - -	9,748	2,064	213	889	521
8,128	Whitchurch, Shrop- shire.	7,445	1,197	103	1,487	883
13,256	Whitehaven - -	12,265	1,974	125	1,105	828
7,482	Wickham Market -	6,558	985	47	2,124	309
21,765	Wigan - -	21,669	4,692	164	1,636	2,657
4,998	Wigton - -	4,053	784	126	771	330
6,753	Wimborne - -	6,957	342	176	1,287	582
22,513	Winchester - -	22,189	2,713	236	2,369	820
9,539	Winchfield - -	9,964	1,384	256	1,527	381
8,017	Windermere - -	7,638	888	76	1,234	718
28,765	Windsor - -	28,218	2,440	48	2,408	1,245
3,216	Winslow - -	2,834	438	42	481	235
2,683	Wirksworth - -	2,570	341	31	468	203
14,463	Wisbeach - -	14,336	2,375	144	1,831	737
3,897	Witham - -	3,844	694	18	478	212
6,013	Witney - -	5,880	507	227	951	487
3,841	Woburn - -	3,537	290	33	771	202
7,647	Wokingham - -	7,867	1,082	454	1,925	396
5,188	Woking Station -	5,440	494	33	724	284
82,011	Wolverhampton -	73,482	6,694	1,241	6,286	13,617
8,047	Woodbridge - -	7,185	1,239	178	1,958	451
7,478	Woodford Green -	8,748	788	320	534	207
3,907	Woodstock - -	3,665	313	50	723	306
44,469	Worcester - -	46,186	5,767	263	5,510	4,012
4,872	Workington - -	4,573	671	53	508	367
9,575	Worthing - -	9,774	1,048	73	873	488
7,945	Worksop - -	7,076	670	55	888	439
3,762	Wotton-under-Edge	3,932	480	47	554	200
2,522	Wragby - -	1,769	245	10	625	117
17,092	Wrexham - -	17,232	1,981	106	2,241	1,041
8,582	Wymondham - -	4,754	504	31	592	156
3,099	Yarm - -	2,860	423	48	483	198
22,100	Yarmouth - -	22,750	3,524	174	1,966	1,190
11,866	Yeovil - -	10,666	2,096	296	1,022	1,496
77,296	York - -	81,503	14,929	1,069	11,091	6,998

Number of Letters, &c. delivered from each Head Post Office, &c.—*continued.*

LONDON DISTRICT POST OFFICES.

1870.	HEAD POST OFFICES.	One Week in 1871.				
LETTERS.		LETTERS.	Book Packets and Circulars (excluding Post Cards).	Pattern and Sample Packets.	NEWS- PAPERS.	POST CARDS.
340,343	E. - - -	327,297	27,525	5,173	24,485	44,014
1,212,474	E.C. - - -	1,138,915	164,250	4,113	93,963	104,176
253,080	N. - - -	251,654	34,876	2,611	17,414	32,320
238,466	N.W. - - -	237,071	30,026	2,271	9,590	27,450
471,900	S.E. - - -	462,167	53,972	7,205	36,875	51,253
510,903	S.W. - - -	555,088	55,311	*—	40,084	39,578
695,449	W. - - -	737,876	60,461	6,118	37,318	69,156
349,685	W.C. - - -	321,661	25,541	4,582	23,910	41,145

SCOTLAND.

1870.	HEAD POST OFFICES.	One Week in 1871.				
LETTERS.		LETTERS.	Book Packets and Circulars (excluding Post Cards).	Pattern and Sample Packets.	NEWS- PAPERS.	POST CARDS.
80,967	Aberdeen - - -	77,184	6,914	687	9,355	4,654
1,993	Aberfeldy - - -	1,931	119	29	502	81
6,753	Airdrie - - -	7,053	346	238	524	1,379
8,451	Alloa - - -	7,282	523	247	1,646	629
4,197	Annan - - -	3,975	570	46	890	340
11,595	Arbroath - - -	10,226	1,350	74	1,316	969
1,176	Ardgay - - -	1,449	136	75	299	70
5,032	Ardrossan - - -	4,615	463	52	775	335
2,807	Auchterarder - - -	2,236	557	58	527	145
19,726	Ayr - - -	18,530	2,479	155	2,341	1,291
6,266	Ayton - - -	5,920	426	78	1,366	491
636	Abington, R. S. O. - - -	1,273	22	3	342	26
440	Aviemore, R. S. O. - - -	439	23	3	115	6
9,556	Banff - - -	9,082	1,365	63	1,511	444
5,136	Bathgate - - -	3,736	479	135	488	579
2,424	Beaully - - -	2,533	205	11	602	71
3,618	Beith - - -	2,314	263	13	195	281
4,310	Biggar - - -	4,205	314	12	601	344
167	Birnam, R. S. O. - - -	654	90	8	99	41
1,177	Blair-Athol - - -	1,203	63	19	238	40
4,484	Blairgowrie - - -	3,354	198	54	946	334
214	Ballinluig - - -	287	8	1	135	8
434	Blackford, R. S. O. - - -	420	61	3	76	44

