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TWENTY-FIRST REPORT
OF
THE POSTMASTER GENERAL,
ON
THE POST OFFICE.

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



LONDON:
PRINTED BY GEORGE E. EYRE AND WILLIAM SPOTTISWOODE,
PRINTERS TO THE QUEEN'S MOST EXCELLENT MAJESTY.
FOR HER MAJESTY'S STATIONERY OFFICE.

1875.

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TWENTY-FIRST REPORT.

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

MY LORDS,

I HAVE the honour to present to your Lordships the Twenty-first Annual Report on the Post Office; being that for the year 1874.

INLAND SERVICE.

The number of Post Offices in the United Kingdom was increased last year by 280; making in all nearly 13,000; about 900 of which are Head Offices. Post Offices.

The number of Road Letter Boxes is nearly 9,700; as compared with 9,000 in 1873.

Thus, the total number of postal receptacles in the United Kingdom is now more than 22,000; as compared with about 15,600 ten years ago, and with little more than 4,500 before the establishment of Penny Postage in 1840.

In London alone there are nearly 1,700 such receptacles.

In the Chief Office in London extensive alterations are in progress with a view to provide increased accommodation for the sorting duties; and measures have been adopted to obtain additional protection for the buildings from fire; an object much promoted by the establishment among the officers of volunteer fire brigades. Alterations in chief office in London.

The new Post Offices at Chesterfield, Limerick, Southport, and Stamford have been completed and brought into use; and the new Offices at Aberdeen, Newcastle, and Norwich will soon be completed. New post offices.

New Post Offices are either in course of construction or about to be commenced at the following towns, viz.:—Blackburn, Burton-on-Trent, Chester, Huddersfield, Hull, Kingston, Leith, Londonderry, Oldham, Paisley, Rochdale, Shrewsbury, Wakefield, Warrington, and Waterford.

Steps are being taken to enlarge the Offices at Bath, Belfast, Cork, and Glasgow, and also the Chief Office in Dublin.

- The Offices at several other places have been much improved.
- Free deliveries.** At 760 places free deliveries have been established for the first time, and the deliveries at more than 830 other places have been increased in number or otherwise improved.
- Pneumatic tubes.** The use of the pneumatic tube in London, which was stated in the last Report to have been tried experimentally, was discontinued in October; the Company having decided to close their works. No sensible advantage was derived by the Department from the use of the tube.
- Midnight despatches.** By means of a new passenger train on the Midland Railway, leaving London at midnight, the Department has been enabled to extend greatly the midnight despatch of letters to the provinces; and, altogether, about 40 towns (including Manchester, Liverpool, Leeds, Bradford, Sheffield, and Derby,) have now the benefit of such a despatch.
- Early morning mails from London.** Several of the Railway Companies having established early fast trains from London for conveyance of the London Morning Newspapers to the provinces, advantage has been taken of these trains to forward the first Mail from London by them to many of the towns in the North and West of England, and South Wales, and to a few towns in the Eastern Counties.
- This despatch is the more important because, by an acceleration of the trains between Dover and London, it has been found possible generally to include in it the correspondence from the Continent arriving by the Belgian Mail.
- The Night Mails from the Eastern Counties have also been brought into London earlier, so as to admit of the letters being sent forward by the early despatches.
- In other ways has mail communication been much extended.
- Railways in Isle of Man, and to Wick and Thurso.** Advantage has been taken of the new Railways in the Isle of Man, and also of the Railway to Wick and Thurso, for the conveyance of Mails; but with respect to the latter Railway the Department has been obliged to refer the terms of payment to arbitration.
- Ayrshire.** Local and general communication in Ayrshire has been greatly improved.
- Delay of mail trains owing to severe weather.** Owing to the unusual severity of the past winter, detentions of the mail trains and failures of junction were more than ordinarily frequent; causing delay to the mails throughout nearly the whole country. Moreover, it was found necessary, for the public safety, to allow the northern Mail trains to run for some time at reduced speed, and to stop frequently in order that the wheels might be examined.
- Special late letter box.** Increased accommodation has been afforded by the establishment of an additional late letter box at the General Post Office, in which letters prepaid with a fee of one shilling can be posted for despatch up to 7.45 p.m.; that is, within fifteen minutes of the despatch of the Night Mails.

LETTERS, POST CARDS, BOOK PACKETS, AND NEWSPAPERS.

The following table shows the estimated number, to the nearest million, of letters, post cards, book packets, and newspapers last year, with the rate of increase on the previous year, together with the proportion of letters to population.

	No. of Letters in 1874.	Increase per cent. on No. in 1873.	No. of Post Cards in 1874.	Increase per cent. on No. in 1873.	No. of Book Packets and Newspapers in 1874.	Increase per cent. on No. in 1873.	Proportion of Letters to Population.
England and Wales	804,000,000	6½	66,000,000	8½	207,000,000	1½	33
Ireland	73,000,000	8½	4,000,000	15½	23,000,000	5	14
Scotland	90,000,000	7½	9,000,000	13½	29,000,000	5	25
United Kingdom	967,000,000	6½	79,000,000	9½	259,000,000	2	30

The number of registered letters in the United Kingdom during the year was upwards of 4,000,000, or about one in 250 of the total number of letters.

The number of letters received in the Returned Letter Office* was more than 4,400,000; being about 1 in every 220 of the total number of letters. As respects more than three-fourths of these it was found possible either to re-issue them or to return them to the writers.

Upwards of 20,000 letters were posted without any address; one of these letters containing more than 2,000*l.* in bank notes.

A registered letter from Switzerland was found open in the Chief Office, London. The contents, which had become exposed owing to the flimsiness of the envelope, consisted of cheques for upwards of 200*l.*, and of bank notes to the value of more than 500*l.*

A registered letter containing Turkish bonds, with coupons payable to bearer, worth more than 4,000*l.*, intended for a firm in the City of London was misdirected to a street in the West End, where it was delivered. On inquiry being made for the packet it was found that the bonds had been mistaken for "Foreign Lottery Tickets" of no value and had been put aside for the children of the family to play with.

In the Chief Office in London two gold watches were found, each enclosed in an unregistered book-packet addressed to New Zealand; the leaves of the books having been cut so as to admit of the watches being enclosed. The packets were sent to the Returned Letter Office, whence information was forwarded to the addressees, there being nothing to show who were the senders.

* See Appendix "B," page 19.

Postage stamps.	About 61,000 postage stamps were found loose in different Offices.
Newspapers for places abroad.	The number of newspapers for places abroad detained for insufficient postage or other cause, which was 700,000 in 1872 and 250,000 in 1873, was last year only 173,000.
Newspapers containing unauthorized enclosures.	Newspapers sent to this country from the United States and from Canada frequently contain enclosures liable to the letter-rate of postage; and in six months of last year more than 14,000 newspapers were found to have such enclosures secreted in them.
Articles found in the post.	Among the articles posted contrary to the regulations of the Department, and sent to the Returned Letter Office, were a horned frog alive, a stag beetle alive, white mice alive, snails alive, an owl, a kingfisher, a rat, carving knives and forks, gun cotton, and cartridges.
Stout Post Cards.	During the year a stronger and better kind of Post Card was issued for Inland transmission in addition to the thin cards. For these new cards there is a very considerable demand; the number issued in the six months since their adoption being more than five millions and a half.

TELEGRAPHS.

Development of service.	There has again been a large increase in the amount of postal telegraph business; the number of messages (exclusive of newspaper telegrams) having last year been above 19,000,000, or about 10 per cent. more than in 1873.
Number of offices.	In the number of postal telegraph offices there was, however, no material change; owing in great measure to the fact that, previous to its commencement, the telegraph system had already been extended to all places in the kingdom of considerable size.
Improved service.	Although the year has not been signalised by any very important changes in the mode of carrying on the telegraph service, numerous minor improvements have been effected, which have enabled the Department to afford increased facilities to the public, and in many cases materially to lessen the cost of working. Of these the principal have been the further application of the system of "Duplex" telegraphy and a more general use of the so-called "Sonder" instrument, a form of apparatus greatly in favour in the United States.
"Sonder" instruments.	With most of the advantages of the old "Morse" apparatus the "Sonder" instrument combines those of simplicity and cheapness.
Number of words sent in a single night to provincial newspapers.	On one occasion, when an important debate took place in Parliament, and when, in addition, there was an unusual number of interesting occurrences in different parts of the country, nearly 440,000 words, equal to about 220 columns of the "Times" newspaper, were transmitted from the Central Station in London in a single night. The resources of the Department were heavily taxed; but the weather having been favourable for telegraphy, no delay of any consequence occurred.

There has again been a large increase in the rental from private wires; the sum having risen from about 47,000*l.* to about 53,000*l.*, or about 12 per cent.*

The "Special Arrangements Branch" of the Telegraph Service has, as usual, been actively employed; the officers of this Branch having assisted in the disposal of the work in connexion with nearly all the more important public events.

As an instance of the large number of telegrams sometimes forwarded from a very small place, it may be mentioned that in connexion with a conference of Wesleyan Methodists held at Camborne, which lasted three weeks, more than 350*l.* was received there for telegrams.

In relation to the lamentable railway accident at Thorpe last year more than 900 ordinary telegrams passed through the Norwich Office, and more than 1,200 newspaper press messages, the latter containing nearly 150,000 words.

MONEY ORDERS.

During the last year 231 additional Money Order Offices were opened; making the whole number in the United Kingdom upwards of 5,000.

The Money Order Offices at Bahia, Pernambuco, Rio de Janeiro, and Callao have been discontinued owing to the discontinuance of the British agencies at those places, consequent on the postal duties being undertaken by the respective governments.

The number of Inland Orders in 1874 was nearly 16,000,000; being an increase of nearly 1,000,000, or about 7 per cent. on the previous year.

The aggregate amount of the Orders was more than 26,000,000*l.*; being an average of about 1*l.* 12*s.* 6*d.* per Order.

The proportion of Orders to population was, in England and Wales, two to three, in Scotland two to five, and in Ireland one to five.

Inland Orders, issued since the 1st of July last, remain in circulation 12 clear calendar months from that of issue (instead of only two months, the former limit), after which time, as heretofore, they become void, and can only be renewed by Treasury authority.

A like arrangement applies also to Orders that pass between the United Kingdom and the Colonies; and, with a few exceptions, to Orders between the United Kingdom and foreign countries.

The number of Orders which passed between this country and the Colonies was upwards of 163,000; being about 2,000 less than in the former year; a decrease attributable to the discontinuance of several Postal agencies in South America.

