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TWENTY-SIXTH 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,
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FOR HER MAJESTY'S STATIONERY OFFICE.

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TWENTY-SIXTH 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-sixth Report on the Post Office, being the Report for the financial year ending the 31st March 1880.

INLAND SERVICE.

Number of Post Offices, &c.

The number of Post Offices open in the United Kingdom on the 31st March 1880 was 912 Head and 13,300 Sub-Offices, being an increase of 331 offices on the number last reported. The number of letter-boxes in streets, roads, &c., on the same date was 12,541, being an increase of 661. The total number of places of all kinds at which letters may be posted was thus 26,753; and of these 2,012, or about $\frac{1}{13}$ th of the whole, are in London.

New Post Office Buildings.

In the Report of last year a hope was expressed that the new London building in Queen Victoria Street for the Savings Bank Department would be finished within the year. I regret that this expectation was not fulfilled; the building, however, is now completed, and was occupied on the 3rd instant.

A new Branch Office has been opened in Queen Victoria Street, to which a large amount of business is being attracted; and a large and convenient Branch Office, which was very much needed, has replaced in Fleet Street the small and insufficient office previously held there.

Arrangements are in progress for the enlargement of the South-Western District Post Office, and of the Branch Office at the Stock Exchange; also for providing a Branch Office in Bedford Street, Strand.

Several improved offices at which the Letter Carriers arrange their letters before commencing delivery have been established in different parts of London, and others are in course of construction.

Provincial.

At Altrincham, Burnley, Carnarvon, Cork, Dudley, St. Helens, Walsall, and West Bromwich new Post Offices have been brought into use; and at Blackburn, Durham, Oxford, Scarborough, and Southampton new offices are approaching completion.

Arrangements are in a more or less forward state for providing new Post Offices at Accrington, Bangor, Barnsley, Bournemouth, Bury St. Edmunds, Buxton, Cardiff Docks, Chelmsford, Exeter, Greenock, Haverfordwest, Hereford, Ipswich, Keighley, Luton, Manchester, South Shields, and Weymouth, and also one for the Eastern District of Liverpool.

Other Post Offices have been enlarged and improved, and the new building at Glasgow, referred to in last year's Report as partly occupied, is making satisfactory progress towards completion.

Improvements of Mail Service.

Measures are being adopted with a view to expedite the completion of the first morning delivery of letters in the nearer suburban districts of London.

An additional Day Mail from London has been given to Barnsley, Bedford, Chesterfield, Goole, Hull, Lynn, Macclesfield, and Newcastle (Staff.); also to Anstruther, Cupar, Kirkcaldy, and other towns in Fifeshire; and an additional Day Mail to London has been established from Darlington, Lowestoft, Norwich, Sandown, Shanklin, Torquay, Ventnor, Windermere, and Yarmouth.

The first Day Mail to Brighton, which includes letters from all parts of the country reaching London the same morning, has been greatly accelerated. The letters are sorted on the journey between London and Brighton, and the delivery (being the second delivery of the day) is now completed in all parts of Brighton by 10.45 a.m.

The Night Mail Despatch from Aylesbury to London has been made later by an hour and a half.

The mails to St. Columb and New Quay were placed upon the Cornwall Minerals Railway during the year.

Arrangements were made for employing the new line of railway between Llandudno Junction and Festiniog, and also the new line throughout to Oban, affording great advantage to the posts in both districts.

Under an agreement with the Isle of Man Steam Packet Company, a Daily Mail (Sundays excepted) is now afforded to the Isle of Man throughout the year, instead of during the summer only, as was formerly the case.

A Post has been afforded to one or two of the smaller Islands in the Orkney and Shetland group which had previously no service whatever.

A service of a novel kind was established on the Clyde by placing a Post Office on board the "Columba" steam vessel plying between Greenock and Ardrishaig, and conveying a large number of passengers. In this vessel all the ordinary work of a

Post Office, excepting Money Order business, is performed, the messages received for transmission by telegraph being despatched at each place at which the vessel calls.

The Mail Cars from Lairg to Scourie, Durness, and Lochinver, in Sutherlandshire, now run six days a week, instead of three days a week as formerly.

At Liverpool a plan has been adopted of affixing to the Pillar and Wall Letter Boxes indicators by which persons posting letters very close upon the stated time for collection may know whether the box has been already cleared; and the plan is about to be introduced in Edinburgh.

"Indicators" to Pillar and Wall Letter Boxes.

On the 1st March the late fee charged for posting inland letters after the time at which the boxes are closed for the despatch of a Mail was reduced to a uniform rate of a half-penny, including those posted in the Railway Sorting Carriages and at the Railway Stations, as well as on board the Holyhead and Kingstown Mail Packets. This reduction of charge does not apply to registered letters.

Reduction of fee on late letters.

Incidents.

In the Tay Bridge calamity a Post Office guard was among those who lost their lives. Nearly all the mail bags were washed ashore, or picked up, within a few hours of the accident, and the letters, few of which were materially damaged, sent forward to their destination.

In consequence of the extraordinary floods which occurred in August last, causing the fall of the viaduct near Abergele, on the Chester and Holyhead Railway, the main communication not only with North Wales, but also with Ireland, and even with the United States through Ireland, was interrupted. Prompt measures were taken to send forward the mails by the best routes available, and the Department is indebted to the Railway Companies for the ready assistance they afforded. Owing to those measures, and to the rapidity with which the breach was repaired, the inconvenience to the public was much less than might have been expected.

During the past winter the mails were on several occasions much retarded by fog, but the delays from frost and snow were inconsiderable, having regard to the long continuance of severe weather.

Christmas Season.

On Christmas Eve the principal mails out of London were, as in the previous year, despatched at a later hour than usual, and special measures were again taken for meeting the pressure of sorting duty in the Chief Office.

It may be mentioned, as showing the enormous mass of correspondence at Christmas, that the excess of ordinary letters dealt with at St. Martin's-le-Grand alone amounted to nine

millions, and that the extra weight of registered letters was three and a half tons ;—an addition which taxed to the utmost the capabilities of the Office, both as regards the force of sorters and the space available for sorting.

To some extent the pressure was relieved by being spread over a longer period than usual ; the public, in response to an appeal from the Department, having posted many letters and packets two or three days before Christmas Day. It is to be hoped that this practice will extend, and that charitable institutions and public companies which issue large numbers of circulars at Christmas will avoid sending them out on Christmas Eve.

Statistics and Miscellaneous Information.

Number of
Mails to Post
Towns in Eng-
land and Wales.
Home Packet
service.

The number of Mails forwarded daily between London and the Post Towns in England and Wales is shown in Appendix A.

The principal arrangements for the conveyance of Mails by Packets under contract between places within the United Kingdom are shown in Appendix B.

Number of
Letters, &c.

The table furnished in Appendix C shows the estimated amount of each class of correspondence delivered in the United Kingdom within the year. From this table it will be observed that—

1. The number of Letters was 1,127,997,500, showing an increase at the rate of 2·8 per cent. upon the previous year.

2. The number of Post Cards was 114,458,400, showing an increase of 2·7 per cent.

3. The number of Book Packets and Circulars was 213,963,000, showing an increase of 8·6 per cent.

4. The number of Newspapers was 130,518,400, showing a decrease of ·3 per cent.

Average per
head of the
population.

Taking together the correspondence of all kinds, the number was 1,586,937,300, showing an average of 46 per head of the population, and an increase of 3·3 per cent. over the previous year.

Registered
Letters.

The table furnished in Appendix D. shows that the number of letters registered in the United Kingdom during the year was 8,739,191, being an increase of 21·3 per cent., and more than double the number dealt with in 1877 before the reduction of the registration fee. Of the above number for last year, no fewer than 5,762,853 passed through the Chief Office.

Use of special
envelopes.

The special envelopes sold by the Department for enclosing registered letters are finding favour with the public. During the year the number of letters received in such envelopes at the Chief Office averaged 5,000 a day as compared with 4,000 a day in 1878-9.

Registered
Christmas
Parcels.

The registered parcels containing Christmas presents passing through the Chief Office were 47,000 in number as compared with 30,000 in 1878.

Letters of value
posted unregis-
tered.

Notwithstanding the low charge now made for registration, letters containing coin and articles of value are still frequently

posted without being registered, no less than 1,417 such letters having been observed during last year. Many more no doubt passed unnoticed ; but, in every case in which such a letter is detected, it is forwarded to its destination with a registration charge of eightpence to be paid on delivery. This penalty will, I hope, gradually lead to the discontinuance of a practice which throws great temptation in the way of the Post Office servants.

In the latter part of 1877 a letter was stolen which contained 200*l.* in Bank of England notes, and which had been posted without being registered. Eighteen months afterwards the theft was discovered owing to one of the notes being presented for payment by the wife of a Letter Carrier, the result being that her husband was convicted of the theft and 175*l.* of the money recovered.

In another instance a theft of 5*l.* from a letter which was made the subject of complaint was proved to have been committed after the delivery of the letter by the servant of the person to whom it was addressed.

Great want of care is often shown by persons forwarding valuable parcels. One parcel found open contained a gold watch and many articles of jewellery. The work of the sorters is often much impeded by the necessity of making such parcels secure at a time when every moment is of importance to ensure the punctual despatch of the Mail. Exclusive of postage stamps found loose to the number of 72,000, no less than 27,224 articles of various kinds escaped from their covers and were sent to the Returned Letter Office during the year, this number being about half as large again as in the previous year.

Want of care on the part of the public in securing valuable parcels.

In Appendix E. will be found a statement of the correspondence dealt with in the Returned Letter Offices during the year.

Returned Letters.

The total number of returned letters was 5,345,678, of book packets 3,541,103, of post cards 496,446, and of newspapers 374,741. Of the letters, 4,570,743 were returned to the writers ; 78,291 were re-issued to corrected addresses ; and 170,175 from abroad were sent for disposal to the Post Offices of the countries from which they were received ; while in 526,469 cases the writers had given no address to admit of the letters being returned to them.

No less than 21,621 letters were posted without any address, among which were 1,141 containing cash and bank notes to the amount of 433*l.*, and cheques, bills, &c. for 4,251*l.*

Letters posted without address.

Newspapers for places abroad to the number of 30,890 were detained for infringement of the regulations. This number is less than formerly owing to an alteration in the treatment of those posted without sufficient payment, such newspapers being no longer detained, but sent forward to their destination with an extra tax to be paid on delivery.

Newspapers for places abroad detained for infringement of regulations.

Letters and packets stopped on account of the objectionable nature of their contents numbered in all 4,500, among which

Letters stopped on account of

nature of contents.

Returned Letters of towns in West of England dealt with at Bristol.

Undelivered magazines and newspapers distributed to inmates of hospitals, &c.

were, as usual, some containing frogs, lizards, and insects, also sharp instruments and tools, including a marline spike.

The undelivered letters of many towns in the West of England which were formerly sent to London for disposal, are now sent out more expeditiously from the Returned Letter Office at Bristol.

It may be interesting to mention that, following the practice pursued at London and Liverpool, the Provincial Returned Letter Offices at Bristol and elsewhere now send undelivered magazines and illustrated newspapers to the hospitals and other local institutions for the use of the inmates. At Glasgow, the periodicals that cannot be delivered are sent to the "Cumberland" training ship.

FOREIGN AND COLONIAL POSTS.

New Contract for India and China Mail Service.

The new contract with the Peninsular and Oriental Steam Navigation Company for conveyance of India and China Mails, which was announced in the last Report, came into operation on the 1st February 1880. It provides for services at increased rates of speed between Brindisi and Alexandria, Suez and Bombay, and Suez and Shanghai; and, the whole of the Mails for these lines being now forwarded viâ Brindisi, the subsidiary line of packets between Southampton and Suez has been withdrawn.

Revision of postage on letters to India, China, Australia, &c.

The rates of postage were at the same time revised, and correspondence for India, Ceylon, the Straits Settlements, and China can now be sent at a uniform rate of 5*d.* per half ounce for letters, and 1½*d.* for a newspaper. On correspondence for Australia, the charge is now a uniform rate of 6*d.* per half ounce for letters, and 1*d.* for a newspaper.

More frequent Mails to Australia.

Mails to Australia are now despatched viâ Brindisi every fortnight instead of every four weeks only.

Foreign Packet Service.

The existing arrangements for the conveyance of Mails by Packets under contract between this country and places abroad are shown in Appendix F.

Effect of war between Chili and Peru in reducing Packet Service to ports in the Pacific.

The stagnation of trade on the West Coast of South America, owing to the war between Chili and Peru, has led the Pacific Steam Navigation Company to reduce the frequency of their Packets to the Pacific ports through the Straits of Magellan. The vessels run every fourth instead of every alternate week.

British Post Office Agents withdrawn from Japan.

In deference to the wishes of the Government of Japan, the British Post Office Agencies, which for some years had been maintained at certain Japanese ports, have been withdrawn, and the postal service is now conducted exclusively by the Japanese Post Office. The regularity and efficiency of the postal communication with this country have in no way been impaired, and I have reason to think the English mercantile community in Japan are satisfied with the new arrangement.

A few more accessions to the Postal Union have taken place during the year. They are as follows:—

British Colonies	{	Antigua,
		Dominica,
		Montserrat,
		Nevis,
		St. Kitts,
		Tortola.
Foreign Countries	{	Bulgaria,
		Peru,
		Venezuela.

Accessions to
Postal Union.

The postage on letters to these places, with the exception of Bulgaria (where the minimum Union rate of $2\frac{1}{2}d.$ per half ounce was already in force), has been reduced from $1s.$ to $4d.$ per half ounce.

Reduction
of postage
consequent
thereupon.

A regulation of the Postal Union has been brought into operation in this country for granting to the sender of a registered letter within the limits of the Union a written acknowledgment of its delivery, upon payment of a fee of $2\frac{1}{2}d.$ The number of such acknowledgments for letters passing through the Chief Office is between 50 and 60 weekly.

Foreign Registered Letters,—
acknowledgments of
delivery
granted on
payment of
special fee.

Ninety-one registered letters for this country from Turkey, Greece, and Italy were destroyed by a fire that happened in the Travelling Post Office between Brindisi and Turin in December.

Packets of trade patterns between this country and France may now be sent up to a maximum weight of twelve ounces instead of eight ounces, and may be of larger dimensions, viz.:—

Trade Patterns
to and from
France; exten-
sion of size
and weight
allowed.

12 inches in length instead of 8 inches.

8 " width " 4 "

4 " depth " 2 "

I hope before long to arrange with other foreign countries for a similar extension of the size and weight of packets of trade patterns.

The estimated number of letters, post-cards, newspapers, &c. sent to European countries and Egypt in the year 1879, as will be seen from Appendix G, was 32,941,200, or a decrease of 4·2 per cent. on the previous year. The estimated number received from the same countries was 32,129,400, or an increase of 12·0 per cent.

Correspon-
dence
exchanged
with European
countries and
Egypt.

TELEGRAPHS.

During the first six months of the year the number of messages was less than in the corresponding period of the previous year, but a marked increase began to show itself in the month of October. In the four weeks to the 25th of that month, the increase over the messages in the corresponding weeks of the previous year was 296,764. This increase was more than maintained throughout the remainder of the year,

Growth of
business.

and the number for the four weeks ended the 27th of March was 2,175,250 as compared with 1,795,960 for the corresponding period in the year 1878-79. A portion of the increase in March was due to the General Election, but the increase generally can only be attributed to a revived activity in trade.

The total number of messages forwarded in the year was 26,547,137, of which 12,170,093 passed through the Central Telegraph Office in London. In the previous year 24,459,775 were forwarded, and the increase, therefore, was 2,087,362. (See Appendix H.)

About 313½ millions of words of news were delivered to newspapers, clubs, exchanges, and news rooms, in the United Kingdom.

Additional
offices.

The number of Post Offices opened for the transaction of telegraph business was increased by 71, and the total number at the end of the year was 3,924. There were also 1,407 Telegraph Offices open at railway stations.

Additional
wires to
provincial
towns.

In order to meet the increased requirements of the public, your Lordships' authority was obtained for providing additional wires between London and many of the principal towns in the kingdom, and these wires are now in course of erection. It had been hoped that the necessity for incurring this heavy expense might have been avoided by the use of fast-speed apparatus, such as the Wheatstone Automatic; but apparatus of this kind is peculiarly sensitive, and, in bad weather, wires which work efficiently with the simpler forms of instruments become useless with fast-speed apparatus. More than once, after the revival of business in October last, there was a total failure of certain wires on which the Wheatstone Automatic, quadruplex, and duplex apparatus were employed, occasioning serious delay to the messages, and rendering it necessary to have recourse to the ordinary Morse apparatus.

Cables.

A new cable has been provided from Abermawr in South Wales to Wexford, the old cable which was laid down in 1862 having become worn out. A new cable has also been laid between Knock Bay in Wigtownshire and Whitehead in County Antrim.