* At this office, unfortunately, the pattern and sample packets were not distinguished from the book packets, among which they are included.

Number of Letters, &c. delivered from each Head Post Office, &c. (Scotland)—*cont.*

1870. LETTERS.	HEAD POST OFFICES.	One Week in 1871.				
		LETTERS.	Book Packets and Circulars (excluding Post Cards).	Pattern and Sample Packets.	NEWS- PAPERS.	POST CARDS.
6,387	Brechin - -	5,656	154	75	943	263
3,259	Bridge of Allen -	2,874	242	26	535	174
1,844	Bridge of Earn -	2,101	279	154	588	147
1,596	Broadford - -	1,674	74	10	440	29
2,530	Burntisland - -	2,046	334	23	436	44
466	Braco, R. S. O. -	645	11	2	88	16
1,355	Carlisle - -	2,904	263	29	211	282
423	Carnoustie, R. S. O. -	2,496	283	5	328	169
4,033	Campbeltown -	3,773	527	32	968	300
10,979	Castle Douglas -	4,787	800	30	1,175	217
581	Cockburnspath -	545	52	14	167	15
4,807	Coldstream - -	3,980	432	25	1,193	264
2,963	Craigellachie - -	2,843	328	23	406	102
6,335	Crieff - -	5,596	729	38	1,332	378
2,804	Coupar-Angus -	2,186	423	25	454	147
9,769	Cupar-Fife - -	8,047	833	40	941	390
6,547	Coatbridge - -	6,730	1,777	13	447	586
186	Creetown, R. S. O. -	381	2	1	236	57
2,770	Denny - -	2,490	69	34	239	273
7,285	Dingwall - -	6,196	467	42	1,173	203
28,722	Dumfries - -	28,590	3,464	407	6,402	3,523
3,375	Dunbar - -	3,323	380	53	514	196
1,703	Dunblane - -	1,786	329	8	386	82
3,430	Dalbeattie - -	2,998	158	27	921	109
54,943	Dundee - -	52,929	1,0078	540	4,735	4,009
10,209	Dunfermline - -	9,175	1,438	44	1,153	794
5,404	Dumbarton - -	10,061	311	83	1,638	1,379
2,518	Dunkeld - -	1,874	251	9	670	85
4,516	Dunse - -	4,673	567	25	837	352
7,520	Dalkeith - -	8,406	1,067	126	1,054	1,128
1,969	Drem - -	1,699	180	10	582	73
2,432	Ecclefechan - -	2,239	318	12	557	105
297,035	Edinburgh - -	296,145	37,339	2,710	29,490	26,417
13,540	Elgin - -	12,158	782	95	1,730	484
2,969	Ellon - -	2,597	318	18	406	86
790	Errol, R. S. O. -	656	213	17	169	40
12,024	Falkirk - -	12,385	965	112	1,510	1,746
4,853	Fochabers - -	3,985	706	34	817	164
2,625	Fordoun - -	2,806	236	11	587	117
9,031	Forfar - -	8,068	920	109	1,319	885

Number of Letters, &c. delivered from each Head Post Office, &c. (Scotland)—*cont.*