* For further details, see Appendix G, page 25.

While, however, the number of Colonial Money Orders has decreased, their aggregate amount, viz., 676,000*l.*, shows a slight increase.

Of this amount more than 585,000*l.* was sent from the Colonies; as against upwards of 90,000*l.* from the mother country.

Number of Foreign Orders. Between the United Kingdom and those Foreign Countries with which it exchanges Money Orders, nearly 160,000 Orders were transmitted; being 10,000 more than in the previous year. The aggregate amount was 535,000*l.*, of which nearly 363,000*l.* came to this country.

POST OFFICE SAVINGS BANKS.*

Progress. The business of the Post Office Savings Banks continues to increase steadily.

Number of savings banks. Last year there were 178 new Offices opened in England and Wales; 23 in Scotland; and 14 in Ireland; the total number in the United Kingdom at the end of the year being upwards of 5,000.

Decrease in number of old savings banks. Since the establishment of the Post Office Savings Banks, 13 years ago, the number of Old Savings Banks has diminished from 638 to 476; which latter number is less by 100 than the present number of Post Office Savings Banks in the London District alone.

Depositors and deposits. The number of depositors has increased by about 112,000, making the whole number at the end of the year nearly 1,670,000; while the amount of deposits, including interest due, was upwards of 23,000,000*l.*, being about 2,000,000*l.* more than in 1873.

Deposits and withdrawals during the year. The whole sum deposited during the year was upwards of 8,300,000*l.*, as against nearly 6,900,000*l.* withdrawn; the average amount of each deposit having been about 2*l.* 14*s.*, as compared with about 6*l.* 8*s.*, the average amount of each withdrawal.

The usual tendency has been for the deposit average slightly to diminish, and for the withdrawal average considerably to increase; but last year the tendency in each case, though very small, was in the other direction.

Proportion of depositors to population. The proportion of depositors to population was about 1 to 20; the largest being in England and Wales, viz., 1 to 15, and the smallest in Ireland, where it was about 1 to 100. In the latter case, however, the average sum belonging to each depositor, viz., 16*l.* 14*s.* nearly, was about 2*l.* 16*s.* more than the general average.

Average daily number of deposits. The average daily number of deposits was nearly 10,000; but on the 31st of January, on which date the largest number was received, there were upwards of 20,000.

* For detailed information, see Appendix I, page 30.

The amount due to depositors for interest during the year was more than 524,000*l.*; being an increase of 46,000*l.* on the amount in the previous year. Interest.

The cost to the Post Office of each transaction (including postage) in Savings Bank business, i.e., of each separate deposit or withdrawal, is now about 8*d.*, as compared with 1*s.* in the Old Savings Banks. Cost per transaction.

During the year more more 400 accounts with Friendly Societies were opened, and nearly 1,300 accounts with Trade, Charitable, and Provident Societies. Friendly and other societies.

The Department continues to afford facilities to Penny Banks, and 140 accounts were opened with such banks last year, being 40 more than the number in 1873. The total number of such accounts is now more than 300. Penny banks.

The experiment of establishing School Banks (which has proved so successful in Belgium) has been made by the London School Board; and several accounts have been opened by these banks with the Post Office. School banks.

Information respecting the system of the British Postal Savings Banks has again been supplied in answer to applications from various countries; among others from France, Italy, and Brazil. Information asked for by foreign countries.

The following curious instance was reported of an ineffectual attempt on the part of an Irishman to attain security. This person placed his Savings Bank Deposit Book in a box which he locked and put inside a second box, which he also locked and put into a third box. Having locked the third box, he then hung up all the keys in a place where they were accessible to many persons. In a short time the book disappeared, and by forging the signature of the rightful owner, the thief succeeded in obtaining payment of deposits to the amount of about 100*l.*

FOREIGN AND COLONIAL POSTS.

Some alterations have taken place in the contracts for conveyance of mails by sea. Packet contracts.

The Royal Mail Steam Packet Company's two contracts, one for the conveyance of West Indian Mails and the other for the Brazil Mails, came to an end on the 31st of December last.

In anticipation of this event, the West Indian Service had been thrown open to public competition. The contract was again awarded to the same company, but on terms much lower than those paid to them under their former contract. This service is now, indeed, almost self-supporting, whereas, for many years, it had been a heavy drain upon the public purse. West Indian service.

The Brazil Mail Service with the same company, which had been performed by them for many years with exemplary regularity, has also been renewed on terms advantageous to the Brazil and River Plate services.]

public. The company have contracted to despatch two packets in each month, instead of one, as formerly, and to receive a portion of the postage instead of a fixed annual subsidy. This service is now doubled in extent and has become entirely self-supporting.

The financial effect of these alterations in the West Indian and Brazil Services will be a saving of more than 100,000*l.* a year.

Italian mails:
resumption of
route via
France.

I had the satisfaction, last year, of witnessing the resumption of the French route for the mails between this country and Italy. These mails had, two or three years previously, been diverted to the longer route through Belgium and Germany; but on the completion of the railway through the Mont Cenis Tunnel, the route through France became a matter almost of necessity. There were, however, difficulties to be overcome in the shape of heavy transit rates through France, and the want of coincidence between the mail trains leaving London for Paris and the mail trains leaving Paris for the Italian frontier; but these difficulties were eventually surmounted; and in September last the Italian mails resumed their natural and direct course through France.

Irregularity of
postal communication
with Spain.

The irregularity of the postal communication with Spain which was experienced in 1873, continued in a greater or less degree during the past year, in consequence of the disturbed state of that country; the public to avoid the risk of failure having forwarded much of their correspondence to different parts of Spain by vessels sailing from Marseilles and, via Carthage, by packets sailing from St. Nazaire.

Low and
uniform rates
of postage.

In the Report for the year 1872, the Postmaster-General observed that it had long been the wish of this Department to see a low, and as nearly as practicable, uniform rate of postage adopted throughout the whole of Europe.

This very desirable object has now been attained.

Postal congress
at Berne.

In September last a Postal Congress, assembled on the invitation of the Government of Germany, met at Berne, and a draft of Articles for a Treaty establishing a General Postal Union was fully discussed.

Representatives attending
Congress.

Representatives from all the States of Europe, as well as from the United States of America and from Egypt, attended; and owing to the spirit of moderation and conciliation which was displayed and the readiness evinced on all sides to make concessions for the general good, and for securing uniformity and simplicity, a Treaty was concluded, by the provisions of which it may be confidently expected that great benefit will be afforded to the mercantile community and to all persons corresponding with the countries of the Union.

Active part
taken by
German Post
Office.

I have already expressed to the Director General of the German Post Office the feeling of obligation which I entertain for the active part which he took in assembling the Congress and in bringing its deliberations to a satisfactory conclusion.

The Treaty was signed on the 9th of October last by all the delegates present, except that for France, whose powers were limited. But, at a subsequent meeting for the exchange of ratifications, France became a party to the Treaty; only stipulating that, while taking effect in all other countries on the 1st of July of this year, its provisions should not come into operation in France until the 1st of January 1876.

General Postal
Union treaty
agreed upon.

Under the authority of the Postal Union Treaty half an ounce is fixed uniformly as the weight of a single letter; and from the first of the present month the inconvenient limitations of a quarter of an ounce, and a third of an ounce, hitherto in force in the case of certain continental countries, have, except as relates to France, disappeared.

Scale of weight
and charges.

The single rate of postage on a prepaid letter despatched from any one country in the Union to any other country, as, for example, from the United Kingdom to Germany, is $2\frac{1}{2}d.$, and on an unpaid letter $5d.$

Post cards may be sent to any of the States of the Union at half the postage of prepaid letters.

Post cards.

The postage of a newspaper, up to the weight of four ounces, is $1d.$; and printed papers (other than newspapers), books, legal and commercial documents, and samples of merchandise, are subject to a charge of $1d.$ per two ounces.

Newspapers.
Printed papers.
Samples, &c.

The means of making these reductions have been obtained by each of the contracting States agreeing not to levy, on the correspondence of the other States forwarded over its territory, a transit rate of more than very moderate amount.

Transit rates.

For general convenience a postage stamp of the value of $2\frac{1}{2}d.$ has been manufactured, and post cards specially designed for transmission to the States of the Union, bearing an impressed stamp of the value of a $1\frac{1}{2}d.$ have been issued for sale to the public.

Special postage
stamps.

Until the 1st of January next the rate now charged on letters to and from France will continue as at present, and an addition must necessarily be made to the Union rate on correspondence passing through the French territory.

France—
reduced rates
not applicable
until 1st
January 1876.

Reduced rates of international postage are not the only advantages afforded by this Treaty. By the adoption of a rule that each office shall retain its own collections, and that the payments for transit shall be estimated from accounts taken not daily but during a certain period twice in each year, the labour of making up the mails despatched and of disposing of the contents of the mails received will be greatly abridged.

Incidental ad-
vantages of
the Treaty.

The attention of the Indian and Colonial Governments has been called to the provisions of this treaty by which countries beyond the seas can obtain admission to it, and I venture to hope that before long many, if not all, of the dependencies of the Empire will participate in its benefits.

Indian and
Colonial
Governments
invited to join
the Union.

Your Lordships will, I am sure, agree with me in regarding the adoption of the measures just enumerated as a very im-

portant event in postal history; and I have expressed to Mr. Page, who represented this country on the occasion, my perfect satisfaction with the manner in which he discharged his duties.

STAFF OF OFFICERS.

Number of Officers.

Last year the number of officers was increased by more than 1,700; and the total is now nearly 44,000,* of whom more than 11,000 are employed exclusively on telegraph work.

The number of postmasters is nearly 13,000; of clerks upwards of 9,600; and of letter carriers, sorters, and messengers, over 21,000.

Of this staff, more than 10,500 are employed in London; and of these nearly 6,000 are attached to the chief offices in St. Martin's-le-Grand.

As a further extension of female employment in the Post Office, I have had the satisfaction of directing the formation of a class of female clerks in the Savings Bank. Although, in arithmetic at least, the standard of acquirement is high, a majority of the candidates succeeded in passing the examination.

Health of the Officers.

From the report of Dr. Waller Lewis, the Chief Medical Officer of the Department, it appears that the health of the officers in London (to whom alone his report applies) was last year exceptionally good; the proportion of deaths having been between six and seven only per thousand, although many epidemics were prevalent in the metropolis.

Dr. Lewis states that, as regards health, last year was one of the best during the period of nearly 20 years that he has held his appointment.