The following cables have been repaired : viz.,

Dublin to Holyhead.
Stronsa (Orkneys).
Shapinsha (ditto).
Orkney to Shetland.
Alderney.
Pentland Firth.
Humber.

Telegraphic communication with the Shetland Islands was on one occasion interrupted for a week, owing to a mouse having

nibbled at the covering of the wire in the cable hut on Sanday Island.

Amongst the improvements which have been effected by officers of the department, I may mention an alteration in the receiving part of the Wheatstone automatic apparatus, rendering it not only steadier and more constant in its working, but simpler in its mechanism, and capable of receiving messages at the rate of from 200 to 240 words a minute. Previous to this alteration the apparatus could seldom in practice be worked at a higher rate than 120 words a minute.

Improvement in Wheatstone's automatic apparatus.

The private wire business continues to increase (see Appendix I.). There were 1,930 renters at the end of the year, and the aggregate of their rentals was 66,761*l*.

Private wires.

A system of intercommunication between private wire renters, which was established a few years ago at Newcastle-on-Tyne, Middlesbro', and Stockton, has proved successful, and it has now been extended to Glasgow, Bradford (Yorkshire), Swansea, and other towns. By this system the wires radiating from a head post office to the offices and warehouses of renters can be connected with each other by means of an apparatus known as a "switch," so that any one renter may hold direct communication by wire with any other renter. The convenience thus afforded is so great that I trust the system may be found capable of considerable development.

The telephone has been brought prominently before the public during the year by two companies, whose object it is to establish what are called Telephone exchanges. These exchanges are central offices, from which wires extend to the offices of subscribers, and they are intended to afford a similar convenience to that of the system of intercommunication which the Post Office has introduced.

The telephone.

taken.

The Department is advised that the systems of these companies constitute an infringement of the monopoly of transmitting public telegrams which was conferred on the Postmaster General, and steps have been taken to protect the rights which in this respect I hold in trust for the public.

The International Telegraph Conference met in London in June last, and the principal subject of its deliberations was that of establishing a universal system of charge for international messages at a rate per word instead of per message. The revised Regulations and Tariffs were signed on the 28th July, and came into operation on the 1st April of this year, the date fixed at the Conference.

The International Telegraph Conference.

I take this opportunity of expressing my acknowledgments for the assistance which the Department received from the Lord Mayor, and from the telegraph cable and construction companies, in entertaining the foreign delegates, and also to the railway companies for their co-operation in making the visit of the delegates to this country agreeable.

Arrangements were entered into with France and Belgium for the introduction of a word rate of 2½d. to the former country and 2d. to the latter, these rates being less than the rates which are chargeable under the terms of the convention.

Cable to
South Africa.

Although it is a matter in which the Post Office had no direct part, it may be mentioned that a cable was laid from Aden to Zanzibar, Mozambique, and South Africa, and was opened for traffic on the 30th December, thus placing England, for the first time, in telegraphic communication with her South African colonies.

Review of
decade.

Ten years having now elapsed since the telegraphs were transferred to the State, it may be interesting to give some particulars of the results which have been achieved.

At the time of the transfer, the Telegraph Companies had 1,992 offices, in addition to 496 railway offices at which telegraph work was performed, making the total number of offices 2,488. At the end of the past year there were 3,924 post offices and 1,407 railway stations open for telegraph work, making the total number of telegraph offices within the United Kingdom 5 331.

The number of instruments in use by the companies was 2,200, exclusive of those on private wires. The number in use by the Post Office has increased to 8,151. Of Wheatstone instruments the Electric and International Telegraph Company used only four, whereas last year the Post Office had 173. There were no duplex or quadruplex instruments at the time of the transfer, but last year the Post Office had 392 duplex instruments, and worked six circuits on the quadruplex principle. On the other hand, the Hughes Type Printer has been abandoned, as being unsuitable for Post Office telegraphy, and Morse printers have been to a great extent replaced by Sounders, which effect a saving both in paper and in cost of apparatus.

On taking over the telegraphs, the Post Office commenced with 5,651 miles of telegraph line, embracing 48,990 miles of wire, and these numbers have been increased to 23,156 miles of line, embracing 100,851 miles of wire.

The total length of submarine cables connecting different parts of the United Kingdom was 139 miles in 1869. Last year it was 707 miles.

As regards pneumatic tubes, the only towns at which this mode of transmitting messages for short distances was employed by the telegraph companies were London, Manchester, and Birmingham, and at the time of the transfer the number of yards of tube in use were—

In London	-	-	3,887
Manchester	-	-	817
Birmingham.	-	-	140
			<hr/>
Total	-	-	4,844
			<hr/>

The Post Office has now

In London	-	-	37,144 yards of tube.
Manchester	-	-	2,026 "
Birmingham	-	-	917 "
Liverpool	-	-	3,021 "
Glasgow	-	-	2,352 "
Dublin	-	-	2,700 "
Newcastle	-	-	460 "

Making a total of 48,620 yards of tube.

The total number of telegraphists employed by the companies was 2,514 (of whom 479 were women), and the number of messengers 1,471. The total number of telegraphists employed by the Post Office last year was 5,611 (of whom 1,556 were women), and of messengers 4,648; but, besides these, many persons are employed in telegraph work who hold no appointment on the establishment, but are paid by the postmasters out of allowances for assistance.

There were about 6,500,000 messages forwarded by the telegraph companies and by railway companies transacting public telegraph business in the course of the year 1869. Last year the Post Office forwarded 26,547,137 messages, so that the business has increased fourfold.

The telegraph companies sent news to 144 towns, the number of subscribers being 306, including 173 newspaper publishers. Last year the Post Office sent news to 313 towns, the number of subscribers, including 518 newspaper publishers, being 806.

During the session of Parliament, the companies sent about 6,000 words of news daily, and at other times about 4,000 daily. The Post Office during the last year sent an average of 25,697 words a-day when Parliament was sitting, and 21,702 when Parliament was not sitting.

MONEY ORDERS.

The Inland Money Order business again shows a falling off, due probably to the reduction of the fee on Registered Letters and the increase in the rates of commission on orders for small amounts, referred to in last year's Report. Falling off of Inland business.

The Money Order business with the Colonies and with foreign countries exhibits a satisfactory increase; and a reduction in the rates of commission, which came into operation on the 1st January last, will tend to its further development. Increase of Colonial and Foreign business.

Q 1706.

B

Transactions
of the year.

The whole business of the year was as follows:—

	Number.		Amount.	
Orders issued in the United Kingdom for payment within the United Kingdom - - -	16,774,354	Decrease on previous year. 516,410	£ 24,776,331	Decrease on previous year. £ 1,135,592
Orders issued in the United Kingdom for payment in the Colonies - -	31,592	Increase on previous year. 2,033	113,242	Increase on previous year. 6,458
Orders issued in the Colonies for payment in the United Kingdom - -	172,068	16,808	650,850	45,818
Orders issued in the United Kingdom for payment in Foreign Countries -	134,781	10,609	323,927	6,212
Orders issued in Foreign Countries for payment in the United Kingdom -	194,778	53,911	506,670	145,031
Total - - -	17,307,573	Decrease on previous year. 433,049	£ 26,371,020	Decrease on previous year. £ 932,073

Proportion of
Inland orders
to population.

Comparing the number of Inland Orders with the population, it will be found that there were about 57 for every 100 persons in England and Wales, 39 for every 100 persons in Scotland, and 19 for every 100 persons in Ireland.

Remittances
in relief of
distress in
Ireland.

A large increase is perceptible in the number of Orders drawn in the Colonies and in foreign countries for payment in the United Kingdom, the increase in the case of the United States of America, where it is most marked, and in several of the Colonies, being attributable in a great measure to remittances from emigrants to their relatives in Ireland in relief of the prevailing distress.

Number of
offices.

The number of Money Order Offices open in the United Kingdom on 31st March 1880 was 6,060, or 229 in excess of the total mentioned in the last report.

Payment of
legacy and
succession
duties by
money orders.

Under the arrangement which now enables persons residing in England and Wales, outside the London District, to remit sums due in respect of Legacy and Succession Duties to the Receiver General of Inland Revenue by Money Orders free of charge, no less than 13,873 Orders were issued, for sums amounting in the aggregate to 90,399£.

In August last a measure came into force under which the Accountant-General of the Navy was authorised to issue Money Orders for official purposes. Up to the 31st March last, 12,907 such Orders, for sums amounting to 47,642*l.*, had been issued. Navy orders.

Money Order business with Japan is for the present suspended, but negotiations are pending which may probably lead to its being resumed. Business with Japan suspended.

POST OFFICE SAVINGS BANK.

Notwithstanding the dullness of trade and the deficiency of the harvest that characterised the year 1879, it is satisfactory to report a continued excess of deposits over withdrawals, and an increase in the balance due to depositors of upwards of a million and a-half sterling. Most remarkable, perhaps, is the progress shown in Ireland, considering the severe distress to which many parts of that country have been subject. For the whole of Ireland there was, including interest, an increase in the balance due to depositors of 91,583*l.*; and of this amount the eight counties chiefly affected by the distress, viz., Clare, Cork, Donegal, Galway, Kerry, Mayo, Roscommon, and Sligo, contributed no less than 25,418*l.* Some interesting details on this matter will be found in Appendix L. Progress shown, notwithstanding unfavourable circumstances. Ireland.

The number of deposits made in the United Kingdom in 1879 was 3,347,828, and the amount 9,887,109*l.*, the number being 12,808 less, and the amount 401,718*l.* more, than in 1878. Number and amount of deposits.

The withdrawals were 1,418,543 in number, and 9,030,174*l.* in amount, the number being 113,926 and the amount 515,986*l.* greater than in 1878. Number and amount of withdrawals.

The deposits exceeded the withdrawals by 856,935*l.*, which, together with the sum of 743,636*l.* credited for interest, raised the amount due to depositors to 32,012,134*l.*, being an increase for the year of 1,600,571*l.* Excess of deposits over withdrawals, and balance due to depositors at close of the year.

The number of depositors on the 31st December last was 1,988,477, being an increase of 95,721 upon the previous year; and the average amount standing to the credit of each was 16*l.* 1*s.* 11½*d.* Number of depositors, and average sum standing to credit of each.

The distribution of depositors in the United Kingdom was as follows:— Distribution of depositors, and proportion to population.

Out of the total of 1,988,477, there were 1,862,944 depositors in England and Wales, or 1 in 14 of the population, with an average sum of 16*l.* 2*s.* 4*d.* on each account; 53,155 in Scotland, or 1 in 68, with an average of 10*l.* 15*s.* 5*d.* on each account; while in Ireland there were 72,378, or 1 in 74, with an average of 19*l.* 11*s.* 8*d.* on each account.

The number of Post Offices at which Savings Bank business is transacted was increased during the year by 185, making a total for all parts of the kingdom of 6,016. During the last five years about 1,000 additional offices of this class have been established. Number of Post Offices transacting Savings Bank business.

Extra hours
of business
on Friday
and Saturday.

It may not be generally known that in most provincial towns the Receiving Houses remain open for Savings Bank business on Fridays and Saturdays up to a later hour than on other days, and that in London most of the Receiving Houses are kept open for receiving deposits up to 7 p.m. on Fridays and Saturdays, and the District and Branch Offices up to 8 p.m. on Saturdays.

Closing of
Trustee Banks,
and transfers
from or to
Trustee Banks.

The Trustee Savings Banks at Margate, Parsonstown, and Wimborne were closed during 1879, and accounts transferred to the Post Office Savings Bank to the amount of 17,185*l.*, including transfers from several small Banks about to be closed. The unclaimed deposits of the Kensington Savings Bank, which closed in 1878, were also received, amounting to 8,547*l.*, and 18,127*l.* was transferred from other Trustee Banks by certificate, making the total transferred to the Post Office Savings Bank 43,859*l.*, as compared with 59,639*l.* in 1878. On the other hand, the sum of 12,925*l.* was transferred by certificate from the Post Office Savings Bank to Trustee Banks, being 551*l.* less than in the previous year. These transfers are included in the totals given above of the amounts deposited and withdrawn.

Penny Banks.

No less than 473 Penny Banks were authorised to invest their moneys in the Post Office Savings Bank, a larger number than in any previous year, the Penny Bank movement having of late received a great impetus from the holding of public conferences on "Thrift." For encouraging small savings, these institutions possess the powerful element of personal influence which is altogether wanting in a public department; and their rapid extension promises, therefore, to meet a want which would be much less effectively met by reducing the present shilling minimum for deposits in the Post Office Savings Bank. A measure to this effect has been much agitated, but would be attended with great additional cost, for which there could be no adequate return. The Post Office fully recognises the part which the Penny Banks play as "feeders" to the Savings Bank system, and encourages their formation by supplying deposit books of a simple kind gratuitously to the managers on application. It also furnishes account books suitable for Penny Banks at a cheap rate. Last year nearly 90,000 of these deposit books and 651 sets of account books were applied for.

Securities
forming assets
of Post Office
Savings Bank.

A statement of the securities forming the assets of the Post Office Savings Bank will be found with Appendix L.

Facilities
afforded to
navvies and
others for de-
positing money
and procuring
Money Orders.

In the last report mention was made of an experiment for enabling navvies engaged in the construction of works at a distance from a Post Office to make deposits of money in the Post Office Savings Bank and to procure Money Orders at the place of their temporary employment, a Post Office clerk being deputed to attend at the works for the purpose on pay days. A similar plan is now being tried at certain centres in the agricultural districts, and the results will be carefully watched during the coming harvest.

POST OFFICE ANNUITIES AND LIFE INSURANCES.

These branches of business show little, if any, expansion. The number of contracts granted up to the 31st December 1879, under the several heads of Immediate Annuities, Deferred Annuities, and Life Insurances, will be seen from Appendix M.

SALE OF INLAND REVENUE LICENSES AND STAMPS.

The figures given in Appendix N. show a decrease for the year ^{Licenses.} in the number of Dog, Gun, and Game licenses, issued by the Post Office for the Commissioners of Inland Revenue. Of other licenses, viz., for Male Servants, Carriages, and Armorial Bearings, an increased number was sold. During the year 979,355 licenses of all kinds were issued, amounting to 543,823*l.*, as compared with 1,033,500 licenses, to the amount of 520,998*l.* in 1878-9.

The only stamps formerly sold by the Post Office for the Inland ^{Stamps.} Revenue Department were Receipt stamps, the sales of which amounted during the year 1878-9 to 292,000*l.* Since the 1st February 1880 the Post Office has undertaken the sale of other Inland Revenue stamps, and during the year ending 31st March last the sales of all kinds amounted to 322,000*l.*

STAFF.

The number of officers of all grades in the service of the Post ^{Number.} Office on the 31st December last was 46,192, as shown in Appendix O., being an increase of 245 on the number for the previous year. The number employed exclusively on telegraph work was 11,493.

The total of 46,192 includes 13,882 postmasters, 10,011 clerks, telegraphists, &c., and 22,156 letter carriers, sorters, and messengers.

The officers employed in London number 10,681, of whom 5,898 are attached to the chief offices situated in and around St. Martin's-le-Grand.

The report of the chief medical officer of the Department, Dr. ^{Health.} Waller Lewis, shows that the mortality among the officers in London during the year was small, notwithstanding a long and severe winter, the death rate being only 5.1 per 1,000, as compared with 5.5 per 1,000 in the previous year.

The number of deaths in the Metropolis was 54, more than half of which were due to diseases of the lungs; 6 were from typhoid and 1 from scarlet fever.

The ordinary sickness among officers in the Metropolis was less than usual.

During the year the Department lost by death the services of two of its principal officers, Mr. Ashurst, the Solicitor, and Mr. Thomson, the Controller of the Savings Bank.

Decease of Sir Rowland Hill.

The annals of the year would be incomplete without a reference to the decease of Sir Rowland Hill, at an advanced age, after 15 years' retirement from the public service. Sir Rowland Hill will always be remembered with gratitude, not only in this country but throughout the world, for the services which he rendered in connexion with Post Office reform.

Retirement of Sir John Tilley and Mr. Page.

I must also refer to the retirement upon pension, after more than 50 years service, of Sir John Tilley, who succeeded Sir Rowland Hill in the office of Secretary. Although Sir John Tilley left the Department before I took office, I can bear ample witness to the value of his labours.

Mr. W. J. Page, the senior Assistant Secretary, has also retired, and, in your Lordships' letter authorising his pension, you showed the sense which you entertained of the worth of his services throughout a career which was not far short of 50 years.

Conduct.

The conduct of the officers generally has been satisfactory. It is pleasing to record that at two of the largest towns in the kingdom, viz., at Manchester and Glasgow, not a single instance of intoxication occurred during the Christmas and New Year's seasons.