1870. LETTERS.	HEAD POST OFFICES.	One Week in 1871.				
		LETTERS.	Book Packets and Circulars (excluding Post Cards).	Pattern and Sample Packets.	NEWS- PAPERS.	POST CARDS.
6,159	Forres - -	5,613	894	23	1,147	294
3,444	Fort William - -	3,783	226	73	1,634	143
3,921	Fraserburgh - -	4,334	110	26	440	263
1,307	Fort George Station -	1,214	100	21	300	47
7,009	Galashiels - -	6,641	827	69	715	585
626	Gatehouse, R. S. O. -	1,968	44	9	342	106
3,665	Girvan - -	3,469	314	61	210	197
590,050	Glasgow - -	382,718	42,216	4,967	24,637	34,438
5,921	Golspie - -	5,401	228	32	1,315	353
49,387	Greenock - -	52,299	4,293	863	8,406	4,250
217	Glenluce, R. S. O. -	998	121	7	260	60
807	Grantown, R. S. O. -	1,122	52	7	209	35
4,508	Haddington - -	4,164	672	53	1,003	226
9,581	Hamilton - -	9,353	1,148	41	579	940
13,336	Hawick - -	9,806	2,170	157	1,967	896
5,057	Huntly - -	4,803	618	26	846	173
8,874	Helenaburgh - -	8,754	486	44	863	458
314	Inchture, R. S. O. -	387	36	9	112	22
2,427	Inverary - -	2,983	166	78	1,326	181
2,230	Inach - -	2,019	272	80	191	57
24,694	Inverness - -	25,593	2,294	417	5,335	1,527
4,225	Irvine - -	4,173	238	21	417	329
2,413	Invernrie - -	2,450	341	10	318	161
4,906	Jedburgh - -	4,671	513	54	1,072	324
174	Kirkcowan, R. S. O. -	741	82	16	87	21
3,234	Kirkcudbright -	3,164	436	41	962	182
4,068	Keith - -	3,573	410	22	460	173
23	Kirkgunzeon, R.S.O.	180	7	—	44	4
11,091	Kelso - -	11,128	632	125	2,806	416
20,066	Kilmarnock - -	25,256	3,402	307	3,518	3,521
3,253	Kingussie - -	3,245	97	44	796	194
2,657	Kinross - -	2,283	333	8	597	149
14,678	Kirkcaldy - -	13,527	1,352	230	1,632	1,003
4,233	Kirkwall - -	4,005	168	80	844	177
4,350	Kirriemuir - -	3,505	253	52	785	265
4,634	Langholm - -	4,066	466	37	799	298
3,949	Lasswade - -	4,022	599	61	741	310
4,519	Ladybank - -	4,315	416	30	566	251
1,788	Lairg - -	1,870	234	60	886	134
9,658	Lanark - -	8,061	1,279	92	1,947	789

Number of Letters, &c. delivered from each Head Post Office, &c. (Scotland)—*cont.*

1870. LETTERS.	HEAD POST OFFICES.	One Week in 1871.				
		LETTERS.	Book Packets and Circulars (excluding Post Cards).	Pattern and Sample Packets.	NEWS- PAPERS.	POST CARDS.
2,274	Laurencekirk -	2,066	173	13	443	111
5,978	Lerwick - -	5,511	383	43	1,324	118
5,647	Leven - - -	5,317	292	106	523	442
1,299	Lochalsh - -	1,063	63	14	406	16
505	Lochmaddy - -	462	75	—	285	3
3,717	Lochgilthead -	2,815	368	11	835	92
6,275	Lockerby - -	6,250	684	36	1,531	463
8,586	Lindlithgow - -	8,562	705	116	767	870
2,865	Markinch - -	2,867	124	32	463	211
4,145	Maybole - - -	3,810	456	10	683	169
2,431	Manchline - -	2,365	283	21	422	144
2,712	Meigle - - -	2,729	194	27	542	255
3,960	Melrose - - -	3,723	490	32	706	227
2,209	Mintlaw - - -	2,273	217	23	397	89
4,464	Moffat - - -	4,463	477	49	478	166
10,220	Montrose - - -	9,222	881	75	1,267	771
8,062	Motherwell - -	4,121	461	59	347	489
3,012	Midcaldor - -	3,042	242	8	397	129
108	New Cumnock, R.S.O.	978	138	2	149	81
3,126	Nairn - - -	3,399	325	37	778	187
2,205	Newburgh - - -	1,906	344	13	336	116
4,966	Newton-Stewart -	4,676	430	40	729	183
1,373	New Galloway, R.S.O.	1,189	123	18	406	69
5,236	Oban - - -	4,428	493	26	1,823	240
3,595	Old Cumnock - -	3,243	445	19	465	198
3,331	Peebles - - -	2,984	355	9	808	330
25,615	Paisley - - -	23,309	4,753	205	2,422	2,457
2,341	Pennywick - -	2,848	259	34	865	145
25,697	Perth - - -	24,139	3,430	119	4,421	2,540
6,901	Peterhead - - -	7,069	256	157	684	417
1,943	Pitlochry - - -	2,093	99	16	559	90
5,559	Port-Glasgow - -	4,410	180	11	347	311
1,905	Portree - - -	1,674	176	62	303	228
2,344	Prestonkirk - -	2,317	316	24	510	137
4,900	Rothsay - - -	4,569	786	14	791	449
283	Ringford, R. S. O.	282	15	—	95	12
276	Sanquhar, R. S. O.	269	12	—	87	2
7,898	St. Andrews - -	8,090	697	67	1,318	517
1,736	Saltcoats - - -	1,624	279	5	145	116
4,565	Selkirk - - -	5,145	1950	13	1,046	267