There was a diminution in the number of ordinary cases of illness to which the working staff are always liable, such as bronchitis, catarrh, and rheumatism, and they have generally yielded to treatment more rapidly than usual; and Dr. Lewis adds, that if a more perfect system of ventilation, without draughts, could be devised for the various offices of the Department, these diseases would be still fewer.

Superannuated Officers.

The number of superannuated officers formerly attached to the London Office was, last year, upwards of 700. Among them there were 24 deaths; the average age at death having been rather more than 58 years.

If the deaths among these superannuated officers were added to the deaths in the active force, the total would be 85; or between eight and nine per thousand; still a very low average.

Increase of salaries and wages.

Owing to the general increase in the payment for labour, the scales of salaries and wages in the Department have in many cases been increased, and it was with much pleasure that I felt authorised by the circumstances in recommending these augmentations.

* For detailed information, see Appendix L, page 38.

I must again call attention to the bad practice of giving drink to letter carriers, which, although much diminished in some places, appears to have been carried to an unusual extent at Liverpool. Practice of giving drink to Letter Carriers.

The conduct of the great majority of the officers last year was good. Conduct.

POST OFFICE ANNUITIES AND LIFE INSURANCES.*

The Annuity and Insurance business last year does not call for any special observations. The business generally appears to have made gradual progress, the exceptional increase in the number of Immediate Annuities being chiefly attributable to the action of the Board of Trade, as set forth in the foot note to Table I. in the Appendix.† Immediate annuities.

LICENSES.†

The value of the Inland Revenue Licenses issued by the Post Office in the year 1874 exceeded that of the licenses issued in the previous year by more than 23,000*l*. Increase.

There was an increase in each kind of licenses except those for male servants and horses, the falling off in the latter being attributable to the abolition, in the course of the year, of the duty.

The issue of Dog and Gun Licenses continues to increase more rapidly than that of other kinds of licenses; the increased payment for these two classes having amounted to nearly 22,000*l*. out of a total increase of rather more than 23,000*l*.

REVENUE AND EXPENDITURE.‡

I.—POSTAGE AND MONEY ORDERS.

The gross revenue from Postage and Money Orders, properly appertaining to the year, was 5,651,000*l*.; being an increase of 280,000*l*. on the previous year, or more than five per cent. Gross revenue.

The expenditure properly appertaining to the year was 3,915,000*l*., as compared with 3,793,000*l*. in 1873; showing an increase of more than three per cent. Expenditure.

The chief items of expense were 1,874,000*l*. for salaries, wages, pensions, &c.; 916,000*l*. for conveyance by mail packets and private ships; 650,000*l*. for conveyance by railway; 157,000*l*. for conveyance by coaches, carts, and omnibuses; and 169,000*l*. for buildings, repairs, &c.

These items, as compared with those in 1873, exhibit an increase of 100,000*l*. in salaries, &c.; of 5,000*l*. for conveyance

* For details, see Appendix I., page 35.

† See Appendix K., page 37.

‡ For details, see Appendices M., N., O., pages 39 to 41. The sums entered are to the nearest thousand pounds.

by railway ; of 9,000*l.* for conveyance by coaches, &c. ; and of 36,000*l.* for buildings, &c. ; together with a decrease of 29,000*l.* for conveyance by mail packets and private ships.

Net revenue. The net revenue was 1,736,000*l.*, as compared with 1,578,000*l.* in 1873 ; showing an increase of 158,000*l.*, or about 10 per cent.

If the several Departments of Government had been charged with postage both the gross and net revenue from postage would have been increased by nearly 100,000*l.*

II.—TELEGRAPHS.

Gross revenue. The gross revenue from Telegraphs last year was 1,160,000*l.*,
Expenditure. and the expenditure 1,051,000*l.* ; leaving the sum of 109,000*l.*, applicable to the payment of interest upon the capital raised for the purchase of the Telegraphs by the State.

III.—POST OFFICE SAVINGS BANKS.

Gross revenue. The interest on the money placed in the hands of the
Expenditure. National Debt Commissioners on account of the Savings Banks was last year 743,000*l.* ; while the interest credited to the depositors was 524,000*l.*, and the expenditure (exclusive, however, of Postage, which, if charged, would have amounted to about 36,000*l.*), was 100,000*l.* ; making a total of 624,000*l.*, and leaving a profit of 119,000*l.*

Profit.

Including the profit of previous years, but making no deduction for postage, there is now an aggregate profit of 829,000*l.*

I have the honour to be,

My Lords,

Your Lordships' obedient humble Servant,

JOHN MANNERS.

General Post Office,
 16 July 1875.

APPENDIX.

APPENDIX (A.)

Letters Delivered.

ESTIMATED NUMBER (to the nearest million) of Chargeable Letters delivered in the United Kingdom in the year immediately preceding the first General Reduction of Postage on the 5th day of December 1839, and in the years subsequent thereto; also (in the first year) the number of Franks.

Year ending 31st December.	Delivered in England and Wales.				Total in England and Wales.	Increase per cent. per annum.	Average number per annum.	Total in Scotland.	Increase per cent. per annum.	Average number to each person.	Total in Ireland.	Increase per cent. per annum.	Average number to each person.	Total in United Kingdom.	Increase per cent. per annum.	Average number to each person.
	By Country Offices.	Increase per cent. per annum.	In London District, including Local Letters.	Increase per cent. per annum.												
Estimated No. of Letters, 1839 -	-	-	-	-	60,000,000	-	4	8,000,000	-	3	8,000,000	-	1	76,000,000	-	3
Estimated No. of Franks, 1839 -	-	-	-	-	5,172,000	-	8	332,000	-	7	1,053,000	-	2	6,563,000	-	7
Estimated No. of Letters, 1840 -	88,000,000	-	44,000,000	-	132,000,000	120	11	10,000,000	143½	9	18,000,000	119½	3	169,000,000	122½	8
Average of 5 years, 1841-45 -	122,000,000	10½	57,000,000	5½	179,000,000	5½	15	24,000,000	9½	12	24,000,000	9½	4	227,000,000	10	12
" " 1846-50 -	180,000,000	5½	79,000,000	5	259,000,000	5½	18	34,000,000	4½	14	39,000,000	3½	6	327,000,000	5	15
" " 1851-55 -	233,000,000	6½	97,000,000	4½	330,000,000	5½	22	41,000,000	3½	16	45,000,000	3	7	410,000,000	4½	18
" " 1856-60 -	302,000,000	5½	125,000,000	5½	427,000,000	5½	29	51,000,000	5	20	53,000,000	3½	9	523,000,000	5½	22
" " 1861-65 -	373,000,000	4½	161,000,000	3½	534,000,000	4½	31	61,000,000	4½	24	60,000,000	3½	11	648,000,000	4	26
" " 1866-70 -	472,000,000	4½	192,000,000	3½	664,000,000	4½	32	70,000,000	4½	24	60,000,000	3½	13	800,000,000	4	27
Year 1871 -	501,000,000	0.5	220,000,000	7	721,000,000	2½	32	80,000,000	1½	24	68,000,000	3	13	867,000,000	2½	28
" " 1872 -	510,000,000	1½	227,000,000	8	737,000,000	2½	32	82,000,000	2½	24	68,000,000	-	13	885,000,000	2	28
" " 1873 -	518,000,000	1½	233,000,000	5	756,000,000	2½	32	84,000,000	2½	24	67,000,000	1½	13	907,000,000	2½	29
" " 1874 -	554,000,000	6½	250,000,000	5½	804,000,000	6½	33	90,000,000	7½	25	73,000,000	8½	14	987,000,000	6½	30

APPENDIX (B.)

RETURNED LETTERS.

LETTERS, POST CARDS, BOOKS, and NEWSPAPERS received in the RETURNED LETTER OFFICES of LONDON, EDINBURGH GLASGOW, and DUBLIN, respectively, in the Years 1873 and 1874.

1873.								1874.							
—	Letters received.	Letters re-issued to corrected Addressees.	Letters returned to the Senders.	Letters returned unopened to Foreign Countries.	Letters which could not be either delivered or returned to the Senders.	Post Cards received.	Books received.	Newspapers received.	Letters re-issued to corrected Addressees.	Letters returned to the Senders.	Letters returned unopened to Foreign Countries.	Letters which could not be either delivered or returned to the Senders.	Post Cards received.	Books received.	Newspapers received.
LONDON -	3,393,556	72,022	2,968,536	153,152	184,824	293,966	1,962,545	503,983	59,036	3,290,726	160,875	277,049	306,899	2,337,211	503,384
EDINBURGH -	254,180	14,007	233,965	7,902	9,006	29,041	174,493	23,403	13,383	183,398	5,409	7,945	29,635	157,256	12,799
GLASGOW -	53,233	795	46,833	1,760	3,785	6,738	24,608	4,611	2,350	104,230	3,690	5,601	14,068	57,819	10,142
DUBLIN -	314,758	8,407	231,934	13,832	60,535	12,710	136,744	24,201	5,194	226,067	17,888	87,180	13,668	133,759	32,711
	4,020,737	98,331	3,490,630	176,676	268,200	311,495	2,288,335	556,198	79,913	3,808,421	137,903	377,664	364,320	2,706,045	569,086

B 2

APPENDIX (C.)

Official Correspondence.

AN ESTIMATE of the WEIGHT of CORRESPONDENCE carried, and the VALUE of POSTAL SERVICE performed, for the following Public Offices in the Year 1874.