REVENUE AND EXPENDITURE.

I.—*Mail Service and Money Orders.*

Gross revenue.

The postage on letters, postcards, newspapers, &c., for the year ending 31st March 1880, was 6,300,730*l.*, and the receipts from Money Order commission, together with the value of unclaimed orders, 257,715*l.*, making a total revenue of 6,558,445*l.*, as compared with 6,274,450*l.* for 1878-9, or an increase of 283,995*l.* (See Appendix P.)

Expenditure.

The cost of carrying on the Service was 4,060,758*l.*, as compared with 3,840,076*l.* for 1878-9, being an increase of 220,682*l.* The chief items of expenditure (see Appendix Q.) were 2,243,412*l.* for salaries, wages, &c.; 664,620*l.* for Mail Packets and conveyance by Private Ships; 701,070*l.* for conveyance by railway; 181,703*l.* for conveyance by carts, coaches, and omnibuses; and 109,238*l.* for buildings, repairs, &c. The following statement gives the result of a comparison of these amounts with those of the preceding year:—

	Increase.	Decrease.
	<i>£</i>	<i>£</i>
Salaries, wages, &c.	65,843	--
Mail Packet service, &c.	--	20,337
Railway service	4,001	--
Mail Cart service, &c.	3,955	--
Buildings, repairs, &c.	--	47,725

Net revenue.

The net revenue was 2,497,687*l.*, as compared with 2,434,374*l.* for 1878-9, being an increase of 63,313*l.*

As appears from Appendix R., the value of postal work performed for other Government Departments without payment was 109,049*l*.

II.—*Telegraphs.*

The results of Telegraph business are shown in Appendix S. Revenue and expenditure.
The revenue was 1,452,489*l*., being an increase of 105,597*l*., and the expenditure was 1,111,547*l*., being an increase of 22,155*l*. on the preceding year.

The net revenue was 340,942*l*., or an increase of 83,442*l*. Net revenue.

These results will be exhibited in the Profit and Loss Accounts to be presented to Parliament.

The value of Telegraph work performed for other Government Departments without payment was 15,382*l*.

III.—*Mail Service Money Orders and Telegraphs combined.*

It will be seen from the above that the gross revenue from the combined Services for the year ended 31st March 1880 amounted to 8,010,934*l*., the expenditure to 5,172,305*l*., and the net revenue to 2,838,629*l*. Gross Revenue, Expenditure, and Net Revenue.

If the value of work for other Government Departments be added to this last-mentioned sum, a total of 2,963,060*l*. will be obtained. Value of Work for other Government Departments.

IV.—*Post Office Savings Banks.*

The statement of Liabilities and Assets in Appendix L. shows Profit.
an excess of Assets over Liabilities to the amount of 779,824*l*. Adding to this amount the sum of 351,184*l*., which has already been transferred to the Exchequer, the amount of net profit from the establishment of Post Office Savings Banks in September 1861 to the 31st December 1879 was 1,131,008*l*., independently of an expenditure of 97,048*l*. on the new building in Queen Victoria Street.

The charges of management for 1879 amounted to 192,280*l*., which includes a sum of 25,564*l*. paid in respect of the new building in Queen Victoria Street. Taking the full amount of 192,280*l*., the cost per transaction—*i.e.*, the average cost of a deposit or withdrawal—was 9 $\frac{7}{10}$ *d*., and the cost per cent. on the capital 12*s*. These rates are higher than they would be if the charge for the year in respect of the Office in Queen Victoria Street were calculated at 5 per cent. on the total outlay. With this adjustment, the cost per transaction would be only 8 $\frac{6}{10}$ *d*., and the cost per cent. 10*s*. 8 $\frac{1}{2}$ *d*. Cost of management.

I have the honour to be, my Lords,

Your Lordships' obedient humble servant,

General Post Office,

HENRY FAWCETT.

14th August 1880.

APPENDIX A.

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.		Towns having Nine Mails.		Towns having Ten 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.	From London.	To London.	From London.	To London.	
31 Dec. 1872	41	89	315	222	99	114	80	101	36	42	5	9	5	4	2	2	-	-	-	-	583
„ 1873	43	89	319	227	93	119	88	98	38	43	5	11	5	4	2	2	-	-	-	-	594
„ 1874	43	89	302	226	92	118	96	97	43	45	17	17	4	4	2	3	-	-	-	-	599
„ 1875	27	73	297	232	132	121	86	97	42	54	12	17	4	4	1	3	-	-	-	-	601
„ 1876	22	69	299	222	137	132	87	102	48	57	11	21	3	3	3	3	-	-	-	-	610
31 Mar. 1877	22	69	299	222	137	132	87	102	48	57	11	21	3	3	3	3	-	1	-	-	610
„ 1878	22	65	288	222	142	133	89	105	53	60	11	18	2	4	4	4	-	1	1	-	612
„ 1879	20	60	260	217	156	138	93	111	63	56	16	21	3	6	1	3	1	2	1	-	614
„ 1880	18	53	251	214	162	140	96	113	63	58	20	21	3	7	3	4	1	2	-	-	617

Home Packet Service.

Line of Packets.	Contract.		Annual Payment.	Contract Time.	Penalties for Overtime.	Penalty for General Non-performance.	Remarks.
	Com- mencement.	Terminable.					
ABERDEEN and LERWICK (SHEETLAND).	1st Feb. 1840	On 6 months' notice.	1,200 <i>l</i> .	60 hours	-	500 <i>l</i> .	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.
CHANNEL ISLANDS - Do. (additional services)	1st Jan 1870	On 6 months' notice.	6,000 <i>l</i> . 900 <i>l</i> .	Between Southampton and Guernsey 9 hours; between Southampton and Jersey 12 hours.	-	2,000 <i>l</i> .	
GREENOCK and BELFAST	16th July 1849	On 6 months' notice.	Performed free of cost.	-	-	100 <i>l</i> .	The payment is subject to reduction when the receipts from Passenger traffic in any one year exceed 35,000 <i>l</i> .
GREENOCK, TARBERT, and ISLAY.	4th Nov. 1878	On 6 months' notice.	900 <i>l</i> .	-	-	500 <i>l</i> .	
HOLYHEAD and KINGSTOWN	1st Oct. 1860	On 12 months' notice.	85,900 <i>l</i> .	The sea service, together with the land service between London and Holyhead, to be performed in 11 hours. No definite time allotted to sea service apart from land service.	1 <i>l</i> 1 <i>4</i> s. per minute, if journeys between London and Kingsdown, and (on Sundays) between Kingsdown and Evesham and between Evesham and Kingsdown are not accomplished within 11 hours and 7 <i>4</i> hours respectively from appointed times of departure.*	-	When a sailing vessel is employed a deduction of 2 <i>l</i> . a trip may be made if the Postmaster General thinks proper.
LIVERPOOL and DOUGLAS (ISLS OF MAN).	1st Oct. 1879	After 1 year	4,500 <i>l</i> .	-	-	-	
PENZANCE and SCILLY	-	On 6 months' notice.	450 <i>l</i> .	-	-	-	20 <i>l</i> . for undue delay or deviation from course.
PORTSMOUTH and RYDE	1st Aug. 1845	On 6 months' notice.	800 <i>l</i> .	-	-	-	
SCRABSTER and STROMNESS (ORKNEY).	27th July 1877	After 5 years on 12 months' notice.	2,000 <i>l</i> .	-	20 <i>l</i> . for undue delay or deviation from course.	200 <i>l</i> .	When a sailing vessel is employed a deduction of 2 <i>l</i> . a trip may be made if the Postmaster General thinks proper.
SOUTHAMPTON and COWES	-	-	150 <i>l</i> .	-	-	-	
STORKOWAY and ULLAPOOL.	1st Sept. 1879.	After 3rd August 1881 on 6 months' notice.	1,800 <i>l</i> .	-	20 <i>l</i> . for undue delay or deviation from course.	500 <i>l</i> .	

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

APPENDIX C.

Letters Delivered.

ESTIMATED NUMBER of 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, until 1876, and thereafter the Financial Year ending March 31st.	Delivered in England and Wales.			Total in England and Wales.	Increase per cent. per annum.	Average number to each person.	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.	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	-	-	338,000	-	-	1,055,000	-	-	6,563,000	-	7
Estimated No. of Letters, 1840 -	88,000,000	-	44,000,000	132,000,000	120.0	8	19,000,000	143.5	7	18,000,000	119.2	2	169,000,000	122.2	7
Average of 5 years, 1841-45 -	122,000,000	10.7	57,000,000	179,000,000	10.2	11	24,000,000	9.2	9	24,000,000	9.5	3	227,000,000	10.0	8
" " 1846-50 -	180,000,000	5.5	79,000,000	259,000,000	5.2	15	34,000,000	4.2	13	34,000,000	5.0	4	327,000,000	5.0	12
" " 1851-55 -	233,000,000	6.5	97,000,000	330,000,000	6.0	18	41,000,000	5.2	14	39,000,000	5.5	6	410,000,000	5.7	15
" " 1856-60 -	302,000,000	4.2	125,000,000	427,000,000	4.5	22	51,000,000	3.2	16	45,000,000	3.0	7	523,000,000	4.2	18
" " 1861-65 -	373,000,000	5.7	161,000,000	534,000,000	5.7	29	61,000,000	0.5	20	55,000,000	3.2	9	646,000,000	5.5	22
" " 1866-70 -	472,000,000	4.2	192,000,000	664,000,000	4.0	31	76,000,000	4.7	24	60,000,000	3.2	11	800,000,000	4.0	26
Year 1871 -	501,000,000	0.5	220,000,000	721,000,000	2.5	32	80,000,000	1.2	24	66,000,000	3.0	13	867,000,000	2.3	27
" 1872 -	510,000,000	1.7	227,000,000	737,000,000	2.2	32	82,000,000	2.5	24	66,000,000	-	13	885,000,000	2.0	28
" 1873 -	513,000,000	1.5	238,000,000	756,000,000	2.5	32	84,000,000	2.5	24	67,000,000	1.5	13	907,000,000	2.5	29
" 1874 -	553,579,100	6.8	250,474,000	804,053,100	6.5	35	90,185,300	7.4	25	70,004,500	4.5	13	964,253,300	6.3	30
" 1875 -	580,061,400	4.8	266,771,000	846,832,400	5.3	35	90,976,400	0.9	23	70,563,300	0.8	13	1,008,392,100	4.6	31
" 1876 -	594,519,600	2.5	261,522,800	856,042,400	1.1	35	91,120,700	0.2	23	71,792,100	1.7	13	1,018,955,200	1.0	31
" 1877-8 -	598,776,000	0.7	285,192,700	883,968,700	3.3	36	99,515,300	9.2	28	74,248,200	3.4	14	1,037,782,300	3.8	32
" 1878-9 -	624,460,800	4.6	295,803,300	920,264,100	4.3	37	98,591,200	-	28	76,078,500	2.5	14	1,097,372,900	3.7	32
" 1879-80 -	640,033,900	2.2	310,077,900	950,111,800	3.0	38	101,248,300	3.0	28	75,937,100	-	14	1,127,997,500	2.8	33

APPENDIX C.—*continued.*

ESTIMATED NUMBER of POST CARDS delivered in the UNITED KINGDOM in each Year from 1872 to the present time, and the Increase per Cent. per Annum.

Year.	England and Wales.		Scotland.		Ireland.		United Kingdom.	
	Number.	Increase per Cent. per Annum.	Number.	Increase per Cent. per Annum.	Number.	Increase per Cent. per Annum.	Number.	Increase per Cent. per Annum.
1872	64,000,000	—	8,000,000	—	4,000,000	—	76,000,000	—
1873	60,000,000	—	8,000,000	—	4,000,000	—	72,000,000	—
1874	66,000,000	10·0	9,000,000	12·5	4,000,000	—	79,000,000	9·7
1875	73,389,100	11·6	9,208,300	6·7	4,540,900	5·5	87,116,300	10·7
1876	78,412,100	6·9	9,840,100	4·7	4,883,500	7·5	92,935,700	6·7
1877-8	86,061,500	9·7	11,067,500	14·8	5,118,300	4·8	102,237,300	10·
1878-9	94,471,500	9·8	11,589,000	4·8	5,375,200	5·	111,445,700	9·
1879-80	96,637,400	2·3	12,284,700	5·9	5,536,300	3·	114,458,400	2·7

ESTIMATED NUMBER of BOOK PACKETS and CIRCULARS delivered in the UNITED KINGDOM in each Year from 1872 to the present time, and the Increase per Cent. per Annum.

Year.	England and Wales.		Scotland.		Ireland.		United Kingdom.	
	Number.	Increase per Cent. per Annum.	Number.	Increase per Cent. per Annum.	Number.	Increase per Cent. per Annum.	Number.	Increase per Cent. per Annum.
1872	90,000,000	—	13,000,000	—	11,000,000	—	114,000,000	—
1873	104,000,000	15·5	14,000,000	7·7	11,000,000	—	129,000,000	13·1
1874	115,769,600	11·3	15,787,300	12·7	10,410,200	—	141,967,100	10·
1875	133,394,900	15·2	15,723,700	—	9,546,000	—	158,664,600	11·7
1876	146,405,300	9·	18,352,700	16·7	8,966,900	—	173,724,900	9·4
1877-8	157,691,600	7·7	21,336,300	16·2	10,272,200	14·5	189,300,600	8·9
1878-9	164,789,400	4·5	21,320,100	—	10,967,000	6·7	197,076,500	4·1
1879-80	180,541,400	9·6	22,140,500	3·8	11,281,100	2·9	213,963,000	8·6

ESTIMATED NUMBER of NEWSPAPERS delivered in the UNITED KINGDOM in each Year from 1872 to the present time, and the Increase per Cent. per Annum.

Year.	England and Wales.		Scotland.		Ireland.		United Kingdom.	
	Number.	Increase per Cent. per Annum.	Number.	Increase per Cent. per Annum.	Number.	Increase per Cent. per Annum.	Number.	Increase per Cent. per Annum.
1872	87,000,000	—	12,000,000	—	10,000,000	—	109,000,000	—
1873	89,115,200	2·4	12,606,300	5·	11,295,000	12·9	113,016,500	3·6
1874	91,230,400	2·3	13,212,700	4·8	12,589,800	11·4	117,032,900	3·5
1875	93,345,600	2·3	13,819,100	4·5	13,884,700	10·2	121,049,400	3·4
1876	95,460,800	2·2	14,425,400	4·3	15,179,700	9·3	125,065,900	3·3
1877-8	98,232,400	2·9	14,883,100	3·1	15,442,500	1·7	128,558,000	2·7
1878-9	100,424,300	2·2	14,477,500	—	15,993,500	3·6	130,895,300	1·8
1879-80	100,317,000	—	14,570,700	·6	15,630,700	—	130,518,400	—

APPENDIX D.

Registered Letters.

STATEMENT showing the Number of Letters Registered in the United Kingdom in the years 1877, 1878-79, and 1879-80.

YEAR.	ENGLAND AND WALES.						SCOTLAND.				IRELAND.		TOTAL.					
	Country Offices.		London District.		Total.		Increase per cent.		Increase per cent.		Increase per cent.		Increase per cent.					
	Number.	Increase per cent.	Number.	Increase per cent.	Number.	Increase per cent.	Number.	Increase per cent.	Number.	Increase per cent.	Number.	Increase per cent.	Number.	Increase per cent.				
1877	-	-	-	-	-	-	2,378,973	-	1,284,716	-	3,663,689	-	375,915	-	278,443	-	4,316,017	-
1878-79	-	-	-	-	-	-	4,290,545	76·2	1,900,269	48·	6,190,814	68·9	551,715	47·6	468,821	60·3	7,900,860	66·8
1879-80	-	-	-	-	-	-	5,349,065	24·7	2,240,865	17·9	7,589,930	22·6	616,905	11·8	532,356	16·0	8,739,191	21·3

The reduction of the Registration Fee from 4*d.* to 2*d.*, on 1st January 1878 explains the large increase since that date.

APPENDIX E.

Returned Letters.

A COMPARATIVE STATEMENT showing the Number of LETTERS, POST CARDS, BOOKS, and NEWSPAPERS received and disposed of in the RETURNED LETTER OFFICES of LONDON, MANCHESTER, LIVERPOOL, BIRMINGHAM, LEEDS, BRISTOL, NEWCASTLE-ON-TYNE, EDINBURGH, GLASGOW, and DUBLIN, respectively; also, the Number which, bearing outside the addresses of the senders, were returned direct from many other Post OFFICES not possessing RETURNED LETTER BRANCHES, in the Year ending 31st March 1879, and in the Year ending 31st March 1880.