Number of Letters, &c. delivered from each Head Post Office, &c. (Scotland)—*cont.*

1870. LETTERS.	HEAD POST OFFICES.	One Week in 1871.				
		LETTERS.	Book Packets and Circulars (excluding Post Cards).	Pattern and Sample Packets.	NEWS- PAPERS.	POST CARDS.
25,812	Stirling - -	24,956	3,034	512	3,104	2,636
3,251	Stonehaven - -	3,388	429	26	452	135
3,160	Stornoway - -	2,719	479	—	1,173	42
6,975	Stranraer - -	6,660	931	88	1,725	643
46	Stobo, R. S. O. -	267	10	—	104	6
1,037	Stow - - -	990	57	3	168	43
2,615	Tain - - -	2,518	150	41	422	145
4,339	Thornhill - -	3,978	778	18	1,181	199
5,466	Thurso - - -	5,572	264	145	1,976	199
2,683	Tranent - - -	2,116	263	56	467	116
4,890	Turriff - - -	4,701	1,399	32	806	201
2,596	Troon - - -	2,632	63	28	349	143
616	Twynholm, R. S. O. -	637	3	—	175	16
4,079	Wick - - -	4,045	381	52	1,026	139
*—	Wishaw - - -	3,263	544	17	238	395

IRELAND.

1870. LETTERS.	HEAD POST OFFICES.	1871.				
		LETTERS.	Book Packets and Circulars (excluding Post Cards).	Pattern and Sample Packets.	NEWS- PAPERS.	POST CARDS.
2,947	Abbeyleix - -	2,996	332	833	26	94
2,684	Antrim - - -	2,411	441	141	375	206
2,223	Arklow - - -	2,151	145	11	290	22
13,589	Armagh - - -	14,202	1,302	122	2,536	716
2,288	Athenry - - -	1,800	157	46	791	113
6,080	Athlone - - -	5,302	499	90	953	300
6,098	Athy - - -	7,340	203	182	2,069	401
2,592	Bagnalstown - -	2,535	184	68	659	74
6,536	Ballina (Mayo) -	6,722	587	286	2,457	155
7,726	Ballinasloe - -	8,514	864	95	2,643	430
1,913	Ballisodare - -	1,851	250	25	923	67
561	Ballyglass - - -	684	59	6	214	31
9,298	Ballymena - - -	9,383	1,435	85	1,166	383
6,672	Ballymoney - -	4,864	672	42	1,308	152
2,229	Ballymote - - -	2,262	126	9	726	73
1,348	Ballyraggot - -	1,478	64	61	399	54
2,544	Banagher - - -	2,606	525	27	1,069	59
5,510	Banbridge - - -	5,398	1,939	825	896	995

* Not a Head Post Office when the Return of 1870 was taken.

Number of Letters, &c. delivered from each Head Post Office, &c. (Ireland)—*cont.*