NAMES OF OFFICES.	Great Britain.		Ireland.		Total.	
	Weight.	Amount.	Weight.	Amount.	Weight.	Amount.
Adjutant General	—	—	69,030	320	69,030	320
Admiralty, Lords Commissioners of	817,230	16,590	—	—	817,230	16,590
Army Medical Department	—	—	24,350	110	24,350	110
Attorney General	21,980	90	—	—	21,980	90
Board of Supervision (Scotland)	37,250	110	—	—	37,250	110
Board of Trade	409,720	2,730	—	—	409,720	2,730
Central Loan Fund	—	—	2,590	20	2,590	20
Chancellor, The Lord	25,910	120	—	—	25,910	120
Charity Commissioners	33,530	180	—	—	33,530	180
Chelsea Hospital	33,320	260	—	—	33,320	260
Chief and Under Secretary, Dublin } Castle	—	—	262,210	1,170	262,210	1,170
Civil Service Commissioners	102,200	480	—	—	102,200	480
Colonial Office	263,560	8,500	—	—	263,560	8,500
Colonial Land and Emigration Com- } missioners	4,560	80	—	—	4,560	80
Commander of the Forces	—	—	12,420	60	12,420	60
Commissariat Department	—	—	123,060	550	123,060	550
Constabulary Office	—	—	195,760	910	195,760	910
Convict Prisons, Directors of	—	—	63,470	290	63,470	290
Council Office	696,410	3,280	—	—	696,410	3,280
Court of Chancery	17,380	80	—	—	17,380	80
Court of Probate	72,020	300	—	—	72,020	300
Crown Office, House of Lords	15,000	70	—	—	15,000	70
Ditto (Scotland)	75,000	310	—	—	75,000	310
Crown and Hanaper	—	—	21,060	90	21,060	90
Customs	386,220	1,820	17,770	90	403,990	1,910
Education Board (Scotland)	17,110	70	973,020	1,960	990,130	2,030
Endowed Schools	50,820	220	—	—	50,820	220
Exchequer and Audit Department	51,860	400	—	—	51,860	400
Fines and Penalties Office	—	—	123,360	420	123,360	420
Foreign Office	187,360	6,210	—	—	187,360	6,210
Home Office	340,800	1,880	—	—	340,800	1,880
Inland Revenue*	2,028,060	8,390	256,160	1,160	2,284,220	9,550
Inspector of Fisheries	—	—	34,630	150	34,630	150
Inspector General of Prisons	—	—	18,040	80	18,040	80
Insurances and Annuities	3,920	20	—	—	3,920	20
Irish Office	60,340	270	—	—	60,340	270
Lord Lieutenant and Private Secretary	—	—	5,230	20	5,230	20
Mercantile Marine Board	62,150	370	—	—	62,150	370
Merchant Seamen, Registrar of	399,550	2,240	—	—	399,550	2,240
National Debt Office	18,250	90	—	—	18,250	90
Ordnance Survey	—	—	42,380	190	42,380	190
Paymaster of Civil Services	—	—	52,590	230	52,590	230
Paymaster General	72,360	420	—	—	72,360	420
Local Government Board	776,390	3,450	196,170	870	974,560	4,320
Public Record Office	—	—	2,560	10	2,560	10
Quartermaster General	—	—	19,600	90	19,600	90
Queen's Remembrancer (Scotland)	12,000	50	—	—	12,000	50
Register House, Edinburgh	27,550	160	—	—	27,550	160
Registrar General	300,000	900	407,220	1,780	707,220	2,680
Ditto ditto (Scotland)	160,350	420	—	—	160,350	420
Registrar of Friendly Societies	56,500	130	—	—	56,500	130
Science and Art Department	976,540	4,320	—	—	976,540	4,320
Solicitor General	18,000	80	—	—	18,000	80
Stationery Office	35,720	180	28,730	110	64,450	290
Tithe Commissioners	58,240	260	—	—	58,240	260
Treasury	407,230	1,900	—	—	407,230	1,900
Valuation Office	—	—	30,800	140	30,800	140
War Office	1,980,940	19,400	74,970	350	2,035,910	19,750
Woods and Forests, Commissioners of	60,780	270	—	—	60,780	270
Works and Buildings, Commissioners of	78,330	360	138,140	610	211,470	970
TOTALS	11,254,440	87,460	3,199,330	11,780	14,453,770	99,240

* Including about 110,000 oz. charged with Book Postage.

† " 150,000 " "

‡ " 550,000 " "

Note.—The Charge for Postage of Official Correspondence has not been provided for in the Estimates since the 31st March 1868. The Estimate of Official Postage up to that date was framed on the principle of charging Inward Letters at the unpaid rate. The present Estimate is framed on the principle of charging Inland and Colonial Letters, inwards and outwards, at the prepaid rate.

Home Packet Service.

Line of Communication.	Contract.		Payment.	Contract Time.	Penalties for Overtime.	Premium for Under-time.	Penalty for General Non-performance.	Remarks.
	Com-mencement.	Termination.						
HOLYHEAD and KINGSTOWN	1st Oct. 1860	On 12 months' notice.	50,000l. per annum.	Not defined, being included in General Contract for Conveyance of Mails between London and Kingstown.	12.14s. per minute, if journeys between London and Kingstown, and Crewe and Kingstown exceed 11 hours and 74 hours respectively from appointed time of departure.*	-	-	The Annual Payment is liable to be reduced in amount when the receipts arising from Passenger traffic, or (if the Contractors are hereafter empowered to carry cattle and Goods) from the traffic generally, reach a certain sum.
LIVERPOOL and DOUGLAS, Isle of Man.	-	-	800l. per annum.	-	-	-	-	This Contract expired long since, but the service is continued upon the same terms. The Company's vessels run more frequently than required under the old Contract, and carry Mails on every voyage.
LIVERPOOL and RAMSEY, Isle of Man.	-	-	100l. per annum.	-	-	-	-	-
PORTSMOUTH and RYDE	1st Aug. 1865	On 6 months' notice.	8000l. per annum.	-	-	-	-	-
PENZANCE and SCILLY	-	On 6 months' notice.	400l. per annum.	-	-	-	-	-
SOUTHAMPTON and COWES	-	-	1200l. per annum.	-	-	-	-	-
GREENOCK and BELFAST	16th July 1849	On 6 months' notice.	Performed free of expense.	-	-	-	1000l.	-
ORKNEY ISLANDS	1st April 1868	On 51st March 1875.	1,5000l. per annum.	-	20l. for undue delay or deviation from course.	-	2000l.	-
SHEPPIARD ISLANDS	1st Feb. 1840	On 6 months' notice.	1,5000l. per annum.	60 hours	-	-	5000l.	Contract of 1840 terminated in 1855, but was renewed. Steamers may touch at intermediate ports of Wick and Kirkwall, but sailing vessels must go direct.
STORNOWAY and ULLAPFOOL.	3rd Aug. 1871	After 10 years on 6 months' notice.	1,5000l.	-	20l. for undue delay or deviation from course.	-	5000l.	When a sailing vessel is employed a deduction of 2l. a trip may be made if the Postmaster General thinks proper.
CHANNEL ISLANDS	1st Jan. 1870	On 6 months' notice.	6,0000l.	To or from Guernsey in 9 hours, and to or from Jersey in 12 hours.	-	-	2,0000l.	-
	1st Oct. 1873	-	6500l.	-	-	-	-	-

* These penalties are at present suspended, owing to the state of the harbour at Holyhead.

APPENDIX (E.)

Colonial and Foreign

Line of Packets.	Contracts.		Payment.
	Com- mencement.	Termination.	
AUSTRALIA: Point de Galle and Melbourne, Singa- pore and Brisbane, San Francisco and Sydney	Contracts with Colonial Governments. No information.		£
BRAZIL, RIVER PLATE, AND CHILI: Monthly Service from Southampton	1 Jan. 1864	On 31st December 1874	(a) 33,500
Monthly Service from Liverpool	1 June 1870	On 6 months' notice	* 2,140
Fortnightly service from Liverpool	1 Jan. 1873	On 30th June 1878, if 12 months' previous notice has been given.	* 11,245
CAPE OF GOOD HOPE	1 July 1868	On 30th June 1876, if 12 months' previous notice has been given.	* 28,087
EAST INDIES, CHINA, and JAPAN	15 Aug. 1874	On 31st January 1880, if 24 months' previous notice has been given.	430,000
EAST COAST OF AFRICA: Aden and Zanzibar	6 Dec. 1872	On 5th December 1882 (b)	10,000
Table Bay and Zanzibar	1 Aug. 1873	On 8th February 1881	20,000
NORTH AMERICA: United States: Cunard Line	1 Jan. 1869	On 12 calendar months' notice, but not before 31st December 1876.	70,000
Inman Line	1 May 1869	Ditto	38,000
North German Lloyd's Line	6 May 1870	On 12 calendar months' notice	* 6,981
British North America: Queenstown and Halifax	Contract with	Canadian Government	16,850 Imperial contri- bution, 8,125
Intermediate: Halifax, Bermuda, and St. Thomas	1 Jan. 1868	At the end of 1877, if 12 months' previous notice has been given.	12,500
New York and Nassau	Contract with	Bahamas Government	Imperial contri- bution, 1,000
PACIFIC	1 Jan. 1873	On 30th June 1878, if 12 months' previous notice has been given.	* 15,896
WEST INDIES: Bi-monthly Service	1 Jan. 1864	On 31st December 1874	(c) 172,914
Additional Services: Liverpool and Puerto Cabello, Tam- pico, and Santa Martha.	20 Oct. 1869	On 6 months' notice	* 1,783
Belize and Jamaica	Contract with	Honduras Government	5,000 Imperial contri- bution, 2,000
St. Kitts, Nevis, and Montserrat	1 Jan. 1864	On 6 months' notice	400
St. Thomas and Porto Rico	1 Jan. 1871	On 31st December 1874	1,000
Turk's Island and St. Thomas	Contract with	Turk's Island Government	600 Imperial contri- bution, 300
WEST COAST OF AFRICA	No Contract.		* 9,335

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

(b) This Contract may terminate on the 31st January 1880 provided that six calendar months' notice be given by the Postmaster General in the event of the existing Contract with the Peninsular and Oriental Steam Navigation Company coming to an end.

General Post Office, London, July 1875.

APPENDIX (E.)

Packet Service:

Penalties for Overtime.	Premiums for Undertime.	Contributions towards the Cost of the Service.	Estimated British Share of Sea Postage on Letters, Newspapers, &c.	Estimated British Loss on the Service.	Rate of Postage per single Letter, excluding Transit Rates.	Estimated Number of Letters † carried by the Packets in both Directions.
- - - - -	- - - - -	- - - - -	£ Nil.	£ Nil.	6d.	No. 2,500,000
50l. for every 12 hours.	25l. for every 12 hours.	- - - - -	55,000	Nil.	1s.	No account taken.
One-eighth part of ordinary payment for every 24 hours.	- - - - -	- - - - -	28,000	2,00	1s.	410,000
Ditto - - - - -	- - - - -	India, 110,000l.	135,000	196,000	{ Mediterranean 6d. India & Ceylon 9d. China, &c. 1s.	} 8,000,000
- - - - -	- - - - -	- - - - -	- - - - -	- - - - -	- - - - -	- - - - -
- - - - -	- - - - -	- - - - -	48,000	64,000	3d.	10,800,000
- - - - -	- - - - -	- - - - -	- - - - -	- - - - -	- - - - -	- - - - -
60l. for every 24 hours.	- - - - -	- - - - -	3,500	25,500	{ Canadian Dominion and New- foundland. } 3d. Bermuda - 6d. Bahamas - 1s.	} No account taken.
- - - - -	- - - - -	- - - - -	16,000	Nil.	1s. 6d.	"
One-eighth part of ordinary payment for every 24 hours.	- - - - -	- - - - -	80,000	97,000	1s.	"
50l. for every 12 hours.	25l. for every 12 hours.	- - - - -	- - - - -	- - - - -	- - - - -	- - - - -
One-eighth part of ordinary payment for every 24 hours.	- - - - -	- - - - -	- - - - -	- - - - -	- - - - -	- - - - -
- - - - -	- - - - -	- - - - -	6,700	3,600	6d.	"

* The payments in these cases depend upon the amount of correspondence conveyed by the packets.
† International and Transit Letters only.