	Letters received.		Letters re-issued to corrected Addresses.		Letters returned to the Senders.		Letters returned unopened to Foreign Countries.		Letters which could neither be delivered nor returned to the Senders.		Post Cards received.		Books received.		Newspapers received.	
	1878-9.	1879-80.	1878-9.	1879-80.	1878-9.	1879-80.	1878-9.	1879-80.	1878-9.	1879-80.	1878-9.	1879-80.	1878-9.	1879-80.	1878-9.	1879-80.
LONDON	2,674,743	2,304,920	43,297	36,563	2,299,899	1,967,609	69,348	49,883	267,264	262,845	204,183	91,463	1,581,702	1,308,317	376,435	198,103
MANCHESTER	-	401,408	6,393	5,139	249,476	359,172	5,768	19,046	8,971	18,046	38,092	33,462	164,120	297,864	13,168	15,840
LIVERPOOL	-	364,731	2,874	5,293	353,047	312,441	17,605	26,004	19,655	33,024	26,988	28,685	168,576	274,669	32,378	23,815
BIRMINGHAM	-	258,178	563	1,724	150,192	231,294	4,966	7,442	7,943	17,773	17,470	23,300	106,849	160,182	11,059	9,763
LEEDS	-	226,352	4,463	4,790	301,194	193,460	7,313	8,394	18,805	19,218	24,501	14,015	171,601	186,070	10,906	9,418
BRISTOL	-	317,150	718	1,673	183,505	267,283	12,566	19,355	10,867	28,399	15,009	15,438	146,728	259,270	14,019	15,992
NEWCASTLE-ON-TYNE	-	163,687	5,193	3,360	143,900	139,115	5,235	5,490	17,323	14,733	17,376	10,973	110,231	109,612	8,067	6,590
EDINBURGH	-	239,310	7,258	7,097	214,678	205,439	7,181	10,032	10,193	17,789	29,643	23,070	161,917	167,658	23,329	20,978
GLASGOW	-	126,630	5,773	8,700	143,733	110,197	4,105	6,315	7,379	19,680	19,680	7,168	85,369	77,539	8,870	8,031
DUBLIN	-	343,487	4,392	3,963	176,465	198,970	17,019	17,234	143,394	123,330	18,171	13,318	176,730	219,234	46,444	45,337
Other Post Offices authorized to re-turn certain letters &c direct to senders	312,569	596,768	-	-	312,569	596,768	-	-	-	-	70,088	231,601	137,865	397,538	9,075	25,965
TOTALS	5,095,333	5,345,678	85,321	78,291	4,286,943	4,570,743	151,166	170,175	501,698	538,469	483,631	466,446	3,044,778	3,541,103	552,375	374,741
Increase in 1879-80 over 1878-9.	330,345	-	-	-	234,095	-	19,009	-	24,771	-	13,835	-	496,325	-	-	-

APPENDIX F.

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.		£
BRAZIL, RIVER PLATE, AND CHILI: Bi-Monthly Service from Southampton	1 Sept. 1876	On 6 months' notice	(a) 4,378
Fortnightly service from Liverpool	1 July 1878	On 6 months' notice	(a) 5,856
CAPE OF GOOD HOPE and NATAL	1 Oct. 1876	Contracts with Colonial Govern- ments terminating on 30th September 1883, if 12 months' previous notice has been given	-
EAST INDIES, CHINA, and JAPAN	15 Aug. 1874 1 Feb. 1880	On 31st January 1880 On 31st January 1888	417,325
EAST COAST OF AFRICA: Aden and Zanzibar	6 Dec. 1872	On 5th December 1882	10,000
Table Bay and Zanzibar	1 Aug. 1873	On 8th February 1881	20,000
NORTH AMERICA: United States	1 Dec. 1877	On 6 months' notice	(a) 57,447
Halifax, Bermuda, and St. Thomas (b)	1 Jan. 1878	On 12 months' notice	17,500
PACIFIC	1 July 1878	On 6 months' notice	(a) 5,706
WEST INDIES: Bi-monthly Service	1 Jan. 1875 1 Jan. 1880	On 31st December 1879 On 31st December 1886	85,188
Non-Contract Service	-	-	(a) 991
Additional Services: Liverpool and Puerto Cabello, Tam- pico, and Santa Martha.	1 Oct. 1875	On 6 months' notice	(a) 1,132
Belize and Jamaica	Contract with Honduras Government, termi- nating on 16th September 1879	-	2,500 Imperial contri- bution, 1,000
Belize and New Orleans	Contract with Honduras Government termi- nating on 30th September 1884	-	2,200 Imperial contri- bution, 880
St. Kitts, Nevis, and Montserrat	1 Jan. 1864	On 31st December 1879	490
Turk's Island and St. Thomas	Contract with Turk's Island Government	-	600 Imperial contri- bution, 500
WEST COAST OF AFRICA	No Contract.	-	(a) 7,863

(a) The payments in these cases depend upon the amount of correspondence conveyed by the packets.
 (b) From 1st January 1880 Jamaica was substituted for St. Thomas as terminal port.

APPENDIX F.

Packet Service.

Penalties for Overtime.	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.
		£	£	
- - - - -	- - - - -	- - - - -	Nil.	5d.
- - - - -	- - - - -	- - - - -	Nil.	{ Brazil - Argentine Republic. - } 4d. Uruguay - } 1s. Chili - }
- - - - -	- - - - -	- - - - -	Nil.	6d.
200l. for every 12 hours late at Brindisi. In other cases 100l.	} India, 104,400l.	60,000	253,000	{ Mediterranean 2½d. India - } Ceylon - } 4d. China, &c. - } 4d.
- - - - -		400	9,600	4d.
- - - - -		100	19,900	4d.
- - - - -		33,000	24,000	2½d.
60l. for every 24 hours.*	- - - - -	1,000	16,500	{ Canadian Dominion and Newfoundland. } 2½d. Bermuda - } 4d. Peru 4d. Other places 1s.
- - - - -	- - - - -	- - - - -	Nil.	
25l. for every 24 hours.	} One-eighth part of ordinary payment for every 24 hours.	- - - - -	- - - - -	
- - - - -		- - - - -	- - - - -	
- - - - -		- - - - -	- - - - -	
- - - - -		- - - - -	- - - - -	
- - - - -	- - - - -	40,000	50,000	{ Union Colonies - } 4d. Non Union Colonies, &c. - } 1s.
- - - - -	- - - - -	- - - - -	- - - - -	
- - - - -	- - - - -	6,000	1,800	4d.

* These penalties ceased on the 31st December 1879.

APPENDIX G.

ESTIMATE, 1st, of the Number of Letters, Post Cards, Circulars, Book Packets, and Newspapers received *from the several Countries in Europe, and also from Egypt*, for delivery in the United Kingdom; and 2ndly, of the Number of Letters, Post Cards, Circulars, Book Packets, and Newspapers despatched *from the United Kingdom* for delivery in the several Countries in Europe, and also in Egypt, during the year 1879.

Foreign Countries.	Estimated Yearly Number of Letters, &c. from Foreign Countries for Delivery in the United Kingdom.		
	Letters and Post Cards.	Circulars, Book Packets, and Newspapers.	Total.
Austria - - -	469,400	189,200	658,600
Belgium - - -	1,301,100	532,800	1,833,900
Denmark - - -	386,000	169,600	555,600
France - - -	7,319,900	3,015,800	10,335,700
Germany - - -	6,566,700	3,558,500	10,125,200
Greece, Turkey, and Egypt -	863,900	301,500	1,165,400
Holland - - -	1,352,200	343,300	1,695,500
Italy - - -	1,430,900	493,000	1,923,900
Norway and Sweden - - -	529,300	150,300	679,600
Russia - - -	538,400	174,200	712,600
Spain and Portugal - - -	1,083,000	317,900	1,400,900
Switzerland - - -	683,700	358,800	1,042,500
Totals - - -	22,524,500	9,604,900	32,129,400

Foreign Countries.	Estimated Yearly Number of Letters, &c. from the United Kingdom for Delivery in Foreign Countries.		
	Letters and Post Cards.	Circulars, Book Packets, and Newspapers.	Total.
Austria - - -	589,400	328,800	918,200
Belgium - - -	1,445,100	551,800	1,996,900
Denmark - - -	374,500	87,000	461,500
France - - -	7,873,800	3,579,700	11,453,500
Germany - - -	5,508,700	2,005,900	7,514,600
Greece, Turkey, and Egypt -	896,500	1,012,300	1,908,800
Holland - - -	1,272,700	358,300	1,631,000
Italy - - -	1,424,000	1,039,700	2,463,700
Norway and Sweden - - -	742,100	238,200	980,300
Russia - - -	583,800	282,600	866,400
Spain and Portugal - - -	931,100	646,100	1,577,200
Switzerland - - -	755,800	413,300	1,169,100
Totals - - -	22,397,500	10,543,700	32,941,200

APPENDIX G.—*continued.*

ESTIMATE for the Period during which the uniform and Reduced Rates of Postage have been in Operation, of the Yearly Number of Letters, Post Cards, Circulars, Book Packets, and Newspapers received from European Countries and Egypt for delivery in the United Kingdom; and of the Yearly Number despatched from the United Kingdom for delivery in those Countries.

ESTIMATED NUMBER received from EUROPEAN COUNTRIES and Egypt for DELIVERY in the UNITED KINGDOM.

Year.	Letters and Post Cards.	Circulars, Book Packets, and Newspapers.	Total.
1875 - -	15,129,800	5,225,600	20,355,400
1876 - -	16,138,200	6,580,600	22,718,800
1877 - -	18,141,000	6,806,900	24,947,900
1878 - -	20,269,400	8,414,300	28,683,700
1879 - -	22,524,500	9,604,900	32,129,400

ESTIMATED NUMBER despatched from UNITED KINGDOM for DELIVERY in EUROPEAN COUNTRIES and Egypt.

Year.	Letters and Post Cards.	Circulars, Book Packets, and Newspapers.	Total.
1875 - -	16,029,600	7,333,300	23,362,900
1876 - -	17,663,100	8,398,400	26,061,500
1877 - -	20,717,800	9,540,100	30,257,900
1878 - -	22,977,700	11,422,600	34,400,300
1879 - -	22,897,500	10,543,700	32,941,200

The numbers given for the year 1875 show the yearly rate for the second half of the year, during which period only the uniform and reduced rates of postage were in operation.

YEARLY Rate of Increase per cent. on Letters, &c. Received.

Year.	Letters and Post Cards.	Circulars, Book Packets, and Newspapers.	Total.
1876 - -	6·6	25·9	11·6
1877 - -	12·4	3·4	9·8
1878 - -	11·7	23·6	15·0
1879 - -	11·1	14·2	12·0

YEARLY Rate of Increase per cent. on Letters, &c. Despatched.

Year.	Letters and Post Cards.	Circulars, Book Packets, and Newspapers.	Total.
1876 - -	10·2	14·5	11·5
1877 - -	17·3	13·6	16·1
1878 - -	10·9	19·7	13·7
1879 - -	—	—	—

APPENDIX H.

Telegrams.

TABLE showing the TOTAL NUMBER of MESSAGES forwarded from TELEGRAPH OFFICES in ENGLAND and WALES, SCOTLAND, and IRELAND, in each Year since the transfer of the TELEGRAPHS to the STATE.

Year.	Number of Messages.					
	England and Wales.			Scotland.	Ireland.	TOTAL.
	Provinces.	London.	Total.			
1870-71 -	5,299,882	2,863,821	8,163,703	1,080,189	606,285	9,850,177
1871-72 -	6,594,590	3,612,772	10,207,362	1,388,434	878,000	12,473,796
1872-73 -	8,022,151	4,577,015	12,599,166	1,761,298	1,175,316	15,535,780
1873-74 -	9,233,854	5,254,547	14,488,401	2,009,893	1,323,236	17,821,530
1874-75 -	10,124,661	5,652,033	15,776,694	2,132,787	1,343,639	19,253,120
1875-76 -	10,883,282	6,350,714	17,233,996	2,287,359	1,452,180	20,973,535
1876-77 -	11,232,704	6,561,930	17,794,634	2,402,347	1,529,162	21,726,143
1877-78 -	11,392,098	6,700,504	18,092,602	2,490,776	1,588,489	22,171,867
1878-79 -	11,592,899	8,830,019	20,422,918	2,477,003	1,559,854	24,459,775
1879-80 -	12,392,996	9,854,566	22,247,562	2,704,574	1,595,001	26,547,137

The figures for the years 1878-79 and 1879-80 include the number of certain Press Messages (1,970,213 and 2,079,366 respectively) not previously included in these Returns.

APPENDIX H.—*continued.*

TABLE showing the NUMBER of MESSAGES forwarded from TELEGRAPH OFFICES in the UNITED KINGDOM during each of the Years 1878-79 and 1879-80; and the Increase or Decrease in each Month of the latter Year over the corresponding Month of the former Year.

Month.	Number of Messages!		Increase.	Decrease.
	1878-79.	1879-80.		
April - - -	1,830,517	1,863,529	33,012	
May - - -	1,932,743	2,441,579*	508,836	
June - - -	2,551,674*	1,956,693	—	594,981
July - - -	2,111,189	2,063,895	—	47,294
August - - -	2,598,100*	2,618,530*	20,430	
September - - -	2,009,771	2,103,741	93,970	
October - - -	1,985,767	2,282,581	296,764	
November - - -	2,272,254*	2,668,614*	396,360	
December - - -	1,639,617	1,848,269	208,652	
January - - -	1,625,147	2,407,506*	782,359	
February - - -	1,687,151	2,117,000	429,849	
March - - -	2,215,845*	2,175,250	—	40,595
	24,459,775	26,547,137	2,770,232	682,870
	Total Increase		- -	2,087,362

* Five weeks.

APPENDIX I.

Private Wires.

STATEMENT showing 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.	Quarterly Increase.									Increase for the Year.			Total Number existing 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	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	732	2,325	1,773
1870-71	2	6	3	16	52	37	10	8	121	16	8	43	776	2,587	1,971
1871-72	22	29	41	11	28	16	16	126	40	37	87	69	862	2,857	2,137
1872-73	38	91	80	22	94	54	36	170	82	69	319	183	1,027	3,531	2,536
1873-74	52	179	323	62	149	134	45	150	139	80	224	217	1,266	4,233	3,369
1874-75	54	212	155	16	126	343	47	93	116	59	226	193	1,442	4,890	4,176
1875-76	37	76	81	30	68	67	39	137	108	34	70	84	1,582	5,241	4,516
1876-77	31	100	55	19	129	76	24	100	71	31	137	137	1,687	5,707	4,855
1877-78	28	63	60	24	42	61	9	25	54	82	143	269	1,830	5,980	5,299
1878-79	6	50	44	33	115	144	14	153	71	6	84	98	1,889	6,382	5,656
1879-80	1	53	24	-	39	1	27	795	195	13	331	133	1,930	7,600	6,009

APPENDIX I.—*continued.***Private Wires.**

STATEMENT showing the NET ADDITIONAL RENTALS, Quarter by Quarter, in each Financial Year since the transfer; with the Total Annual Increase, 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.
* Amount at the 31st March 1870	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
1870-71	101 0 0	525 16 6	527 4 0	432 5 6	1,586	6	0	22,578	16	6
1871-72	623 0 0	439 6 0	1,357 7 0	1,110 18 0	3,530	11	0	26,109	7	6
1872-73	1,312 7 0	1,185 17 0	1,645 16 6	2,496 8 0	6,590	8	6	32,699	16	0
1873-74	2,215 11 0	2,001 14 0	1,718 12 0	2,584 15 0	8,520	12	0	41,220	8	0
1874-75	2,112 17 0	1,099 1 0	1,154 4 0	2,309 12 0	6,675	14	0	47,896	2	0
1875-76	825 16 0	805 19 0	1,337 14 0	904 12 0	3,874	1	0	51,770	3	0
1876-77	965 2 0	999 9 0	1,077 17 0	1,539 10 0	4,581	18	0	56,352	1	0
1877-78	834 8 0	560 8 0	507 5 0	1,868 3 0	3,770	4	0	60,122	5	0
1878-79	482 16 0	1,380 14 0	725 3 0	644 12 6	3,183	5	6	63,805	10	6
1879-80	294 13 0	294 10 0	773 16 7	2,092 17 6	3,455	17	1	66,761	7	7

* 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; they include also some Rentals which accrued between that date (29th January) and the 31st March 1870.

† The rentals current at the end of the year differ slightly from the rentals actually received within the year, as shown in Appendix S.

APPENDIX J.

TABLE showing the VALUE OF WORK PERFORMED by the POST OFFICE TELEGRAPH DEPARTMENT for other GOVERNMENT DEPARTMENTS, and for which no Payment has been made, from the 5th February 1870 to the 31st March 1880.