1870.	HEAD POST OFFICES.	One Week in 1871.				
		LETTERS.	Book Packets and Circulars (excluding Post Cards).	Pattern and Sample Packets.	NEWS- PAPERS.	POST CARDS.
10,184	Bandon - -	14,297	1,879	1,553	3,330	2,140
2,613	Bantry - -	2,857	297	14	673	128
111,699	Belfast - -	113,280	10,778	1,871	17,320	5,961
5,113	Belturbet - -	5,303	683	173	2,172	281
1,414	Borris-in-Ossory - -	1,530	186	79	249	108
2,854	Boyle - - -	2,618	354	17	634	97
7,748	Bray - - -	8,125	1,863	508	1,563	2,429
3,038	Buttevant - -	3,178	186	142	346	166
5,685	Cahir - - -	5,450	692	100	723	282
1,805	Callan - - -	2,822	315	64	1,284	176
8,933	Carlow - - -	9,175	924	180	2,529	673
2,792	Carrickfergus - -	2,641	403	5	530	149
2,120	Carrickmacross - -	2,286	342	24	499	115
6,835	Carrick-on-Shannon	5,978	358	46	1,911	482
2,788	Carrick-on-Suir - -	2,690	266	28	607	150
2,582	Cashel - - -	2,823	252	69	982	198
2,717	Castlebar - - -	3,724	383	26	968	222
3,288	Castleblayney - -	3,425	302	39	732	343
1,910	Castledawson - -	3,463	431	36	453	192
6,542	Castlerea - - -	6,441	438	90	1,149	382
5,395	Cavan - - -	6,513	668	138	1,307	550
2,535	Charleville - - -	2,598	240	21	647	235
6,140	Clones - - -	6,114	570	169	1,046	313
13,070	Clonmel - - -	14,478	2,500	340	4,012	1,424
5,913	Coleraine - - -	7,150	880	94	938	326
57,964	Cork - - -	61,168	5,755	942	14,002	5,598
4,917	Curragh Camp - -	6,972	313	18	906	99
28,672	Derry - - -	26,272	3,068	468	5,358	1,661
3,279	Donegal - - -	3,251	710	51	1,037	196
5,625	Down - - -	6,189	731	51	1,142	279
14,258	Drogheda - - -	14,404	1,379	236	3,936	990
1,951	Dromod - - -	1,766	274	63	412	115
340,996	Dublin - - -	446,988	24,060	7,408	42,961	43,515
9,142	Dundalk - - -	9,178	1,288	143	1,447	222
9,002	Dungannon - - -	9,814	995	55	1,497	440
2,362	Dungarvan - - -	2,233	184	97	378	154
3,070	Edgeworthstown - -	1,971	633	188	1,234	206
3,806	Enfield - - -	4,025	206	83	978	239
8,146	Ennis - - -	7,779	424	139	2,045	616

Number of Letters, &c. delivered from each Head Post Office, &c. (Ireland)—contd.

1870.	HEAD POST OFFICES.	One Week in 1871.				
		LETTERS.	Book Packets and Circulars. (excluding Post Cards).	Pattern and Sample Packets.	NEWS- PAPERS.	POST CARDS.
4,676	Binnacorthy -	6,234	389	93	1,343	323
7,151	Binniskillen -	7,004	612	107	1,790	422
1,660	Binnistimon -	1,603	190	18	405	95
6,777	Fermoy -	8,817	236	96	1,319	304
2,443	Ferns -	2,076	202	8	650	106
463	Foxford -	493	40	10	113	25
2,163	Fremahpark -	1,916	205	26	604	77
10,036	Galway -	10,111	1,427	63	2,443	398
5,679	Gorey -	7,668	591	64	1,551	323
3,782	Greystones -	3,931	741	38	1,895	174
3,128	Hollymount -	3,299	328	95	3,155	139
8,371	Kells (Meath) -	8,410	808	58	2,353	374
887	Kilbcock -	813	75	2	231	30
1,443	Kildare -	2,893	200	56	892	206
12,966	Kilkenny -	14,445	1,360	913	3,331	1,003
7,421	Killarney -	9,022	477	202	3,339	447
4,137	Killucan -	4,442	542	57	2,006	135
4,319	Kilmallock -	4,345	104	4	1,542	298
4,082	Kilrush -	5,063	439	362	892	423
17,035	Kingstown -	16,326	1,524	51	2,440	705
3,017	Kinsale -	3,175	356	18	821	138
3,705	Larne -	3,690	581	34	891	196
7,106	Lettarkenny -	8,026	2,339	37	470	172
48,518	Limerick -	48,189	4,168	780	12,119	4,410
9,774	Lisburn -	10,591	231	138	2,317	764
5,607	Longford -	6,541	200	244	1,127	322
2,603	Loughrea -	2,466	156	92	842	121
7,545	Lurgan -	5,808	2,529	217	1,189	1,871
2,335	Magherafelt -	2,668	156	1	593	143
14,029	Mallow -	13,506	1,837	638	2,922	1,687
2,019	Mayborough -	2,431	293	15	398	513
3,760	Middleton -	3,757	460	30	1,058	148
2,829	Moate -	2,985	338	20	715	166
8,650	Monaghan -	7,926	746	159	1,735	469
1,709	Monasterevan -	1,613	169	5	492	52
1,974	Mounttrath -	2,254	86	18	756	126
2,115	Moy -	1,930	255	34	597	340
7,888	Mullingar -	8,228	379	48	2,292	249
3,787	Nans -	4,049	441	18	1,094	150