(c) An additional sum of 2,000l. is paid to the Company for landing the mails at Plymouth. Deductions amounting to 1,315l. are made on account of the withdrawal of Naval Agents and sorting officers, and further, deductions, amounting to 2,784l., are made on account of alterations of route.

GEORGE CHETWYND,
Receiver and Accountant General.

APPENDIX (F.)

NUMBER of MAILS daily between London and other Post Towns in England and Wales.

Year.	Towns having One Mail only.		Towns having Two Mails.		Towns having Three Mails.		Towns having Four Mails.		Towns having Five Mails.		Towns having Six Mails.		Towns having Seven Mails.		Towns having Eight Mails.		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.	
1872	41	89	315	222	99	114	80	101	36	42	5	9	5	4	2	2	563
1873	43	89	319	227	83	119	88	96	38	43	5	11	5	4	2	2	564
1874	43	89	302	226	92	118	96	97	43	45	17	17	4	4	2	3	590

APPENDIX (G.)

Private Wires.

TABLE showing the NET ADDITIONAL RENTALS, Quarter by Quarter, in each of the Four Years since the transfer; with the Total Increase in each Financial Year, and the NET AGGREGATE RENTALS at the same date (31st March) in each of those Years.

Financial Year.	Net additional Rentals obtained within					Total increase within the Financial Year.	Aggregate Rentals current at the end of the Financial Year.
	Quarter ended 30th June.	Quarter ended 30th September.	Quarter ended 31st December.	Quarter ended 31st March.			
	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.
* Amount at the 31st March 1870	- - -	- - -	- - -	- - -	- - -	- - -	*26,425 16 6
1870-71	101 0 0	545 16 6	527 4 0	432 5 6	1,606 6 0	28,032 2 6	
1871-72	623 0 0	439 6 0	1,402 7 0	1,110 18 0	3,575 11 0	31,607 13 6	
1872-73	1,390 7 0	1,220 12 0	1,729 16 6	2,488 0 10	6,828 16 4	38,436 9 10	
1873-74	2,220 11 0	2,022 14 0	1,726 2 0	2,601 5 0	8,570 12 0	47,007 1 10	
1874-75	2,236 17 0	0 17 10†	1,154 4 0	2,310 12 0	5,700 15 2	52,707 17 0	

* The figures given in the last column, as the Total Rentals current at the 31st March 1870, are the aggregate Rentals of the Private Wire Systems of the late "Universal Private" and other Telegraph Companies, which were acquired by the Post Office at the transfer; and they include also some Rentals which accrued between that date (29th January) and the 31st March 1870.

† The decrease in this Quarter is due to the fact that, under a decision arrived at about this time, Lines of Telegraph maintained by the Department for certain Railway, Canal, and Cable Companies, and before treated as Private Wires, ceased to be so classed, and consequently 1,120 miles of wire, with rentals amounting in the aggregate to 1,742¹/₂ a year, were deducted; thus showing a decrease of 17s. 10d., instead of a net increase of 1,741¹/₂, the amount which would have been shown if the same course as had hitherto been adopted had been followed in this instance.

APPENDIX (G.)—continued.

Private Wires.

STATEMENT showing the PROGRESSIVE INCREASE in the NUMBER of PRIVATE WIRE CONTRACTS, MILES of WIRE, and INSTRUMENTS in use on Lines of Private Wire, from the 31st March 1870.

Financial Year.	Net Increase.												Total Increase for the Year.			Total Number at End of Financial Year.		
	Quarter ended 30th June.			Quarter ended 30th September.			Quarter ended 31st December.			Quarter ended 31st March.								
	Contracts.	Miles.	Instruments.	Contracts.	Miles.	Instruments.	Contracts.	Miles.	Instruments.	Contracts.	Miles.	Instruments.	Contracts.	Miles.	Instruments.			
At the 31st March 1870	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	775	3,971	1,901			
1870-71	6	2	5	16	52	37	11	19	41	16	8	42	49	81	125	824	4,052	2,026
1871-72	22	29	41	13	44	23	18	133	43	37	87	66	90	298	173	914	4,845	2,199
1872-73	41	95	84	27	105	56	38	178	88	72	471*	290*	178	849	518	1,092	5,194	2,717
1873-74	53	179	154	64	150	143	48	177	119	82	226	170	247	732	586	1,339	5,926	3,303
1874-75	56	219	177	27	143	140	47	93	101	60	226	175	190	681	593	1,493†	5,487†	3,785†

* Including a very considerable extension of the system of Police Wires in London.

† These figures give the totals after deducting 1,150 Miles and 111 Instruments under the circumstances explained in Note 2 to the previous statement on the preceding page.

APPENDIX (H.)

Money Orders.

Year.	ENGLAND AND WALES.				SCOTLAND.				IRELAND.				UNITED KINGDOM.			
	Number.	Amount.	Increase per cent. on Number.	Proportion of Money Orders issued to population.	Number.	Amount.	Increase per cent. on Number.	Proportion of Money Orders issued to population.	Number.	Amount.	Increase per cent. on Number.	Proportion of Money Orders issued to population.	Number.	Amount.	Increase per cent. on Number.	Proportion of Money Orders issued to population.
1889	142,725	240,063	—	—	16,183	28,785	—	—	30,015	47,385	—	—	188,921	313,124	—	—
1890	463,764	802,827	—	—	51,536	80,980	—	—	53,507	77,167	—	—	587,797	960,975	—	—
Average of 5 years	2,030,977	4,211,836	318	468	310,093	385,636	308	377	196,785	339,443	271	340	2,429,855	4,837,256	313	414
1891-95	3,966,949	6,665,684	66	93	374,137	680,636	78	78	347,547	585,151	75	72	4,087,703	7,954,533	60	61
1892-96	4,388,045	8,463,175	30	36	418,946	769,893	12	13	407,008	683,277	17	17	5,219,539	9,941,318	37	35
1893-97	5,678,307	10,596,412	29	28	504,097	976,289	25	26	464,064	863,963	18	20	6,886,368	12,737,591	24	28
1894-98	6,799,360	14,021,737	20	23	649,417	1,263,454	24	31	552,414	1,063,170	14	20	8,001,127	16,398,361	19	20
1895-99	8,116,558	16,464,960	20	17	792,206	1,560,661	22	21	636,523	1,274,066	18	16	9,588,585	19,319,707	19	18
1871*	10,376,876	18,666,317	26	13	983,911	1,786,574	24	14	903,100	1,446,682	23	14	12,062,886	21,796,583	23	13
1878	11,901,469	20,876,179	16	10	1,164,639	2,046,682	18	15	918,978	1,592,508	14	10	13,984,180	24,013,747	16	10
1873	12,968,004	21,693,700	8	6	1,273,096	2,210,107	9	8	982,546	1,700,212	7	10†	15,118,634	25,600,069	8	6†
1874	13,650,011	23,246,683	5	3	1,354,415	2,268,789	4	2‡	1,026,136	1,781,017	4‡	1	15,900,668	26,246,441	5	2‡

In 1940 the commission on Money Orders was reduced as follows:—
 For any sum above 97 and not exceeding 97 from 1s. 6d. to 8d.
 For any sum not exceeding 97 from 8d. to 9d.

the commission on Money Orders was reduced
For any sum not exceeding $\frac{2}{3}$ from 6d. to 3d.

as follows: — For any s

ended from 5% to 10%.

† In May 1971 the commission on Inland Money Orders was reduced as follows:—

† In May 1871 the commission on Inland Money Orders was reduced as follows:—

Former Rates of Commission.		Present Rates of Commission.			
	a. d.	a. d.	a. d.		
For sums not exceeding 2 <i>l</i> .	0 3	For sums under 10 <i>l</i> .	0 1	For sums of 5 <i>l</i> . and under 6 <i>l</i> .	0 7
" above 2 <i>l</i> , but not exceeding 5 <i>l</i> .	0 6	" of 10 <i>l</i> . and under 1 <i>l</i> .	0 3	" of 6 <i>l</i> .	0 8
" above 5 <i>l</i> , but not exceeding 7 <i>l</i> .	0 9	" of 1 <i>l</i> .	0 3	" of 7 <i>l</i> .	0 9
" above 7 <i>l</i> , but not exceeding 10 <i>l</i> .	1 0	" of 2 <i>l</i> .	0 4	" of 8 <i>l</i> .	0 10
		" of 3 <i>l</i> .	0 5	" of 9 <i>l</i> .	0 11
		" of 4 <i>l</i> .	0 6	" of 10 <i>l</i> .	1 0

APPENDIX (H.)—*continued.***Money Orders.****TABLE** showing the Amount (to the nearest Pound) of Money Order Transactions between the United Kingdom and the principal Colonies during the Year 1874.

Colony.	Issues on the United Kingdom.	Issues on Colony.
	£	£
Australia - - - - -	140,864	28,865
British America - - - - -	135,693	38,252
Cape Colony - - - - -	15,606	2,934
India - - - - -	44,234	2,691
New Zealand - - - - -	58,072	7,322
South and West Africa - - - - -	39,868	1,053
West Indies - - - - -	107,338	3,552

TABLE showing the Amount (to the nearest Pound) of Money Order Transactions between the United Kingdom and certain Foreign Countries during the Year 1874.

Country.	Issues on United Kingdom.	Issues on Foreign Country.
	£	£
Belgium - - - - -	14,521	11,356
Denmark - - - - -	2,882	2,800
Egypt - - - - -	1,384	44
France - - - - -	5,519	18,580
Germany - - - - -	38,369	50,070
Italy - - - - -	6,214	9,898
Netherlands - - - - -	3,831	3,595
Switzerland - - - - -	5,052	12,742
United States - - - - -	240,886	60,336

APPENDIX (L)

Post Office Savings Bank.