Period.	Telegrams.		Wire Rentals.	Salaries.	Work executed.	Total.
	Inland.	Foreign.				
Period to 31st March 1871	£ s. d. 243 3 1	£ s. d. 513 9 5	£ s. d. 882 1 7	£ s. d. 256 15 9	£ s. d. 1 15 0	£ s. d. 1,897 4 10
Year ended 31st March 1872	313 7 3	743 4 7	731 0 4	247 5 0	21 2 11	2,056 0 1
" 1873	486 10 8	408 13 11	892 1 3	273 5 0	43 1 1	2,103 11 11
" 1874	626 8 5	752 8 10	1,046 14 9	341 10 5	6 13 11	2,773 16 4
Nine months to 31st December 1874	714 18 4	91 15 9	2,018 16 10	1,131 0 10	23 18 11	3,980 10 8
Year ended 31st December 1875	1,703 2 1	1,707 16 9	4,544 5 11	2,495 4 2	2 17 8	10,453 6 7
Quarter ended 31st March 1876	983 5 0	—	1,174 5 10	642 14 8	5 7 8	2,755 13 2
Year ended 31st March 1877	6,300 17 9	—	4,977 14 10	2,567 2 8	—	13,845 15 3
" 1878	9,550 15 9	—	5,338 14 6	2,506 16 9	20 16 8	17,417 3 8
" 1879	10,906 8 0	—	6,378 18 0	3,396 11 4	20 16 7	20,602 13 11
" 1880	6,393 1 9	—	6,435 5 7	2,552 16 1	0 18 6	15,382 1 11
TOTALS	38,171 18 1	4,317 9 3	34,419 19 5	16,311 2 8	147 8 11	93,267 18 4

All Government Departments since 1st April 1875 have paid for the transmission of Foreign telegrams. The increase in the value of Inland telegrams sent for Government Departments is attributable to an increase in the number of such telegrams, and to certain Departments which formerly paid for Inland telegrams having ceased to do so.

APPENDIX K.

Money Orders.

Year.	INLAND ORDERS.			COLONIAL ORDERS.			FOREIGN ORDERS.			GRAND TOTAL.			
	Number.	Amount.	Increase per cent. on Number.	Number.	Amount.	Increase per cent. on Number.	Number.	Amount.	Increase per cent. on Number.	Number.	Amount.	Increase per cent. on Number.	
1830 -	188,921	£ 313,124	—					£		188,921	313,124	—	
1840 -	587,797	960,975	211							587,797	960,975	211	
Average of 1841-45 5 years	2,429,855	4,087,256	313							2,429,855	4,087,256	313	
1846-50	4,087,703	7,954,533	61							4,087,703	7,954,533	61	
1851-55	5,219,559	9,941,316	27							5,219,559	9,941,316	27	
1856-60	6,086,308	12,737,504	28	8,507	25,067	—	—			6,094,875	12,762,571	28	
1861-65	8,001,127	16,396,361	19	54,100	226,142	536	821			8,055,227	16,624,503	13	
1866-70	9,538,536	19,211,707	19	122,625	494,104	126	118	8,820†	33,447†			19	
1871 -	12,062,886	21,790,583	26	143,211	600,981	16.7	21.6	47,481	172,983	437		417	
1872 -	13,684,189	24,013,747	16	154,512	648,576	7.9	7.9	103,911	357,360	119		106	
1873 -	15,118,636	25,600,069	8	176,060	731,529	13.9	12.8	137,549	470,666	32.3		31.7	
1874 -	15,900,582	26,296,441	5	172,488	723,156	—	—	148,503	488,075	8.		3.7	
1875 -	16,435,661	26,497,918	3.7	170,617	701,245	—	—	163,596	493,920	10.		1.2	
3 months ended } 31st March 1876 }	4,350,935	6,901,506	—	39,494	161,910	—	—	46,429	131,527	—		—	
1876-77 -	17,822,921	27,516,698	8.1	167,597	671,827	—	—	201,380	590,988	23.		13.5	
1877-78 -	18,393,901	27,870,117	3.1	175,749	679,371	4.8	1.1	226,326	603,964	12.3		7.6	
1878-79 -	17,290,764	25,911,923	Decrease. 5.8	184,819	711,816	5.	4.7	265,039	679,354	17.		12.5	
1879-80 -	16,774,354	24,776,331	3.	208,660	764,092	10.2	7.3	329,559	830,597	24.3		22.2	
											17,597,573	26,371,020	2.4
													3.4
													3.8
													1.4
													Decrease. 5.4
													3.2
													6.4
													3.4

* These numbers were overstated in last report by 100,000; see Note on next page.
 † This is the average for two years only, as Money Order business with foreign countries did not commence until 1869.

APPENDIX K.—continued.
Money Orders.

Year.	ISSUED IN THE UNITED KINGDOM.						ISSUED IN THE COLONIES.						TOTAL.		
	Number.	Amount.	Increase per cent. on Number.	Increase per cent. on Amount.	Number.	Amount. £	Increase per cent. on Number.	Increase per cent. on Amount.	Number.	Amount. £	Increase per cent. on Number.	Increase per cent. on Amount.	Number.	Amount.	Increase per cent. on Amount.
1856	-	-	-	-	3,965	12,961	-	-	3,965	12,961	-	-	3,965	12,961	-
1857	-	-	-	-	4,744	14,168	19·6	9·3	4,744	14,168	19·6	9·3	4,744	14,168	9·3
1858	-	-	-	-	8,724	10,050	-	-	8,724	10,050	-	-	8,724	10,050	-
1859	-	-	-	-	8,102	22,943	117	128	8,811	25,199	136	150	8,811	25,199	150
1860	-	-	-	-	2,649	7,726	273	242	13,005	40,956	67·9	75·4	16,254	47,982	84·4
Average of } 1861-65 5 years	-	-	-	-	8,163	30,326	208	292	45,937	196,816	245	386	54,100	226,142	371
" } 1866-70	-	-	-	-	16,158	63,613	97·9	109	106,467	494,104	131	152	122,025	557,717	146
1871	-	-	-	-	16,739	80,481	22·1	26·4	123,472	520,550	15·9	5·3	148,211	600,981	16·7
1872	-	-	-	-	21,082	84,727	6·5	5·3	133,480	563,849	8·1	8·3	154,512	648,576	7·9
1873	-	-	-	-	21,864	89,002	3·9	5·	154,106	642,527	15·5	13·9	176,060	731,529	12·8
1874	-	-	-	-	25,188	98,261	6·	4·7	149,250	629,895	-	-	172,438	723,156	-
1875	-	-	-	-	24,661	98,062	6·3	5·1	145,956	603,183	-	-	170,617	701,245	-
8 months ended 31st } March 1876	-	-	-	-	6,426	24,089	-	-	33,068	137,221	-	-	39,494	161,910	-
1876-77	-	-	-	-	27,161	104,857	10·1	6·4	140,436	567,470	-	-	167,597	671,827	-
1877-78	-	-	-	-	29,403	109,456	8·2	4·8	146,346	569,915	4·	0·4	175,749	679,371	1·1
1878-79	-	-	-	-	29,569	106,784	0·5	-	155,290	605,032	6·	6·2	184,819	711,816	4·7
1879-80	-	-	-	-	31,592	113,242	6·8	6·	172,098	650,850	10·8	7·5	203,660	764,092	7·3

APPENDIX K.—*continued.***Money Orders.**

Year.	ISSUED IN THE UNITED KINGDOM.						ISSUED ABROAD.						TOTAL.			
	Number.	Amount.	Increase per cent. on Number.	Increase per cent. on Amount.	Number.	Amount.	Increase per cent. on Number.	Increase per cent. on Amount.	Number.	Amount.	Increase per cent. on Number.	Increase per cent. on Amount.	Number.	Amount.	Increase per cent. on Number.	Increase per cent. on Amount.
1869	3,302	£ 11,352	—	—	2,177	£ 8,753	—	—	5,479	£ 20,105	—	—	5,479	£ 20,105	—	—
1870	7,329	23,423	121	130	4,832	17,331	121	93·3	12,161	46,739	121	132	12,161	46,739	121	132
1871	12,769	65,072	156	121	23,662	107,911	493	621	47,481	172,933	290	209	47,481	172,933	290	209
1872	29,531	98,334	52·1	43·4	75,360	264,026	162	144	103,911	337,360	119	106	103,911	337,360	119	106
1873	39,869	131,053	39·6	40·4	97,680	339,613	29·6	23·6	137,549	470,666	32·3	31·7	137,549	470,666	32·3	31·7
1874	53,123	169,417	33·2	20·2	93,380	318,633	—	—	148,503	488,075	7·9	3·6	148,503	488,075	7·9	3·6
1875	67,348	202,901	26·7	19·7	96,248	291,019	0·9	—	163,596	433,920	10·1	1·1	163,596	433,920	10·1	1·1
3 months ended 31st March 1876	20,150	55,765	—	—	26,279	75,762	—	—	46,429	131,527	—	—	46,429	131,527	—	—
1876-77	93,379	288,240	39·3	31·2	107,501	294,748	11·6	1·2	201,380	590,088	23·	13·3	201,380	590,088	23·	13·3
1877-78	107,866	291,128	14·8	9·3	118,470	312,336	10·2	0·1	226,326	603,464	12·3	7·6	226,326	603,464	12·3	7·6
1878-79	124,172	317,715	15·1	9·1	140,867	361,639	18·9	15·6	265,039	679,354	17·1	12·4	265,039	679,354	17·1	12·4
1879-80	134,731	323,927	8·5	1·9	194,778	504,370	33·2	40·1	329,559	830,597	24·3	22·2	329,559	830,597	24·3	22·2

Money Orders.

TABLE showing the AMOUNT (to the nearest Pound) of MONEY ORDER TRANSACTIONS between the UNITED KINGDOM and the COLONIES in each of the past Seven Years.

Year.	Africa, South and West.		Australia.		British America.		Cape Colony.		India.		New Zealand.		West Indies.		Other Colonies and Protector Agencies.			TOTAL	
	Issued in the U.K.	Issued in Africa.	Issued in the U.K.	Issued in Australia.	Issued in the U.K.	Issued in America.	Issued in the U.K.	Issued in Cape Colony.	Issued in the U.K.	Issued in India.	Issued in the U.K.	Issued in New Zealand.	Issued in the U.K.	Issued in W. Indies.	Issued in the U.K.	Issued in the Colonies.	Issued in the U.K.	Issued in the Colonies.	Issued in the Colonies.
1873	£ 1,207	£ 23,308	£ 29,521	£ 113,014	£ 33,899	£ 163,138	£ 2,800	£ 11,231	£ 2,673	£ 57,725	£ 6,656	£ 48,760	£ 2,909	£ 91,126	£ 8,937	£ 104,225	£ 80,002	£ 612,527	£ 80,002
1874	£ 1,063	£ 30,968	£ 23,835	£ 140,364	£ 38,252	£ 135,008	£ 2,684	£ 15,003	£ 2,801	£ 44,254	£ 7,322	£ 53,072	£ 3,532	£ 107,388	£ 8,502	£ 88,720	£ 98,261	£ 620,805	£ 98,261
1875	£ 1,203	£ 31,893	£ 20,807	£ 140,197	£ 38,317	£ 110,949	£ 3,178	£ 22,406	£ 2,980	£ 46,189	£ 9,307	£ 66,563	£ 3,220	£ 98,406	£ 9,950	£ 80,574	£ 96,003	£ 603,182	£ 96,003
1876-77	£ 1,001	£ 27,444	£ 30,070	£ 143,957	£ 40,622	£ 98,808	£ 3,483	£ 31,839	£ 3,762	£ 48,178	£ 10,284	£ 67,910	£ 9,579	£ 78,819	£ 10,705	£ 75,082	£ 104,368	£ 567,470	£ 104,368
1877-78	£ 1,009	£ 19,703	£ 30,617	£ 158,331	£ 40,154	£ 82,512	£ 4,116	£ 35,962	£ 5,166	£ 63,362	£ 10,319	£ 73,064	£ 4,113	£ 66,441	£ 13,357	£ 99,635	£ 100,456	£ 560,915	£ 100,456
1878-79	£ 1,815	£ 27,653	£ 30,543	£ 166,754	£ 39,483	£ 81,729	£ 4,641	£ 39,060	£ 4,810	£ 63,299	£ 9,793	£ 86,038	£ 4,383	£ 63,256	£ 14,509	£ 74,748	£ 108,784	£ 606,682	£ 108,784
1879-80	£ 2,412	£ 41,222	£ 32,943	£ 187,712	£ 37,681	£ 84,256	£ 4,694	£ 49,543	£ 4,910	£ 61,393	£ 11,972	£ 93,258	£ 3,882	£ 63,427	£ 14,496	£ 68,064	£ 113,240	£ 630,850	£ 113,240

TABLE showing the AMOUNT (to the nearest Pound) of MONEY ORDER TRANSACTIONS between the UNITED KINGDOM and the VARIOUS FOREIGN COUNTRIES in each of the past Seven Years.

Year.	Belgium.		Denmark.		Egypt.		France.		Germany.		Italy.		Netherlands.		Norway.		Switzerland.		United States.			TOTAL.	
	Issued in the U.K.	Issued in Belgium.	Issued in the U.K.	Issued in Denmark.	Issued in the U.K.	Issued in Egypt.	Issued in the U.K.	Issued in France.	Issued in the U.K.	Issued in Germany.	Issued in the U.K.	Issued in Italy.	Issued in the U.K.	Issued in Netherlands.	Issued in the U.K.	Issued in Norway.	Issued in the U.K.	Issued in Switzerland.	Issued in the U.K.	Issued in the U.S.	Issued in the U.S.	Issued in the U.K.	Issued in the U.S.
1873	£ 10,738	£ 15,652	£ 2,176	£ 2,005	£ —	£ —	£ 8,658	£ 1,857	£ 39,321	£ 30,246	£ 7,097	£ 4,207	£ 3,107	£ 4,000	£ —	£ —	£ 11,516	£ 5,403	£ 48,370	£ 275,153	£ 131,053	£ 330,613	£ 131,053
1874	£ 11,356	£ 14,521	£ 2,500	£ 2,581	£ 44	£ 44	£ 18,580	£ 5,519	£ 50,070	£ 33,369	£ 9,893	£ 6,214	£ 3,506	£ 3,831	£ —	£ —	£ 12,742	£ 5,062	£ 60,236	£ 240,486	£ 160,417	£ 318,638	£ 160,417
1875	£ 11,400	£ 15,017	£ 2,906	£ 4,219	£ 128	£ 128	£ 1,083	£ 36,801	£ 18,408	£ 58,091	£ 11,166	£ 6,588	£ 4,809	£ 5,004	£ —	£ —	£ 13,806	£ 5,864	£ 62,834	£ 186,197	£ 202,900	£ 291,020	£ 202,900
1876-77	£ 12,024	£ 15,286	£ 3,129	£ 4,022	£ 74	£ 74	£ 1,846	£ 59,940	£ 38,005	£ 74,653	£ 16,274	£ 7,577	£ 5,481	£ 9,887	£ 2,280	£ —	£ 1,115	£ 6,463	£ 75,005	£ 130,164	£ 296,239	£ 293,748	£ 296,239
1877-78	£ 12,924	£ 15,886	£ 4,288	£ 5,461	£ 132	£ 132	£ 2,754	£ 69,094	£ 48,186	£ 80,480	£ 53,778	£ 8,417	£ 5,741	£ 9,974	£ 2,712	£ —	£ 1,476	£ 7,218	£ 72,186	£ 157,707	£ 291,128	£ 312,886	£ 291,128
1878-79	£ 13,394	£ 16,019	£ 5,880	£ 6,039	£ 963	£ 963	£ 7,971	£ 83,087	£ 65,368	£ 96,673	£ 61,566	£ 21,197	£ 8,440	£ 6,879	£ 10,906	£ 3,947	£ 2,037	£ 17,652	£ 6,900	£ 71,089	£ 176,382	£ 317,713	£ 361,639
1879-80	£ 13,476	£ 16,144	£ 4,110	£ 5,983	£ 627	£ 627	£ 78,348	£ 79,140	£ 105,193	£ 71,003	£ 22,014	£ 10,407	£ 5,802	£ 9,601	£ 5,069	£ 2,084	£ 2,084	£ 18,797	£ 9,562	£ 70,498	£ 290,841	£ 321,927	£ 506,670

Post Office Savings Banks.