Number of Letters, &c. delivered from each Head Post Office, &c. (Ireland)—*cont.*

1870.	HEAD POST OFFICES.	One Week in 1871.				
		LETTERS.	Book Packets and Circulars (excluding Post Cards).	Pattern and Sample Packets.	NEWS- PAPERS.	POST CARDS.
5,478	Navan - -	5,546	494	12	1,466	187
4,550	Nenagh - -	4,700	172	113	998	199
4,859	Newbridge (Kildare)	4,353	292	36	710	91
4,374	New Ross - -	4,558	150	40	1,378	214
19,806	Newry - -	21,241	2,102	277	4,857	1,086
3,540	Newtownards -	3,254	232	34	704	190
2,420	Newtownlimavady -	2,274	276	10	415	130
1,586	Newtownstewart (Tyr).	1,763	240	42	317	88
13,416	Omagh - -	13,733	500	309	2,912	264
3,011	Oranmore - -	2,936	314	57	1,401	165
1,048	Ovoos - -	1,096	70	20	280	124
1,495	Pallagreen - -	1,664	138	14	690	68
4,533	Parsonstown - -	4,475	144	8	807	101
2,802	Piltown - -	2,732	194	17	1,105	92
12,604	Portadown - -	13,110	1,669	625	2,811	1,650
3,495	Portarlinton -	4,085	155	130	798	313
8,564	Queen's Town -	8,745	594	51	1,739	530
2,773	Rathdrum - -	2,744	163	16	670	184
4,152	Roscommon - -	4,286	121	53	1,158	211
6,793	Roscrea - -	6,781	762	72	2,125	291
3,232	Skibberren - -	3,333	293	87	787	341
8,270	Sligo - -	7,498	1,228	123	1,925	440
10,563	Strabane - -	10,671	1,134	103	2,078	296
2,190	Swinford - -	2,011	126	100	450	87
1,503	Tallow - -	1,651	179	9	295	95
3,973	Templemore - -	4,409	423	1,134	800	263
2,570	Thomastown - -	4,695	223	131	1,255	180
6,035	Thurles - -	5,317	492	64	1,788	424
6,009	Tipperary - -	6,262	1,039	131	634	469
9,503	Tralee - -	10,811	433	525	2,387	473
4,961	Tuam - -	5,579	651	57	1,310	238
3,718	Tullamore - -	3,877	367	41	1,185	59
3,240	Virginia - -	3,549	844	36	190	118
22,446	Waterford - -	24,883	2,078	613	3,696	1,781
3,492	Westport - -	4,841	505	123	1,493	177
7,648	Wexford - -	7,492	829	102	2,203	423
3,464	Wicklow - -	3,759	315	12	741	115
3,372	Youghal - -	3,390	449	26	861	279

ABSTRACT FOR THE UNITED KINGDOM.

1870.		One Week in 1871.				
		LETTERS.	Book Packets and Circulars (excluding Post Cards).	Pattern and Sample Packets.	NEWS- PAPERS.	POST CARDS.
	ENGLAND AND WALES, viz.,					
9,860,753	COUNTRY OFFICES -	10,117,421	1,196,761	128,617	1,079,877	810,544
4,072,360	LONDON DISTRICT -	4,061,729	451,752	32,043	288,589	400,092
13,933,113	TOTAL - - - -	14,179,150	1,648,513	160,660	1,368,466	1,210,636
1,363,441	„ IRELAND - -	1,410,209	121,905	28,893	259,359	107,363
1,637,451	„ SCOTLAND - -	1,598,481	185,227	18,233	206,130	131,396
16,834,005	GROSS TOTAL, UNITED KINGDOM - - - }	17,187,840	1,955,645	207,786	1,833,955	1,458,395

General Post Office,
April 1871.

GEO. CHETWYND,
Receiver and Accountant General.

LONDON:

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