YEAR.	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21
	Number of Post Office Savings Banks.	Number of Deposits.	Amount of Deposits.	Average Amount of each Deposit.	Interest credited to Depositors.	Number of Withdrawals.	Amount of Withdrawals.	Average Amount of each 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.	Percentage of Cost of Management to total funds in possession of the Post Office Savings Bank.	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 at close of the Year of Old Savings Banks and Post Office Banks combined.	Number at close of the Year of the Depositors in Old Savings Banks and Post Office Banks combined.
From 1st Sept. 1861 to 31st Dec. 1862.	2,535	638,316	2,114,689	3 6 3	22,189	97,294	438,637	4 10 2	20,591	5 5 1	205,928	27,453	178,465	1,698,221	2 2 2	2 2 2	1,659,032*	35,692	1,694,724	3,157	1,732,555
1863	2,991	843,846	2,651,209	3 2 11	55,204	197,451	1,057,154	5 4 0	25,401	7 5 1	185,984	44,780	819,689	3,377,460	2 2 2	2 2 2	3,363,182*	44,413	3,372,595*	3,594	1,876,389
1864	3,081	1,110,762	3,350,000	2 2 2	100,463	309,247	1,534,849	5 18 8	46,856	7 1 1	226,153	74,964	470,838	3,963,123	2 2 2	2 2 2	4,996,963*	5,522	5,001,186*	3,659	1,967,863
1865	3,321	1,302,509	3,719,017	2 17 1	182,570	407,412	2,318,610	5 13 10	49,527	6 1 1	239,696	99,160	611,854	4,526,400	2 2 2	2 2 2	6,563,399*	4,327	6,566,666*	3,622	2,073,346
Average of 5 Yrs.: 1866-70	3,815	1,802,651	5,232,108	2 18 1	263,014	647,620	3,770,681	5 16 5	62,803	7 1 1	285,524	131,170	967,066	11,632,214	2 2 2	2 2 2	11,624,504*	50,351	11,603,124*	4,358	2,335,942
1871	4,535	2,362,621	6,604,629	2 16 5	376,738	845,279	5,115,467	6 1 0	69,427	7 1 1	370,745	250,444	1,505,462	17,623,004	2 2 2	2 2 2	17,598,515	168,456	17,470,271	4,896	2,707,570
1872	4,607	2,745,245	7,690,916	2 16 1	450,079	935,976	5,856,660	6 4 11	78,404	7 1 1	424,843	285,837	1,442,448	19,316,339	2 2 2	2 2 2	19,559,804	301,070	19,960,574	5,067	2,867,598
1873	4,853	2,917,698	7,955,740	2 14 6	477,551	1,025,553	6,584,181	6 8 5	84,160	7 1 1	453,478	310,291	1,556,645	21,167,740	2 2 2	2 2 2	21,745,442	62,550	21,893,292	5,554	3,095,134
1874	5,068	3,044,662	8,241,256	2 14 10	524,550	1,069,669	6,576,095	6 8 7	99,616	7 1 1	442,501	330,413	1,698,733	23,157,469	2 2 2	2 2 2	24,050,711	(a) 94,016,838	(a) 94,016,838	5,545	3,134,871

* These sums do not include the dividends accruing to the Post Office Savings Banks on the 8th 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 and in the percentage of cost of management in 1863 and the increase in these items in 1864 are attributable to one and the same cause, viz., to the payment during 1864 of various charges properly belonging to 1863.

‡ The reduction in the cost per transaction and per centage of cost of management since 1865, is partly owing to a discontinuance, in 1866, of any charge for postage; a charge amounting to about three farthings per transaction.

(a) The amount of outstanding Warrants on 31st December 1874 was 36,917l., but the amount in the Postmaster General's hands to meet payment of these Warrants was 21,400l. only.

APPENDIX (I.)—continued.
POST OFFICE SAVINGS BANK.
BALANCE SHEET.

RETURN of the BALANCE SHEETS of the POST OFFICE SAVINGS BANKS for the Year 1874, 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 1874 (including interest)	23,157,469 18 10	Value of Securities at the Cost Price, less depreciation of those which are terminable by lapse of time	23,371,698 7 11
Amount of expenses remaining unpaid (partly estimated)	30,000 0 0	Amount of cash in hands of Commissioners for the Reduction of the National Debt	155,082 12 9
Surplus of Funds to meet Liabilities	829,366 10 2	Total Amount in the hands of the Commissioners for the Reduction of the National Debt	- - -
		Amount received for issuing new Deposit Books	- - -
		Deduct.—Amount required to meet the Payment of Warrants issued, but not cashed on 31st December 1874	36,217 11 8
		Less.—Amount in the hands of Her Majesty's Postmaster General towards meeting payment of them	21,499 13 8
	£		£
	24,016,836 9 0		24,030,711 0 8*
			848 7 4
			24,031,554 8 0
			14,717 19 0
			24,016,836 9 0

Total amount received from Depositors, including interest, to 31st December 1874 £ 73,042,033 15 11.
 Total amount repaid to Depositors to 31st December 1874 £ 48,894,583 17 1

Number of Transactions.		Number of Accounts.	
Deposits.	Withdrawals.	Opened.	Closed.
23,975,546	8,123,737	4,006,893	2,398,155
			Remaining Open.
			1,698,753.

The total cost of the Post Office Savings Banks from their establishment to the 31st December 1874, including the sum of 30,000*l.* charged as above, was 793,744*l.* 15*s.* 2*d.*
 The total number of transactions, i.e., Deposits and Withdrawals, in the period was 32,099,283.

The average cost of each transaction was 4*d.* nearly.
 Prior to the passing of the Post Office Savings Banks Act, 1861, it was estimated (see Parliamentary Paper, No. 523, 1861) that the average cost of each transaction would be 7*d.*
 * This amount has been obtained from the second schedule to the Savings Bank Act of 1875.

General Post Office, June 1875.

GEO. CHERTWYND,
 Receiver and Accountant General.

APPENDIX (I).—*continued.*

EXTRACT from the Report of the Controller of the Post Office Savings Banks.

* * * * *

Penny Banks.

" Since the establishment of Post Office Savings Banks, authority has been given to 563 Penny Banks to deposit their funds. The number of Penny Banks having Post Office Savings Bank accounts open at the present time is 317.

" Before authority is given for opening an account on behalf of a Penny Bank, the application is referred to the National Debt Commissioners for their approval. The Commissioners insist upon the insertion of a clause in the rules of Penny Banks approved by them limiting the investments of individual depositors to a sum not exceeding 5*l.* The minimum deposit in these banks is usually one penny, although in one or two cases it is as low as a farthing. (In a paper on School Savings Banks in Ghent, which appeared in "*Macmillan*" for March 1874, Mr. J. G. Fitch states that the minimum of deposits in the Ghent School Banks is as low as a centime.) The system of School Banks has been introduced into France, and the subject is at the present time receiving the attention of the Councils General of the various Departments.

Facilities given Depositors in Penny Banks to open accounts in Post Office Savings Banks.

" Arrangements are sometimes made with the Managers of Penny Banks (with a view of saving trouble to their depositors who wish to open accounts in the Post Office Savings Bank) to supply them with forms of the Declaration required to be made by depositors on opening accounts in the Post Office Savings Bank. When a depositor in a Penny Bank wishes to open such an account, the Penny Bank manager supplies him with one of the forms, the signature to which is attested in the manner pointed out in clause 3 of the Post Office Savings Bank Regulations. The manager then presents the Declaration and the amount to be deposited at some Post Office Savings Bank, and a Deposit Book is issued by the Postmaster and handed to the manager, who, before giving it up to the depositor, obtains his signature thereto.

" It is shown in the latter part of this Report that the Penny Banks of Liverpool and Glasgow are important auxiliaries of the Old Savings Banks in those places. I think that the Penny Banks connected with the Post Office Savings Bank might be of equal assistance to the Department if the arrangements just referred to were extended to all Penny Banks depositing their funds in the Post Office Savings Bank.

* * * * *

Rates of Interest allowed.

" The rate of interest allowed to depositors in Penny Banks varies considerably. Sometimes a high rate is paid, to meet which subscriptions have to be collected. In some Penny Banks no interest is allowed. In many Penny Banks depositors are charged for the use of deposit books. This charge is generally one penny.

" Many Penny Banks pay off their depositors at the close of each year, and commence fresh accounts at the beginning of the next. This is the case in several of the largest Penny Banks in London.

" The Department supplies deposit books gratuitously to the managers of Penny Banks the funds of which are invested in the Post Office Savings Bank, whenever desired. The managers are not allowed to make any charge to depositors for the use of such books.

" Managers of Penny Banks are permitted to deposit silver and copper coin to any amount, if they require to do so. Special instructions are sent to the Postmasters at whose offices the deposits are to be made.

"A great increase in the number of authorities granted to Penny Banks has taken place during the last two years. This is due to the establishment of such banks in various parts of England by the agents of the Provident Knowledge Society. The majority of these banks, however, closed their accounts in a very short time, and but few of them, judging from the amounts deposited, are in a prosperous state.

Increase in number of authorities to deposit given to Penny Banks.

"School Penny Banks have during the year 1874 been opened in connexion with the schools of the Tower Hamlets Division of the London School Board, and appear to be successful. In the accounts of nine of these Penny Banks established in June last, 471*l.* have been deposited and 257*l.* withdrawn.

School Banks in London.

"The Department supplies gratuitously deposit books to the Penny Banks established by the Provident Knowledge Society and the London School Board. An order for 10,000 deposit books for the latter is now in course of being executed.

Deposit books supplied gratuitously by Post Office Savings Bank.

"As showing the facilities offered by the Department, it may be stated that during the respective years 1872, 3, and 4, 272, 246, and 215 offices were opened as Post Office Savings Banks, and that on the 31st of December last 5,068 offices were open for the transaction of Savings Bank business.

"The annual Report of the Greenock Provident Bank for 1874 has been forwarded to this Department. The financial year of the bank ends on the 27th of September. The bank was established in 1816, and has steadily progressed since that time. It is open daily from 10 to 3, and also on three evenings a week from half-past 6 to 8. The report shows that, at the close of the year's accounts, 198,254*l.* were due to 12,974 depositors, the average value of the accounts being 15*l.* 5*s.* 8*d.* During the year there had been 33,604 deposits, amounting to 99,103*l.*, and averaging 2*l.* 18*s.* 11*d.*, and 19,549 withdrawals, amounting to 95,445*l.*, and averaging 4*l.* 17*s.* 8*d.* The allowance of interest is somewhat curiously arranged. On accounts the balances in which during the year have been under 20*l.*, four per cent. is allowed; on accounts the balances in which are above 20*l.* but under 100*l.*, three per cent.; and on accounts the balances in which exceed 100*l.*, two per cent. is allowed. The Greenock Provident Bank is not established under the Savings Banks Acts, and of its funds, which amount to 207,223*l.*, only 50,000*l.* are invested in Government stock, the remainder being invested in railway debentures and mortgage bonds, and in the bonds of various municipal trusts.