YEAR.	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 all open Accounts standing to credit of Interest, standing to credit of all open Accounts at close of the Year.	Average Amount 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 making Provision for outstanding Warrants, 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 Old Savings Banks combined.
From 16 Sept. 1861 to 31 Dec. 1862	2,553	689,316	£ 11,668 3 6	22 1/2	189	87,294	£ 438,637 4 10	20,501	20,501	6 1/2	205,928	27,433	178,495	£ 1,698,221	9 10 3	1 4 3	1 659,032*	35,692	1,694,724	3,157	1,792,555
1863	2,901	812,518	£ 2,461,209 3 2 11	55 204	197,451	1,927,154 5 4	25,401	175 1/2	25,401	7 1/2	185,934	44,760	319,669	£ 3,377,490	10 11 4	0 15 0	3,329,182*	44,413	3,372,595	3,594	1,876,399
1864	3,081	1,110,762	£ 3,350,000 3 0	100,493	309,242	1,584,840 5 18	45,856	17 1/2	45,856	7 1/2	226,153	74,964	470,838	£ 4,968,128	10 12 1	0 18 4	4,905,663*	5,522	5,001,185	3,659	1,967,683
1865	3,321	1,502,369	£ 3,719,017 2 17	132,870	407,412	2,318,605 5 13	49,527	6 1/2	49,527	6 1/2	239,686	99,160	611,384	£ 5,526,400	10 13 6	0 15 2	5,582,329*	4,327	6,586,656	3,922	2,078,948
Average of 5 years 1866-70	3,815	1,802,031	£ 2,232,108 2 18	125,014	617,020	£ 2,770,581 5 10	5	62,803	62,803	5 1/2	296,524	181,170	907,066	£ 11,632,214	12 0 6	0 10 9	11,824,504	50,351	11,862,124	4,558	2,352,942
Average of 5 years 1871-75	4,824	2,840,557	£ 7,880,078 2 15	176,162	997,378	£ 6,317,592 6 11	90,786	5 1/2	90,786	5 1/2	425,080	503,290	1,519,684	£ 21,171,181	13 12 4	0 8 6	21,753,547	133,278	21,879,751	5,518	2,993,487
1876	5,448	3,106,136	£ 9,982,350 2 16	910,391	1,105,608	£ 7,792,477 6 10	125,912	6 1/2	125,912	6 1/2	437,033	511,763	1,702,371	£ 26,908,550	15 17 1	0 38 0	28,000,732	108,833	28,111,565	5,912	3,195,761
1877	5,698	3,277,831	£ 9,164,728 2 16	1,671,450	1,252,195	£ 8,053,491 6 9	152,181	7 1/2	152,181	7 1/2	453,921	364,355	1,791,240	£ 34,740,757	16 0 10	0 10 7	29,715,520	104,067	29,817,586	6,126	3,301,087
1878	5,851	3,320,625	£ 9,485,301 2 16	5,990,603	1,304,617	£ 8,511,188 6 10	418,548	11 1/2	418,548	11 1/2	417,549	346,083	1,892,756	£ 39,411,563	16 1 4	0 9 6	30,945,963	249,392	30,189,355	6,285	3,408,466
1879	6,016	3,817,828	£ 9,887,100 2 19	1,743,636	1,418,543	£ 9,090,174 6 7	519,280	7 1/2	519,280	7 1/2	445,500	340,779	1,988,477	£ 32,012,164	16 1 11	0 12 0	32,660,001	112,948	32,801,949	6,466	3,463,191

* These sums do not include the dividends accruing to the Post Office Savings Banks on the 6th 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., the payment during 1864 of various charges properly belonging to 1863.

‡ In 1868, the charge for postage, amounting to about 1/40 per transaction, ceased to be debited against the Savings Bank Department, but in 1877 the sum of 22,548/ 12s. was charged under this head for nine months. Had no charge for postage been made in this year, the cost per transaction would have continued at 1/40.

§ 167,880 accounts having small balances, which had no transactions for a considerable period, were transferred to the Dormant Account in the year 1876, and a similar transfer of 21,779 accounts was made in 1877; the number of open accounts in those years were reduced accordingly. The total number of such accounts included in the Dormant Account at the end of 1879 was 137,607.

|| The sum of 448,548/ for charges of management in 1878 includes 214,434/ for arrears of postage for the nine years from 1st April 1868 to 31st March 1877, and also 78,419/ paid on account of the new building in Queen Victoria Street and its site. The effect of these additions to the charges proper to the year is to raise the cost of a transaction to 1s. 11 1/2d. and the percentage of expenses to capital to 14 9s. 6d. If the working charges proper to the year 1878 only are taken into account, including 5 per cent. upon the expenditure in respect of the new building, the cost per transaction will be 8s. 4d. and the percentage of expenses to capital 10s. 7 1/2d. Further, if the arrears of postage charged to the year 1878 be added to the expenses of the years which they affect, viz., 1868 to 1877 inclusive, the average annual cost of a transaction for those years will be 7s. 7 1/2d. and the average percentage of expenses to capital will be 11s. 8 1/2d.

¶ The sum of 192,840/ for charges of management in 1879 includes the sum of 26,840/ paid in respect of the new building. Omitting this amount, and adding interest at the rate of 5 per cent. thereon, as well as on the expenditure of 70,419/ for similar purposes in 1878, the cost per transaction will be 8s. 5 1/2d. and the percentage of expenses to capital 10s. 8 1/2d.

APPENDIX L.—continued. POST OFFICE SAVINGS BANK.

BALANCE SHEET.

RETURN of the BALANCE SHEETS of the POST OFFICE SAVINGS BANKS for the Year 1879, 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 of Funds to meet Liabilities.

LIABILITIES.			ASSETS.		
£	s.	d.	£	s.	d.
Balance due to Depositors on the 31st December 1879 (including interest)			Value of Securities at the Cost Price, less depreciation of those which are terminable by lapse of time		
32,012,134	7	11	32,641,110	19	0
Amount of expenses remaining unpaid (partly estimated)			Amount of cash in hands of Commissioners for the Reduction of the National Debt		
9,990	17	7	47,890	8	2
779,824	11	3	Total Amount in the hands of the Commissioners for the Reduction of the National Debt		
Surplus of Funds to meet Liabilities			Amount received for issuing new Deposit Books		
			1,344	8	4
			Leas,—Amount paid to the National Debt Commissioners		
			883	4	4
			Amount in the hands of Her Majesty's Postmaster General		
			150,645	8	10
			Leas,—Amount required to meet Warrants issued to Depositors but not cashed on 31st December 1879		
			38,158	3	3
£	32,801,940	16	£	112,467	5
		9		32,801,940	16
					9

Total amount received from Depositors, including interest, to 31st December 1879. £ 121,643,088 8 10.
Total amount repaid to Depositors to 31st December 1879. £ 88,680,984 0 11.

Number of Transactions.		Number of Accounts.	
Deposits.	Withdrawals.	Opened.	Closed.
40,250,480	14,408,102	6,229,027	4,240,350
			Remaining Open.
			1,988,477

The total cost of the Post Office Savings Banks from their establishment to the 31st December 1879, including the sum of 9,990*l.* 17*s.* 7*d.* charged as above, was 1,838,288*l.* 8*s.* 14*d.* The total number of transactions, i.e., Deposits and Withdrawals, in the period was 54,658,582.
The average cost of each transaction from the commencement of Post Office Savings Bank business to the end of the year 1879 was 8*d.*
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.*

The sums of 128,279*l.* 14*s.* 11*d.*, 147,116*l.* 16*s.* 0*d.*, and 77,787*l.* 12*s.* 1*d.* have been paid into the Exchequer out of the funds of the Post Office Savings Banks in the years 1877, 1878, and 1879 respectively under sec. 14 of the Act 40 Vict. c. 13, being the excess of interest which had accrued during the years 1876, 1877, and 1878. The sum of 70,000*l.* the cost of the site of the new Savings Bank building in Queen Victoria Street, and 27,948*l.* towards the cost of the new building, have been paid for out of the funds of the Post Office Savings Banks.

APPENDIX L.—*continued.*

Post Office Savings Bank.

*Continuation of Return on previous page, 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.		Dividends accrued but not received at the end of the year.
	£	s. d.	
Consolidated 3½. per cents. - - -	3,859,930	14 6	3,501,864 0 0
Reduced 3½. per cents. - - -	1,987,800	10 5	1,942,952 0 0
New 3½. per cents. - - -	5,734,896	13 9	5,291,951 0 0
New 2½. per cents. - - -	1,066,338	13 2	816,840 0 0
Turkish Guaranteed 4½. per cent. Bonds	103,100	0 0	103,262 10 0
Exchequer Bonds - - -	5,950,000	0 0	5,950,000 0 0
Exchequer (Suez) Bonds - - -	1,651,400	0 0	1,651,400 0 0
Church Temporalities (Ireland) Bonds	2,700,000	0 0	2,700,000 0 0
Canada Guaranteed 4½. per cent. Bonds	37,500	0 0	39,175 0 0
Advance to Public Works Loan Com- missioners - - -	150,000	0 0	150,000 0 0
Annuities for terms of years, expiring } at various periods of the year 1885 - }	(a.) 1,839,945	8 3	8,996,064 0 0
Red Sea and India Telegraph Annu- ities, expiring 4th August 1903 - }	(b.) 3,100	0 0	52,526 0 0
Annuities of an amount sufficient to repay sums advanced under Pen- sions Commutation Acts, 32 & 33 Vict. c. 32., and 34 & 35 Vict. c. 36., to 31st December 1879 - }	(c.) 131,940	5 6	273,837 0 0
			31,459,891 10 0
			1,181,219 9 0
Add value of Securities - - -			31,459,891 10 0
Cash balance in Bank of England - - -			47,890 8 2
			32,689,001 7 2

NOTE.—The value on 31st December 1879, of the several Terminable Annuities (a, b, c) in column 1, will be found by adding the sums in columns 2 and 3 together.

National Debt Office,
26th June 1880.

C. REPINGTON,
Assistant Controller.

APPENDIX L.—*continued.*

EXTRACTS from the Report of the Controller of the Post Office Savings Bank.

It is remarkable that in Ireland, notwithstanding the severe distress, the progress of the Post Office Savings Bank was greater last year than in the previous year, and, indeed, excepting the years 1871, 1876, and 1877, greater than in any year of the decade. The following statement shows year by year for that period the capital of the Post Office Savings Bank in the whole of Ireland, with the annual increase :—

Progress of
Post Office
Savings Banks
in Ireland.
Capital for
last 10 years.

Year ended 31st December.	Total Amount, including Interest, due to Depositors.	Annual Increase of Capital.
	£	£
1870 - - -	633,000	88,760
1871 - - -	745,239	112,239
1872 - - -	825,740	80,501
1873 - - -	845,550	19,810
1874 - - -	913,747	68,197
1875 - - -	1,003,304	89,557
1876 - - -	1,123,717	120,413
1877 - - -	1,256,724	133,007
1878 - - -	1,325,806	69,082
1879 - - -	1,417,389	91,583

As regards each County in Ireland the increase or decrease of capital during the last two years is shown in the following statement :—

Increase or
decrease of
capital in each
county for last
two years.

Counties.	Total Amount, including Interest, due to Depositors at close of year.			Increase in 1878 over 1877.	Decrease in 1878 as com- pared with 1877.	Increase in 1879 over 1878.	Decrease in 1879 as com- pared with 1878.
	1877.	1878.	1879.				
	£	£	£	£	£	£	£
Antrim - - -	159,508	173,847	184,866	14,339	—	11,019	—
Armagh - - -	24,114	25,895	27,892	1,781	—	1,997	—
Carlow - - -	11,665	12,755	13,632	1,090	—	877	—
Cavan - - -	18,299	19,262	19,543	963	—	281	—
Clare - - -	15,038	15,346	16,783	308	—	1,437	—
Cork - - -	97,466	105,678	117,145	8,120	—	11,569	—
Donegal - - -	29,787	32,225	34,650	2,438	—	2,425	—
Down - - -	67,981	72,547	77,898	4,666	—	5,351	—
Dublin - - -	269,356	286,374	306,829	17,518	—	19,055	—
Fermanagh - -	13,699	14,995	15,384	1,296	—	389	—
Galway - - -	44,781	45,441	48,633	660	—	3,192	—
Kerry - - -	18,216	18,970	21,299	754	—	2,329	—
Kildare - - -	28,217	28,592	27,994	375	—	—	598
Kilkenny - - -	20,038	20,991	22,692	953	—	1,701	—
King's County -	13,668	16,514	18,890	2,846	—	2,376	—
Leitrim - - -	10,035	10,134	10,560	99	—	426	—
Limerick - - -	29,256	30,024	32,878	768	—	2,854	—
Londonderry -	27,032	29,374	31,166	2,842	—	1,282	—
Longford - - -	7,857	8,211	7,943	354	—	—	268
Louth - - -	52,137	49,816	50,237	—	2,321	421	—
Mayo - - -	37,505	38,501	40,125	996	—	1,624	—
Meath - - -	12,702	13,346	15,116	644	—	1,770	—
Monaghan - - -	13,292	14,108	15,423	816	—	1,315	—
Queen's County -	15,173	14,282	15,718	—	891	1,456	—
Roscommon - -	13,706	14,167	14,395	461	—	238	—
Sligo - - -	20,806	22,243	24,857	1,437	—	2,614	—
Tipperary - - -	50,639	50,221	54,069	—	418	3,848	—
Tyrone - - -	38,640	39,769	42,048	1,129	—	2,379	—
Waterford - - -	18,010	19,839	22,339	1,829	—	2,500	—
Westmeath - - -	20,305	21,507	22,523	1,202	—	1,019	—
Wexford - - -	30,738	31,531	34,028	793	—	2,497	—
Wicklow - - -	27,068	28,403	29,841	1,335	—	1,438	—
Totals - - -	1,256,724	1,325,806	1,417,389	72,712	3,630	92,449	866
			Total increase	69,082	Total increase	91,583	

A decrease of capital last year in two counties only. No decrease in distressed districts.

Improvement in Post Office Savings Bank business as year advanced.

It will be seen that in two counties only was there any decrease last year, namely, in Kildare and Longford, neither of which would appear to be within the distressed districts; whereas in the western counties chiefly visited by the distress, Clare, Cork, Donegal, Galway, Kerry, Mayo, Roscommon, and Sligo, the increase of capital in most cases was considerably greater last year than in 1878. It might perhaps be supposed that, while such was the result as regards the whole year's business in Ireland, the increase would have been mainly confined to the early part of the year, and that the effect of the distress would have been perceptible in the later months. This, however, was not the case. Indeed (allowing for the usual preponderance of deposits in the first quarter), there was a steady improvement in the business as the year advanced; and, comparing the transactions with those in 1878, it is notable that during the second half year the deposits, though fewer in number, increased in amount, while the withdrawals, though more in number, decreased in amount.

* * * *

Falling off in amount deposited in ordinary banks, &c. in Ireland.

Desire to obtain Government security.

Classes which use the Post Office Savings Bank in the distressed districts.

According to the latest returns of Irish savings compiled by Dr. Neilson Hancock of Dublin, there has been a fall in bank deposits, and a decline of the bank-note circulation for three successive years, amounting in the aggregate to 5,236,000*l.* The Trustee Savings Banks also sustained a decrease of 52,287*l.* in 1878; but the investments in Government Stocks, which decreased in the years 1877 and 1878 by 1,427,000*l.*, increased in 1879 by 603,000*l.* These circumstances show a desire on the part of investors to obtain direct State security for their money, which appears to be further manifested by the increased amount deposited in the Post Office Savings Bank. It is also an interesting question how far the classes principally affected by the distress make use of the Post Office Savings Bank, primitive methods of hoarding being probably still in vogue among the Irish peasantry. With a view of elucidating this point, a return has been prepared showing the occupations of 1,550 depositors in accounts opened in small towns in the western counties of Ireland, the result being as follows:—

Class.	No. of Depositors.
No occupation - - - -	190
Female servants - - - -	171
Married women - - - -	159
Constabulary - - - -	156
Unmarried women - - - -	92
Farmers - - - -	91
Tradesmen - - - -	84
Minors over seven - - - -	82
Labourers - - - -	81
Professional men - - - -	74
Miscellaneous - - - -	63
Artizans - - - -	52
Minors under seven - - - -	50
Male servants - - - -	43
Soldiers and sailors - - - -	41
Occupation not given - - - -	35
Clerks - - - -	30
Public officials - - - -	27
Gentlemen - - - -	14
Milliners and dressmakers - - - -	12
Charitable and provident societies - - - -	2
Friendly society - - - -	1
Total - - - -	1,550

It would appear, therefore, that, in the localities where distress prevails, depositors in the Post Office Savings Bank are chiefly persons having no occupation, female servants, married women, and members of the Royal Irish Constabulary. The majority of persons described as of "no occupation" would probably be little affected by agricultural affairs, but of course it cannot be known to what extent other classes, such as married women, unmarried women, and minors, are dependent upon agriculture. It will be observed, however, that the farmers and labourers, *i.e.*, the purely agricultural element, together represent only about one-ninth of the total number of depositors.