Greenock Provident Bank.

"Reports of three important Penny Bank organizations are enclosed, viz., 'The Yorkshire Penny Banks,' 'The Liverpool Penny Savings Bank Association,' and the 'Penny Savings Banks in and around Glasgow.' The first of these is an independent association, the two last are connected with the Liverpool and Glasgow Savings Banks respectively.

Reports of three important Penny Bank organizations.

"The Yorkshire Penny Bank was founded in 1859, and is supported by a large and influential body of managers and guarantors. The operations of the bank are restricted to the county of York and places within 10 miles of the border. During the year 1873, 572,058 deposits, amounting to 239,361*l.*, were received, and 63,267 withdrawals, amounting to 203,599*l.*, were paid. At the end of the year 65,446 accounts remained open at the 316 branches of the bank, and the amount due in those accounts was 374,003*l.* The average value of an account was, therefore, 5*l.* 14*s.* 3*d.* Interest is allowed to depositors at the rate of three per cent. per annum, and in a class of accounts called "Investment Accounts," interest at the rate of three and a half per cent. per annum is allowed where balances of 50*l.* and upwards remain in the bank for

The Yorkshire Penny Bank.

"Investment Accounts."

three consecutive calendar months. The Yorkshire Penny Bank does not, therefore, come within the restriction imposed by the National Debt Commissioners upon Penny Banks which deposit their funds in legally established Savings Banks. The funds of the Yorkshire Penny Bank are invested, according to the rules, in public funds, Government or real securities, debentures, mortgages, securities of any company incorporated by Charter or Act of Parliament, or on the security of county or borough rates.

"The directors of the Yorkshire Penny Bank refer in their Report to a plan which they have adopted of issuing cheque books to depositors whose balances exceed 20*l*. They state that many depositors have availed themselves of this privilege, which they consider has attracted many new depositors to the bank.

The Liverpool
and Glasgow
Penny Banks.

"The Liverpool and Glasgow Penny Banks are Penny Banks coming within the restriction laid down by the National Debt Commissioners. In both places the actuaries of the Savings Banks appear to be actively concerned in the management of the Penny Banks. In Liverpool during the year 1874 there were 26 Penny Banks open, and during the year there were 124,951 transactions in them; 5,915*l*. were received and 3,962*l*. were repaid; in addition to which 1,196*l*. were transferred to the Liverpool Savings Banks in the names of the depositors. At the end of the year (20th November 1874) 9,340 depositors had 1,862*l*. standing to their credit; the average value of an account being nearly 4*s*. It would appear that these banks form an important auxiliary to the Liverpool Savings Bank. During the year 1874 the donations in aid of the association amounted to 81*l*.

"The Glasgow Penny Banks resemble the Liverpool Penny Banks, although on a larger scale. In the year ending 20th November 1874 there were 127 Penny Banks in and around Glasgow connected with the National Security Savings Bank (Glasgow Savings Bank). During the year 1873 the sum of 56*l*. was subscribed in aid of these Penny Banks. In 1874 these banks had 486,963 transactions; the deposits amounting to 33,670*l*., and the withdrawals to 15,870*l*. The sum of 16,872*l*. was transferred during the year in the names of depositors to the Glasgow Savings Bank. At the end of the year there were 48,271 open accounts and 10,722*l*. were due to the depositors, the average value of an account being nearly 4*s*. 6*d*. In their annual Report the directors refer to the success which has attended the establishment of School Banks, and they have published an abridged translation of a pamphlet on the Ghent School Banks. Not only has the experiment been tried in Glasgow, but in a Highland village school, with an attendance of little more than 100 scholars, 109 accounts were opened in 18 weeks and 87*l*. deposited. Of this amount only 6*s*. had been withdrawn; but 52*l*. were transferred to the Glasgow Savings Bank."

School Bank in
the Highlands.

Annuities and Life Insurances.

(I.) TABLE showing the BUSINESS done in each YEAR since the commencement on the 17th April 1865.

Year.	ANNUITIES.										LIFE INSURANCES.								
	Immediate.					Deferred.					Contracts granted.	Receipts.	Payments.						
	Contracts granted.	Receipts.	Payments.	Contracts granted.	Receipts.	Purchase Money Returned.*	Fees received on Immediate and Deferred Annuity Contracts, the Charges on Monthly Allowances being included in the Premium.	Amount of Annuities and Monthly Allowances.	No.	Amount of Purchase Money.									
														No.	Amount of Annuities.	No.	Amount of Premium.	No.	Amount.
1865	87	2,100	24,738	33	423	—	45	949	67	1,342	—	547	40,647	1,076	1,166	—	2		
1866	106	4,327	46,839	280	3,183	—	72	1,389	297	2,845	8	621	47,261	3,782	2,838	1	70		
1867	268	5,966	65,068	725	8,048	—	41	704	313	2,392	8	364	26,989	5,396	3,590	5	318		
1868	323	6,396	70,776	1,266	14,113	—	40	668	310	2,505	16	350	26,781	6,468	4,192	11	754		
1869	363	6,811	74,401	1,596	19,925	—	45	1,044	385	2,062	10	422	32,670	7,514	5,044	10	537		
1870	306	6,120	67,738	2,559	26,099	—	57	1,195	514	3,529	9	385	31,254	9,274	5,877	39†	1,676		
1871	360	7,272	81,839	3,125	32,056	—	36	710	502	2,840	16	358	27,695	9,591	6,468	59	1,744		
1872	1,019‡	9,870	97,960	3,737	38,464	—	38	781	490	2,838	16	757	55,983	11,659	7,490	54	2,184		
1873	1,344‡	10,360	106,877	6,257	47,274	—	35	583	530	3,925	19	396	33,073	13,206	8,279	76	2,516		
1874	1,814‡	12,369	114,021	9,492	56,888	—	53	992	583	4,827	19	278	21,622	13,450	8,615	92	3,766		

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* As no Deferred Annuity or Monthly Allowance is granted to commence before the expiration of ten years from the date of the Contracts no payment on this account has yet become due.

† Claims on Surrender value of Life Insurance Contracts commenced in this year.

‡ This increase partially arises from Contracts granted on the lives of Masters and Seamen of Mercantile Marine, through the Board of Trade.

General Post Office,
June 1874.

CHERTWOLD,
Geo. Receiver and Accountant-General.

APPENDIX (J.)—continued.

(II.) TABLE showing the Number and Amount of CONTRACTS entered into from the Commencement of Business on 17th April 1865 to the 31st December 1874, and the Number and Amount of Contracts in existence on the 31st December 1874.

	CONTRACTS GRANTED.				TOTAL.	
	From 17 April 1865 to 31 December 1873.		From 1 January to 31 December 1874.			
	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 1874, viz. :—						
Immediate Annuities - -	4,255	59,154 7 0	1,814	12,259 6 4	6,069	71,413 13 4
Deferred Annuities and Monthly Allowances, Money not returnable - -	143	2,712 1 6	17	257 0 0	160	2,969 1 6
Deferred Annuities and Monthly Allowances, Money returnable - - - -	266	5,256 9 0	36	735 2 0	302	5,991 11 0
Contracts for Sums payable at Death granted from the commencement of business on the 17th April 1865 to the 31st December 1874 - - - - -	4,200	322,357 10 7	278	21,621 19 5	4,478	343,979 10 0
Contracts for Annuities in existence on the 31st December 1874, viz. :—						
Immediate Annuities - -	- - - - -	- - - - -	- - - - -	- - - - -	5,629	64,621 16 4
Deferred Annuities and Monthly Allowances, Money not returnable - - -	- - - - -	- - - - -	- - - - -	- - - - -	142	2,566 19 6
Deferred Annuities and Monthly Allowances, Money returnable - - - -	- - - - -	- - - - -	- - - - -	- - - - -	181	3,411 7 0
Contracts for Sums payable at Death, in existence on the 31st December 1874 - - -	- - - - -	- - - - -	- - - - -	- - - - -	3,630	284,069 10 5

General Post Office,
June 1875.

GEO. CHETWIND,
Receiver and Accountant-General.

APPENDIX (K.)

Licenses.

NUMBER and DESCRIPTION of LICENSES issued by the Post Office since 1869, with the Revenue from the same.

Year.	Dogs at 6s. each.	Male Servants at 15s. each.	Carriages.		Horse Dealers at 12/ 10s. each.	Horses and Mules at 10s. 6d. each.	Armorial Bearings.		Guns at 10s. each.	Game.			Total Number.	Revenue.
			At 42s. each.	At 15s. each.			At 42s. each.	At 21s. each.		Red at 60s.	Green at 40s.	Blue at 40s.		
1869	• 473,218	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	473,218	£ 118,304 10 0
1870	• 524,033	74,007	32,020	73,171	10	203,351	6,171	10,219	40,748	—	—	—	904,323	400,027 16 6
1871	• 533,229	70,265	31,827	73,111	10	201,527	5,945	10,303	62,161	—	—	—	1,008,038	473,511 15 6
1872	• 573,728	71,294	33,978	74,413	10	205,914	5,943	11,090	62,239	—	—	—	1,037,008	435,439 9 0
1873	• 615,343	66,236	32,980	74,651	8	206,468	5,756	10,763	70,471	—	—	—	1,085,938	498,157 0 0
1874	• 635,636	66,325	34,094	75,495	8	203,583	5,836	10,943	79,451	4	1	1	1,163,207	521,249 14 6

APPENDIX (L.)

Staff of Officers.

At the end of 1874 the Staff of Officers was as follows, as compared with the Staff at the end of 1873.