* * * *

Among the Penny Banks for which accounts were opened last year 111 were school banks, 27 of them belonging to Board Schools. The relative numbers in 1878 were 95 and 28. In addition to this direct evidence of Penny Banks being used in close connection with primary education, the correspondence of the Department contains many indications that the importance of habituating children to the practice of thrift, as well as of teaching it as an abstract duty, is being extensively recognised. There is an increasing demand for the deposit books supplied gratuitously by this Department to the managers of Penny Banks for the use of their depositors, nearly 90,000 having been furnished last year as against 70,000 in 1878, and 51,000 in 1877. More than one-fourth of the books supplied last year were specially printed with the names of particular Penny Banks, the hours of attendance, and the names of Trustees. There is also a growing appreciation of the Penny Bank account books, first issued by this Department in November 1877. Of these, 651 sets were applied for last year as against 257 sets in 1878. Securing as they do a proper system of accounts, the books must be of the greatest use to managers and founders of Penny Banks, and they are supplied at little more than cost price. Those issued last year included 46 sets of an increased size for large Penny Banks. Among the applicants for these account books was the manager of a Savings Bank at Brussels, who appeared to have seen the remarks on the subject in the Appendix to the Annual Report of the Postmaster General for 1877. A novel feature in the machinery of one Penny Bank is the provision of a Lending Library, each depositor who has saved at least 1s. being allowed to borrow a book, which can be exchanged when a further deposit is made. Another Penny Bank was established solely for the benefit of the "navvies" constructing a new line of railway.

Penny banks in schools.

Increasing demand for deposit books supplied gratuitously.

Penny bank account books.

Penny bank lending library.

Penny bank for navvies.

The plan experimentally sanctioned in March, 1878, by which managers of Penny Banks in remote villages may, by a system of free registered letters, assist the depositors in Penny Banks to open and afterwards continue accounts in their own names at the nearest Post Office Savings Bank, without personal attendance, has been suggested whenever it appeared to be applicable, and has been accepted in nine instances, two in 1878 and seven last year. In one instance 16 accounts were opened, and subsequent deposits made; but, with this exception, no appreciable amount of business has been done. The provision for withdrawing has not been made use of in any case.

Facilities for opening accounts by persons in remote villages.

The number of Friendly Societies and Trade, Provident, and Charitable Societies authorised to invest their funds in the Post Office Savings Bank during the last five years is shown in the following statement:—

—	1875.	1876.	1877.	1878.	1879.
Friendly Societies	351	387	253	275	437
Trade, Provident, and Charitable Societies	1,087	1,173	1,210	1,098	1,273

Friendly societies and trade, provident, and charitable societies authorised to invest during last five years.

Number authorised in first quarter of 1880.

Increase in 1879.

In the first quarter of the present year, 116 Friendly Societies, and 557 other societies of various kinds, have been authorised to open accounts, as against 96 and 503 in the first quarter of 1879. With respect to last year, while more accounts were opened by societies generally, the increase was most striking in the case of Friendly Societies, which in the two previous years had shown a falling off; and, as such increase was not caused by the closing of any large Trustee Bank, it would seem to indicate a growing inclination on the part of Friendly Societies to obtain direct Government security for their money.

* * * *

Parliamentary return as to Post Office Savings Banks according to counties prepared in 1879.

Somewhat similar return issued in 1871.

The largest and perhaps the most interesting Parliamentary Return ever issued from this Department was prepared to an order of the House of Commons, dated the 30th June 1879, on the motion of Sir H. Selwin-Ibbetson. This Return shows the Post Office Savings Banks arranged according to counties, and the number of accounts remaining open at each office on the 31st December in each year from 1873 to 1878, together with the amount, inclusive of interest, standing to the credit of such accounts. It was somewhat similar to a Return for the year 1870, issued in 1871, but its arrangement was more concise, and its magnitude arose not only from the increased number of offices, but from its embracing a period of six years.

* * * *

Foreign and Colonial Savings Banks.

France.

France seems likely, at length, to have a system of Post Office Savings Banks; the efforts of the Government having been energetically renewed in the face of much opposition from the adherents of the old Savings Banks. To assist the Government in preparing the necessary *projet de loi*, M. René de Laboulaye, *Administrateur des Postes et Télégraphes*, visited this Department in November last, examined the practical working of the system, and was furnished with full information respecting it. The measure, which was laid before the National Assembly on the 17th January last, provides that the total limit of deposits in personal accounts shall be 2,000 francs (80*l.*), no annual limit being imposed, and that the rate of interest allowed to depositors shall be 3 per cent. When a depositor shall have 2,000 francs standing to his credit, he is to be required to reduce the amount, and should he fail to do so within three months 10 francs of *Rente* (that is, I presume, as much stock as will yield interest to the extent of 10 francs) will be purchased by the Savings Bank, in his name, without charge; and any depositor to whose credit there is a sum sufficient to purchase 10 francs or more of *Rente* may, if he desire it, be gratuitously assisted to effect such purchase. There is also an important provision for times of difficulty (*dans les cas de force majeure*), by which, under the direction of the *Conseil d'Etat*, with the approval of the Cabinet, no repayment of a larger sum than 50 francs need be made at any one time, while an interval of 15 days must elapse between each such payment. The Bill does not provide the facility of depositing and withdrawing money in any part of the country; but the advantages of such a provision have recently been strongly advocated before the Committee of the Chamber of Deputies by M. de Malarce, who has thoroughly studied the British system. School Savings Banks in France, which last August numbered 12,000, are still on the increase, and it is tersely said "*qu'on peut prévoir le moment où une école sera jugée incomplète en son enseignement si elle n'a pas sa caisse d'épargne.*"

Belgium.

In Belgium, the National Savings Bank, which, in addition to its own agencies and the branches of the National Bank, employs the Post Offices for its operations, although without any arrangement for cross transactions, had 92,192 depositors in 1874, with a capital of 39,990,318 francs (1,599,613*l.*). In 1878, the number of depositors had increased to 147,838, being 1 in 37 of the population, and the amount due to 78,778,204

francs (3,151,128*l.*); the number of offices having, during the same period, increased from 496 to 525. There are also eight private Savings Banks in Belgium, which in 1878 had 31,226 depositors, with 27,000,000 francs (1,080,000*l.*) to their credit. In 1874, when there were nine such institutions, the number of depositors was 40,305, and the amount due 25,500,000 francs (1,020,000*l.*). The Netherlands Government delegated an official from the Hague to visit this Department in the spring of last year, for the purpose of reporting on our system. A few months later a Bill for the establishment of Post Office Savings Banks was introduced in the States General, the minimum of deposits being fixed at 25 cents (5*d.*), and the maximum at 800 florins (about 66*l.* 13*s.* 4*d.*), up to which sum interest is allowed at the rate of 2·64 per cent. Nevertheless, deposits in excess of 800 florins will be received, but interest will not accrue on such excess. Provision is also made for the receipt of a less amount than 25 cents, by means of Savings Bank stamps and cards. In Denmark, although Post Office Savings Banks do not at present exist, the subject appears to be attracting attention, some persons there having lately applied for information as to our system. The depositors in private Savings Banks in that country in 1878 numbered 382,747, or about 1 in 5 of the population; but, as regards the amount invested, I have no information later than 1874, when it was 97,154,460 rigsdalers (10,929,876*l.*). In Sweden, where there are no Post Office Savings Banks, the private Savings Banks in 1874 held 89,280,000 kronors (4,960,000*l.*), the property of 486,330 depositors, and, in 1878, the amount had increased to 129,554,010 kronors (7,197,445*l.*), and the number of depositors to 645,041, being about 1 in 7 of the population. In Austria-Hungary, the subject of Post Office Savings Banks has lately attracted considerable attention, and any reluctance on the part of the Government to establish them is, by some persons, attributed to the difficulty to be apprehended in finding a suitable investment for the funds. The Director-General of Posts at Buda-Pesth was furnished in September last with information respecting our system, and in December a debate took place in the Chamber of Deputies on the subject, which was referred to a committee. The business of the 319 private Savings Banks in the Austro-Hungarian Empire has steadily increased during the past year. In Roumania, a Bill has been passed for establishing a National Savings Bank, with numerous branches. In Italy the progress of the Post Office Savings Banks during 1878 was slow but, on the whole, satisfactory. The latest official report states that the regulation limiting the amount which can be deposited in an account during any one year is found to act prejudicially on the total sum deposited, and the opinion is expressed that this limit should be extended. A recent addition to the Italian system is the payment of half-yearly dividends on Government Funds to depositors residing at a distance from the chief provincial towns. There are 1,060 School Savings Banks in Italy, and the proportion of the depositors to the number of the pupils is 1 to 3½. In Spain, Savings Banks appear to be becoming more attractive to the people, as the total number of depositors in the Madrid Savings Bank, which five years ago was only 10,269, had at the close of 1878 risen to 27,711, with a capital of 118,912,566 reales (1,189,126*l.*). In the United States of America, the Post Office authorities have within the last few years made no less than six unsuccessful attempts to pass Post Office Savings Bank Bills through Congress, and between 20 and 30 private Bills having the same end in view have met with a similar fate; these constant failures having been mainly brought about by the opposition and hostility of the old Savings Banks and the banking interests. Financial and currency questions have also proved a serious hindrance to the adoption of any such measure. It is understood, how-

Holland.

Denmark.

Sweden.

Austria-Hungary.

Roumania.

Italy.

Spain.

United States.

ever, that the Post Office Committee is making another effort; the superintendent of the Money Order system at Washington, accompanied by a special agent of the Post Office service, having recently visited this Department, and obtained information to assist in rendering the new Bill as comprehensive as possible. A Thrift Society is about to be established in the United States. In Brazil, where I believe there are as yet no regular Savings Banks, School Savings Banks have recently been introduced, and it is expected that they will operate most usefully among the slave population, which is being gradually emancipated by the Progressive Act of 1871. As regards Japan, the business of the Post Office Savings Banks, introduced in January 1875, almost doubled during the fiscal year ended 30th June 1879, there being at that date no less than 21,915 depositors, with a capital of 80,848*l.* (Yen 393,983); whereas at the close of the preceding year the number was only 9,921, and the amount 43,510*l.* (Yen 212,032). In Canada the Post Office Savings Banks have recovered from the decline of business which began in 1876, the transactions for the past year having been more numerous than in any one year since Postal Banks were established in the dominion. On the 1st January last, there were 30,476 accounts remaining open, representing a capital of 3,671,310 dollars (about 734,262*l.*). The average cost of each transaction, however, is about one-third more than in this country, although the proportion of cross-entry transactions is only 8 per cent., as against 28½ per cent. here. Alluding to the comparatively slow progress made by the Canadian Post Office Savings Banks, the superintendent of these institutions has remarked that Savings Bank business cannot be expected to increase as rapidly in a colony as in older countries, where the openings provided for investment are less abundant. In Queensland, various influences tended to retard the progress of the Colony in 1878; but, nevertheless, the Government Savings Banks transacted an average amount of business. In Victoria, although the number of depositors in the Post Office Savings Banks at the close of 1878 was 46,268, as compared with 44,361 in 1877, the capital had decreased from 652,089*l.* to 623,051*l.*, probably in consequence of the agricultural and commercial depression which prevailed during the year. In New Zealand, the improvement in the business of the Postal Banks, which, after a short interruption, was observable in 1877, continued throughout 1878, and the transactions in number and amount were greater than in any previous year. On the 31st December 1878 there were 32,132 depositors, this number being to the population in the proportion of 1 to 13. An official of the New Zealand Post Office visited this Department last year, for the purpose of obtaining information as to the practical working of the system. In conclusion, I may allude to the Savings Bank in the Island of St. Helena, respecting which papers were referred to me in September last, for report on some proposed changes in its regulations. Founded in the year 1865, this institution had only 71 depositors at the end of 1878, or 1 in 88 of the population, the total amount standing to their credit being 3,785*l.* Any person, with the approval of the Governor, might deposit to the extent of 500*l.* in one year, and 1,000*l.* in all, receiving interest at the rate of 2½ per cent.; but the trustees realised nothing by the investment of the moneys, so that the amount of the interest and the expenses of the management became a charge upon the revenue of the Colony. I therefore suggested that the maximum of deposits should be assimilated to that proposed to be fixed in our own Post Office Savings Banks and that, if no suitable investment, such as a public debt or real securities, redeemable at short notice, could be found in St. Helena itself, the trustees might make use of the British Funds, and thereby obtain an annual income sufficient to pay interest to the depositors, and cover the cost of the management.

APPENDIX M.

Annuitants 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.*	Fees received on Immediate and Deferred Annuity Contracts, the Charges on Monthly Allowances being included in the Premium.	Contracts granted.	Receipts.	Payments.	Amount of Claims on Death and Surrender.							
	No.	Amount of Annuities.	Amount of Purchase Money.	No.	Amount of Annuities.	No.	Amount of Annuities and Monthly Allowances.	No.	Amount of Money and Purchase of Premiums.	No.									Amount.	No.	Amount of Insurances.	No.	Amount of Premiums.	No.	Amount of Claims on Death and Surrender.
1865	87	£ 2,100	£ 22,738	32	£ 423	45	£ 949	67	£ 1,342	—	£ —	547	£ 40,647	1,076	£ 1,165	—	—	—							
1866	196	4,827	48,829	280	3,183	72	1,389	297	2,845	8	94	621	47,261	3,782	2,838	1	70	—							
1867	268	5,966	65,068	725	8,042	41	704	313	2,392	8	131	364	26,269	5,398	3,580	5	318	—							
1868	323	6,396	70,775	1,286	14,112	40	668	310	2,505	16	248	350	26,781	6,468	4,192	11	734	—							
1869	352	6,811	74,401	1,895	19,925	45	1,044	385	2,062	10	380	422	32,670	7,814	5,044	10	537	—							
1870†	306	6,120	67,738	2,529	26,069	57	1,195	514	3,529	9	346	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	854	358	27,605	9,801	6,482	59	1,744	—							
1872	1,010‡	9,870	97,269	3,737	38,464	38	721	480	2,898	16	618	757	55,982	11,659	7,420	54	2,184	—							
1873	1,344‡	10,290	105,877	6,257	47,874	35	583	520	3,925	19	1,367	396	33,073	13,206	8,279	76	2,516	—							
1874	1,814‡	12,259	115,021	9,492	56,888	53	992	583	4,827	19	1,454	278	21,622	13,450	8,615	92	3,766	—							
1875	582	7,926	85,781	11,129	63,641	34	768	661	3,543	10	526	370	32,022	14,549	9,500	84	3,127	—							
1876	729	10,013	109,084	11,697	69,240	29	464	639	2,691	52	872	270	22,875	14,101	9,288	101	4,380	—							
1877	745	10,483	120,255	12,444	76,612	38	1,251	687	4,747	87	961	563	33,444	15,140	10,168	98	3,252	—							
1878	709	11,375	126,227	13,190	84,219	50	1,370	654	4,952	108	2,260	229	19,608	15,893	10,605	137	4,351	—							
1879	964	15,262	167,625	13,873	92,013	49	968	628	4,644	114	2,112	226	18,870	15,227	10,427	139	5,288	—							

* Prior to the year 1875 the payments consisted of Purchase Money Returned only, as no Annuities were payable till after the lapse of ten years.

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

‡ The exceptional increase during these years arose from Contracts granted on the lives of Masters and Seamen of the Mercantile Marine, through the Board of Trade. The circumstances which led to this increase had nearly ceased in 1875.

APPENDIX M.—*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 1879, and the Number and Amount of Contracts in existence on the 31st December 1879.

	CONTRACTS GRANTED.				TOTAL.	
	From 17 April 1865 to 31 December 1878.		From 1 Jan. 1879 to 31 December 1879.			
	No.	Amount.	No.	Amount.	No.	Amount.
		£ s. d.		£ s. d.		£ s. d.
Contracts for Annuities entered into from the commencement of business on 17th April 1865 to 31st December 1879, viz. :—						
Immediate Annuities - -	8,834	111,661 8 8	964	15,262 8 0	9,798	126,923 16 8
Deferred Annuities and Monthly Allowances, Money not returnable - -	213	3,909 16 6	14	312 7 0	227	4,222 3 6
Deferred Annuities and Monthly Allowances, Money returnable - - - -	420	8,905 12 0	35	645 15 0	455	9,551 7 0
Contracts for Sums payable at Death entered into from the commencement of business on the 17th April 1865 to the 31st December 1879 - - - - -	5,740	451,930 5 6	226	18,870 4 0	5,966	470,800 9 6
Contracts for Annuities in existence on the 31st December 1879, viz. :—						
Immediate Annuities - -	-	- - -	-	- - -	7,476	102,037 3 8
Deferred Annuities and Monthly Allowances, Money not returnable - -	-	- - -	-	- - -	202	3,648 1 6
Deferred Annuities and Monthly Allowances, Money returnable - - - -	-	- - -	-	- - -	250	5,259 6 0
Contracts for Sums payable at Death, in existence on the 31st December 1879 - - - -	-	- - -	-	- - -	4,314	347,703 17 10

APPENDIX N.

Inland Revenue Licenses.

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

Year.	Dogs.		Male Servants at 15s. each.		Carriages.		Horse Dealers at 12l. 10s. each.		Horses and Mules at 10s. 6d. each.		Armorial Bearings.		Guns at 10s. each.	Game.			Game Keepers at 40s. each.	Total Number.	Revenue.
	At 5s. each.	At 7s. 6d. each.	At 15s. each.	At 42s. each.	At 15s. each.	At 42s. each.	At 12l. 10s. each.	At 10s. 6d. each.	At 10s. 6d. each.	At 10s. 6d. each.	At 42s. each.	At 31s. each.		Red at 60s. at 40s.	Green at 40s. at 40s.	Blue at 40s. at 40s.			
1869 -	473,213	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	473,213	£ 118,304 10 0
1870 -	524,082	-	74,607	32,020	73,171	6,171	10,219	6,171	203,331	40,742	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	964,333	460,027 16 6
1871 -	532,239	-	70,865	31,387	73,111	5,945	10,303	5,945	201,527	63,161	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1,009,083	473,311 15 6
1872 -	573,733	-	71,224	32,978	74,413	5,943	11,090	5,943	205,914	62,239	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1,037,903	435,439 9 0
1873 -	615,313	-	66,293	32,980	74,631	5,736	10,752	5,736	206,562	70,671	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1,093,933	498,157 0 0
1874 -	635,636	-	66,325	34,094	75,493	5,833	10,943	5,833	203,333	79,431	4	1	-	1	-	-	-	1,163,207	531,249 14 6
1875 -	753,408	-	67,849	34,964	77,531	5,741	10,933	5,741	-	86,973	10	-	-	-	-	-	2	1,039,341	433,346 8 0
Quarter ended 31 Mar. 1876	630,730	-	67,633	33,360	72,617	5,803	10,704	5,803	-	3,266	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	873,932	370,073 15 0
	847,609	-	61,304	30,630	81,107	5,713	11,279	5,713	-	86,554	14	-	-	-	-	-	1	1,130,941	462,357 15 0
1877-78 -	930,056	-	57,132	37,127	82,788	5,654	11,335	5,654	-	85,369	11	-	-	-	-	-	1	1,210,463	432,700 7 0
1878-79 -	82,937	663,913	53,855	37,060	80,998	5,666	11,334	5,666	-	92,203	14	-	-	-	-	-	-	1,033,500	520,998 11 0
1879-80 -	-	652,663	62,792	46,633	108,634	6,403	14,471	6,403	-	87,728	7	2	-	-	-	-	2	979,355	543,323 5 6

* The duty on Horse Dealers and Horses and Mules was abolished in the year 1874.

APPENDIX O.

Staff of Officers.

At the end of 1879 the Staff of Officers was as follows, as compared with the Staff at the end of 1878.

On 31st Dec. 1878.			On 31st Dec. 1879.	
		I. Officers in the 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	
6		Secretary, financial secretary, assistant secretaries, surveyor general for Scotland, and secretary for Ireland.	6	
23		Other superior officers in the Metropolitan offices, viz. : heads of departments, chief clerks, &c.	22	
16		Surveyors - - - - -	16	
13,881*		Postmasters - - - - -	13,882	
3,596		Clerks, &c. - - - - -	3,803	
16,872		Letter carriers, sorters, messengers, &c. -	16,883	
34		Mail guards and mail porters - - -	28	
3		Marine mail officers - - - - -	3	
	34,432			34,644
		(B.) Staff engaged exclusively on telegraph duties, viz.:		
1		Assistant secretary - - - - -	1	
11		Chief engineers and other superior officers -	11	
6,240		Clerks, telegraphists, subordinate engineers, &c.	6,208	
5,196		Messengers, &c. - - - - -	5,273	
	11,448			11,493
23		II. Postmasters, clerks, letter carriers, &c. in the colonies, the posts of which are under the direction of the Postmaster General.	23	
	23			23
44		III. Agents in foreign countries for collection of postage, &c.	32	
	44			32
	45,947			46,192

* This number included clerks permanently in charge of post offices. In the numbers for the present year such officers are included under the head of "Clerks, &c."

APPENDIX P.

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.
	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£
1870	4,634,512 (a)	184,063	90,707 (c)	4,848,905	80,870	4,929,475	3,435,865	1,493,610
1871	4,697,607 (b)	182,140	90,707 (c)	4,900,454	-	4,900,454	3,610,700 (d)	1,289,754 (b)
1872	5,012,616	192,804	3,502 (c)	5,208,922	-	5,208,922	3,684,946	1,523,976
1873	5,134,816	208,057	5,167 (c)	5,348,040	-	5,348,040	3,792,679	1,555,361
1874	5,531,022	215,462	5,116	5,751,600	-	5,751,600	3,915,213	1,836,387
1875	5,290,535 (e)	219,197	5,300	5,815,032	-	5,815,032	3,920,891	1,894,141
Quarter ended } 31st March 1876	1,280,951	56,640	1,270	1,338,861	-	1,338,861 (f)	1,008,322	335,539
1876-7	5,782,083	229,808	5,731	6,017,072	-	6,017,072	4,070,006	1,947,066
1877-8	5,798,801	242,463	6,048	6,047,812	-	6,047,812	3,990,620	2,056,692
1878-9	6,010,306	258,063	6,051	6,274,450	-	6,274,450	3,840,076	2,434,374
1879-80	6,300,730	251,569	6,146	6,558,445	-	6,558,445 (g)	4,060,758	2,497,687
Average Annual Net Revenue of first period of Five Years								
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second period of Five Years								
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APPENDIX Q. **Force and Expenditure in relation to Postage and Money Orders in the last Ten Years.**

Year.	FORCE.		EXPENDITURE.												
	Effective.	Non-Effective.	Cost of Collection and Delivery, of Management, and of Money Order Business.					Cost of CONVEYANCE of MAILES.							
	Staff Officers, Telegraph and Savings Bank Officers, Clerks, Stampers, Messengers, Guards, Letter Carriers (exclusive of Sorters, Postmasters, Clerks, and other Officers in charge of Foreign and Colonial Mails, Parts, and Salaries of Admiralty Agents and other Officers in charge of Foreign and Colonial Mails, Parts, and Salaries of Admiralty Agents and other Officers in charge of Foreign and Colonial Mails, Parts, and Salaries of Admiralty Agents and other Officers in charge of Foreign and Colonial Mails, Parts, and Salaries of Admiralty Agents and other Officers in charge of Foreign and Colonial Mails, Parts, and Salaries of Admiralty Agents and other Officers in charge of Foreign and Colonial Mails, Parts, and Salaries of Admiralty Agents and other Officers in charge of Foreign and Colonial Mails, Parts, and Salaries of Admiralty Agents and other Officers in charge of Foreign and Colonial Mails, Parts, and Salaries of Admiralty Agents and other Officers in charge of Foreign and 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(a) For an explanation of this increase see Appendix P. Note (d).

(b) 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 Australian Colonies having taken the service beyond Point de Galle into their own hands in the year 1874.

(c) This further decrease is attributable to a new and more favourable contract with the Royal Mail Steam Packet Company having commenced at the beginning of the year 1875.

(d) These sums include £60,860, £3,817, and £5,316, paid towards the purchase of the Site of the Manchester New Post Office in the years 1876-7, 1877-8, and 1878-9 respectively.

(e) This further decrease is chiefly attributable to new and more favourable arrangements with respect to the Conveyance of Correspondence to America.

(f) No charge is made in respect of the Cost of the Conveyance of the Post Office Savings Bank Correspondence from 1st April 1868 to 31st March 1877 inclusive.

(g) The charges in respect of the Cost of Savings Bank Correspondence from 1st April 1868 to 31st March 1877 inclusive, viz., £14,434, were charged to the Savings Bank Department in the year 1878-9.

APPENDIX R.

Official Correspondence.

A STATEMENT showing the WEIGHT of CORRESPONDENCE carried, and the VALUE of POSTAL SERVICE performed, for the following Public Offices, &c. in the Year ended the 31st March 1880.

NAMES OF OFFICES.	England and Wales.		Scotland.		Ireland.		Total.	
	Weight.	Amount.	Weight.	Amount.	Weight.	Amount.	Weight.	Amount.
	oz.	£	oz.	£	oz.	£	oz.	£
Adjutant General	—	—	—	—	97,300	455	97,300	455
Admiralty, Lords Commis- sioners of	1,099,000	11,489	—	—	—	—	1,099,000	11,489
Army Medical Department	—	—	—	—	58,900	278	58,900	278
Attorney General	12,500	53	—	—	—	—	12,500	53
Australian Exhibition, Com- missioners of	8,450	36	—	—	—	—	8,450	36
Board of Education	—	—	18,400	77	642,200	2,670	660,600	2,747
Board of Supervision	—	—	30,400	125	—	—	30,400	125
Board of Trade	514,830	2,347	—	—	—	—	514,830	2,347
Board of Works	—	—	—	—	252,430	1,138	252,430	1,138
Central Loan Fund	—	—	—	—	3,380	15	3,380	15
Chancellor, The Lord	25,830	112	—	—	—	—	25,830	112
Charity Commissioners	115,850	513	—	—	—	—	115,850	513
Chelsea Hospital	21,530	105	—	—	—	—	21,530	105
Chief and Under Secretary, Dublin Castle	—	—	—	—	401,100	1,820	401,100	1,820
Civil Service Commissioners	230,200	1,039	—	—	—	—	230,200	1,039
Clerk of the Parliaments, House of Lords	384,900	400	—	—	—	—	384,900	400
Colonial Office	450,100	8,220	—	—	—	—	450,100	8,220
Commander of the Forces	—	—	—	—	8,800	41	8,800	41
Commissariat Department	—	—	—	—	91,800	428	91,800	428
Constabulary Office	—	—	—	—	357,400	1,610	357,400	1,610
Convict Prisons, Directors of	—	—	—	—	160,500	728	160,500	728
Council Office	1,148,850	5,045	—	—	—	—	1,148,850	5,045
Court of Chancery	37,800	170	—	—	—	—	37,800	170
Court of Probate	92,450	396	—	—	—	—	92,450	396
Crown Office, House of Lords	8,550	35	87,000	355	—	—	95,550	390
Crown and Hanaper	—	—	—	—	3,800	17	3,800	17
Customs	410,800	1,828	—	—	28,800	135	439,600	1,963
Exchequer and Audit Department	114,500	548	20,200	83	—	—	134,700	631
Fines and Penalties Office	—	—	—	—	138,400	570	138,400	570
Foreign Office	185,000	4,255	—	—	—	—	185,000	4,255
Home Office	1,022,100	3,503	—	—	—	—	1,022,100	3,503
Inland Revenue	3,448,200	12,037	428,300	1,775	490,000	2,185	4,366,500	15,977
Inspector of Fisheries	—	—	—	—	84,100	390	84,100	390
Inspector General of Prisons	—	—	—	—	42,000	190	42,000	190
Insurances and Annuities	1,100	5	—	—	—	—	1,100	5
Irish Office	56,100	216	—	—	—	—	56,100	216
Local Government Board	1,127,009	5,326	—	—	388,000	1,710	1,515,009	7,036
Lord Lieutenant and Private Secretary	—	—	—	—	11,200	53	11,200	53
Mercantile Marine Board	70,400	314	—	—	—	—	70,400	314
Merchant Seamen, Registrar of	451,900	2,115	—	—	—	—	451,900	2,115
National Debt Office	33,000	155	—	—	—	—	33,000	155
Ordnance Survey	—	—	—	—	46,800	218	46,800	218
Paymaster of Civil Services	—	—	—	—	39,500	185	39,500	185
Paymaster General	59,850	343	—	—	—	—	59,850	343
Public Record Office	—	—	—	—	7,700	35	7,700	35
Quartermaster General	—	—	—	—	32,000	150	32,000	150
Register House, Edinburgh	—	—	61,000	253	—	—	61,000	253
Registrar General	456,400	1,296	281,000	665	400,000	1,777	1,137,400	3,738
Registrar of Friendly Societies	136,800	514	6,050	25	2,100	10	144,950	549
Registrar of Trade Marks	16,900	61	—	—	—	—	16,900	61
Science and Art Department	1,106,777	4,570	—	—	—	—	1,106,777	4,570
Solicitor General	21,135	88	—	—	—	—	21,135	88
Stationery Office	53,500	242	—	—	56,800	266	110,300	508
Tithe Commissioners	58,000	264	—	—	—	—	58,000	264
Treasury	426,100	1,853	—	—	—	—	426,100	1,853
Valuation Office	—	—	—	—	39,700	186	39,700	186
War Office	2,561,200	17,650	28,894	112	102,700	480	2,690,794	18,242
Woods and Forests, Commis- sioners of	65,600	285	—	—	—	—	65,600	285
Works and Buildings, Commis- sioners of	99,300	425	—	—	—	—	99,300	425
TOTALS	16,132,511	87,853	967,244	3,470	3,967,210	17,726	21,076,965	100,049

APPENDIX S.

Gross and NET REVENUE derived from the TELEGRAPH SERVICE since the transfer of the TELEGRAPHS to the POST OFFICE (29th January 1870).

Year ended 31st March.	Gross Revenue from Messages and from Wires rented by Cable Companies.	News Produce and Special Wire Rentals.	Private Wire Rentals.	Miscel- laneous.	Extra Receipts.	Total Revenue collected. (a)	Payments out		Total Telegraph Revenue.	Working Expenses charged to the Telegraph Vote. (c)	Net Revenue.
							To Cable Companies. (b)	For Portage and Message Money refunded. (i)			
1870 (3 months.)	—	—	—	—	—	107,479	5,000	1,719	100,760	62,273	38,487
1871	908,351	31,975	16,763	14,128	—	971,217	255,952	17,331	697,934	394,477	303,457
1872	1,095,375	39,175	32,578	16,029	—	1,183,157	408,965	22,581	751,611	591,776	159,835
1873	1,306,055	43,300	37,817	2,050	11,855	1,401,077	385,684	25,472	989,921	874,946(d)	114,975
1874	1,403,793	52,688	42,063	3,626	25,642	1,527,812	416,475	27,871	1,083,466	967,790(e)	115,676
1875	1,448,823	58,478	50,849	5,212	18,285	1,576,647	410,770(f)	28,798	1,137,079	1,077,347(g)	59,732
1876	1,479,477	58,165	52,884	6,896	26,416	1,623,838	320,868	26,308	1,276,662	1,031,524(h)	245,116
1877	1,474,814	65,041	58,942	8,253	14,549	1,621,599	306,592	1,900(i)	1,313,107	1,123,790	189,317
1878	1,486,990	64,367	58,329	8,087	16,074	1,633,847	298,059	2,246	1,333,542	1,164,114	169,428
1879	1,448,043	71,813	62,010	8,555	13,166	1,603,587	254,550	2,145	1,346,892	1,089,392	257,500
1880	1,549,866	76,269	66,349	9,769	14,475	1,716,738	261,861	2,378	1,452,489(j)	1,111,547	340,942

(a) The revenue shown in this Table is the amount actually brought to account in each year.

(b) The payments to Cable Companies represent the sums actually paid in each year.

(c) The working expenses are those shown in the Appropriation Accounts of the Telegraph Vote; and do not include the Telegraph Expenditure incurred by the Office of Works in Ireland during the whole period, nor that incurred by the Office of Works in England since the 1st April 1874.

(d) The expenses of the year ended 31st March 1873 include arrears of pay for 1870 and 1871 amounting to 64,000l.

(e) The expenses of the year ended 31st March 1874 include for the first time the cost of extensions amounting to 31,502l.

(f) Arrears amounting to 30,066l. were paid in this year.

(g) Pensions of redundant officers of Telegraph Companies amounting to 41,695l. were for the first time charged to the Telegraph Vote. Of this amount 24,999l. was for arrears.

(h) From the 1st April 1875 stationery has been provided for in the Vote for the Stationery Office.

(i) Payments for the delivery of Telegrams beyond one mile were treated as charges on the Telegraph Revenue until 31st January 1876, but since that date they have been charged to the Telegraph Vote.

(j) The expenses of the years ended 31st March 1877, 31st March 1878, and 31st March 1879, include the sum of 69,946l. paid towards the purchase of the site of the Manchester New Post Office. The expenses of the years ended 31st March 1877 and 31st March 1878 also include large sums paid to Railway Companies in settlement of arrears in respect of Message Work performed for the Department and the maintenance of the Telegraph plant.

(k) Telegraph Revenue as per Finance Accounts - 1,438,014l.

Add Extra Receipts - 14,475l.

1,452,489l.