On 31st of Dec. 1873.		On 31st of Dec. 1874.
	I. Officers in British Isles :— (A.) Staff employed either wholly in postal duties (including Money Order and Savings Bank business,) or partly in postal and partly in telegraph duties, viz.:	
	1 Postmaster General - - - -	1
	7 Secretary, second, third, and fourth secretaries, assistant secretaries, surveyor general for Scotland, and secretary for Ireland.	8
	21 Other superior officers in the Metropolitan offices, viz. : heads of departments, chief clerks, &c.	22
	15 Surveyors - - - - -	15
12,529	Postmasters - - - - -	12,961
2,954	Clerks, &c. - - - - -	2,992
16,072	Letter carriers, sorters, messengers, &c. -	16,584
101	Mail guards and porters - - - -	94
6	Marine mail officers - - - -	3
31,706		32,680
	(B.) Staff engaged exclusively on telegraph duties, viz.:	
	19 Chief engineers and other superior officers -	19
6,309	Clerks, subordinate engineers, &c. -	6,628
4,130	Messengers, &c. - - - -	4,572
10,458		11,219
	24 II. Postmasters, clerks, letter carriers, &c. in the colonies, the posts of which are under the direction of the Postmaster General.	26
24		26
	48 III. Agents in foreign countries for collection of postage, &c.	57
48		57
42,236		43,982

Force and Expenditure in relation to Postage and Money Orders in the last Ten Years.

Year.	FORCE.		EXPENDITURE.												Total Cost of Post Office Service.
	Effective.	Non-Effective.	Cost of COLLECTION and DELIVERY, of MANAGEMENT, and of MONEY ORDER BUSINESS.						Cost of CONVEYANCE of MAILS.						
			Staff Officers, Postmasters, Clerks, Guards, Letter Carriers (exclusive of Telegraph and Savings Bank Officers).	Pensioners.	Salaries, Wages, Pensions, Travelling Allowances, Foundries on Sale of Stamps, Commission on Money Order Business, Cost of Uniform Clothing, of Medical Attendance, of Substitutes during Holidays or Sickness, and amount of Official Postage, Law Charges, and incidental Expenses.	Manufacture of Postage Stamps, Post Cards, and Stamped Newspaper Wrappers.	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.	Mail Bags and Boxes, Tolls, and Ferryage, apparatus for Exchange of Bags conveyed by Railway, and Miscellaneous Expenses.	Conveyance of Mails by Packets under Contract, and by private Ships.	Conveyance of Mails over Ishmunnes of Buses and Ferries and in other Foreign Ports, and Salaries of Admiralty Agents and other Officers in charge of Foreign and Colonial Mails.	
1865	25,083	1,274	1,296,153	22,064	33,396	76,331	1,424,944	140,517	523,320	22,220	796,399	28,786	1,516,142	2,941,086	
1866	25,594	1,423	1,368,187	23,254	34,989	182,627	1,609,007	139,888	536,085	21,336	817,467	27,898	1,592,874	3,201,681 (a)	
1867	25,902	1,559	1,421,854	23,684	33,083	236,592	1,715,163	140,069	559,575	22,434	783,945	25,764	1,531,087	3,246,850 (b)	
1868	26,263	1,756	1,440,144	25,000	39,014	214,523	1,718,680	139,553	578,927	18,769	777,097	33,698	1,546,044	3,266,724 (c)	
1869	26,910	1,871	1,455,251	25,000	40,788	115,123	1,634,163	139,316	583,596	17,533	1,063,796	25,822	1,583,065	3,469,227 (d)	
1870	23,078	1,983	1,467,813	47,500	42,561	110,225	1,698,097	138,763	587,296	16,205	903,464	26,290	1,787,768	3,435,895	
1871	23,959	2,064	1,550,793	49,300	45,297	136,073	1,781,422	140,828	598,281	19,911	1,047,044 (e)	26,280	1,829,278	3,610,700	
1872	30,006	2,241	1,681,975	53,200	46,037	164,308	1,900,520	144,576	618,715	19,774	927,762	23,599	1,734,486	3,684,946	
1873	31,065	2,421	1,774,702	66,170	37,272	133,307	2,010,451	147,877	644,179	23,970	944,896	21,306	1,782,228	3,792,679	
1874	31,800	2,494	1,874,438	70,000	37,420	168,855	2,150,713	187,008	646,613	23,865	915,539 (f)	18,454	1,764,500	3,915,213	

(a) Including £73,387 paid under the Post Office Extension Act, the greater portion of which has been charged to Buildings, &c.

(b) Including £193,131 ditto.

(c) Including £105,292 ditto.

(d) Including £17,544 ditto.

(e) For an explanation of this increase see Appendix (N.), Note (f).

(f) This decrease is chiefly attributable to a reduction in the amount of the subsidy payable to the Peninsular and Oriental Steam Packet Company, and to the Australia Colonies having taken the service beyond Point de Galle into their own hands, in the year 1874.

APPENDIX (N.) Gross and Net Revenue from Postage and Money Orders in the last Ten Years.

Year.	Gross Revenue from Letters, Post Cards, Newspapers, and Books.	Money Order Commission.	Unclaimed Money Orders.	Gross Revenue collected by the Post Office.	Produce of the Impressed Stamp on Newspapers collected by Inland Revenue Office.	Total Postal Revenue.	Total Cost of Post Office Service.	Net Revenue.
	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£
1865 - -	4,142,086	157,113	—	4,299,199	124,409	4,423,608	2,941,066	1,482,523
1866 - -	4,311,457	166,430	—	4,477,887	121,790	4,599,677	3,201,681	1,397,996
1867 - -	4,376,044	172,085	—	4,548,129	120,085	4,668,214	3,246,850	1,421,364
1868 - -	4,391,270 (a)	175,612	—	4,566,882	116,764	4,683,646	3,366,724	1,316,922 (a)
1869 - -	4,472,746	176,480	—	4,649,226	115,949	4,764,175	3,459,327 (b)	1,304,848
1870 - -	4,664,512 (c)	184,083	—	4,848,605	80,870	4,929,475	3,435,965	1,493,510
1871 - -	4,697,807 (d)	182,140	20,707 (e)	4,900,454	-	4,900,454	3,610,700 (f)	1,289,754 (d)
1872 - -	5,012,016	192,804	3,502 (e)	5,208,322	-	5,208,322	3,684,946	1,523,376
1873 - -	5,134,318	208,037	5,167 (e)	5,348,040	-	5,348,040	3,792,079	1,555,961
1874 - -	5,531,023	215,493	5,116	5,751,600	-	5,751,600	3,915,318	1,836,282
Average Net Revenue of first Five Years								
Ditto second ditto								
—								
—								

(a) The Public Departments ceased to be charged with postage early in the year 1868. The amount so charged in 1867 was upwards of 280,000l.

(b) The large increase in the cost of the Post Office Service in 1869 was owing to an increased cost of the Packet Service; as shown in Appendix (M.)

(c) The Impressed Stamp on Newspapers was abolished in September 1870, and since that date the whole Postage on Newspapers has been collected by the Post Office.

(d) The revenue of 1871 was to a certain extent affected by the assimilation of Letter Rates of Postage with those of Trade Patents, and the reduction of Postage on Letters sent by half an ounce in weight, both of which took place on 8th October in that year.

(e) Before 1871 the money accruing from unclaimed Money Orders had, for many years, been used in aiding Officers of the Department to insure their lives; but in that year the Treasury gave directions for the discontinuance of the practice (except in regard to then existing recipients of the aid) and for the payment of this money into the Exchequer. In consequence of this order, the accumulated capital, together with the interest thereon (amounting to 20,707l.), was paid into the Exchequer. The actual amount of unclaimed Money Orders for 1871 was 20,707l. The unclaimed orders for 1873 are estimated at 3,708l. The above sum of 5,167l. includes a balance of forfeited orders, viz., 1,464l. not previously added to the revenue.

(f) Part of the increase in 1871 was owing to a balance due for the Packet Service in 1870 having, at the end of that year, remained unpaid.

APPENDIX (O.)

GROSS REVENUE, COST of MANAGEMENT, and NET REVENUE of the
POST OFFICE of the UNITED KINGDOM, since the Year 1837.*

Year.	Gross Revenue. (a)	Cost of Management.	Net Revenue.	Postage charged on Government Departments.
	£	£	£	£
1838 (b) - -	2,346,278	686,768	1,659,510	45,156
1839 (c) - -	2,890,768	756,999	1,633,764	44,277
1840 (d) - -	1,359,466	858,677	500,789	90,761
Average of Five } Years, 1841-45 }	1,658,214	1,001,405	656,809	112,468
„ 1846-50	2,143,717	1,304,772	838,944	110,798
„ 1851-55	2,569,886	1,441,834	1,128,502	157,003
„ 1856-60	3,135,587	1,785,911	1,349,676	145,566
„ 1861-65	3,891,568	2,074,188	1,817,380	184,912
„ 1866-70	4,618,146 (f)	2,419,926	2,198,220	92,877 (e)
1871 - -	4,900,454 (g)	2,559,797	2,340,657	—
1872 - -	5,208,922	2,754,764	2,454,158	—
1873 - -	5,348,040	2,846,707	2,501,333	—
1874 - -	5,751,600	3,009,588	2,742,012	—

* In this Table the Revenue does not include the produce of the Impressed Stamp on Newspapers, and the Expenditure does not include either the cost of the Packet Service or that of Stationery. The Finance Accounts relating to the Post Office from 1838 to 1859 inclusive having been constructed in this manner, the same arrangement (so far as this Table is concerned, except that, with a view to greater accuracy, the liabilities of the year have been substituted for the disbursements) has been continued subsequently, with a view to facilitate comparison. The correct revenue of the Post Office for the year 1874 will be found at page 15 of this Report.

(a) Namely, the Gross Receipts after deducting the Returns for "Refused Letters," &c.

(b) 1838 was the last complete year before the general reduction of postage.

(c) On 5th December 1836 the maximum Inland Postage for a single letter was reduced to 4d.

(d) On 10th January 1840 the postage on all inland letters weighing not more than $\frac{1}{2}$ oz. was reduced to a uniform charge of one penny.

(e) Postage ceased to be charged on the correspondence of Government Departments early in the year 1868. The amount of Government Postage (excluding the Post Office itself) for the last complete year in which it was charged (1867) was about 197,000l.

(f) Prior to 1st October 1870 newspapers bearing the impressed stamp of the Inland Revenue Department passed through the Post free. The impressed stamp, however, was abolished on that date, the rate of postage being at the same time reduced from a penny on any newspaper not weighing more than 4 oz. to a halfpenny on each newspaper irrespective of weight. On the same date, the Book rate was reduced to a halfpenny for every 2 oz.; circulars (not wholly printed) were admitted to the privileges of the Book Post; and Post Cards at one halfpenny each were issued.

(g) In October 1871 the distinctive rate of postage on patterns and samples was abolished; the letter rate on all letters and packets weighing more than half an ounce being at the same time reduced to the following scale:

For a letter not above 1 oz.	-	-	-	1d.
„ above 1 oz. but not above 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.
„ „ 12 oz., one penny for each ounce.	-	-	-	

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