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TWENTY-NINTH REPORT
OF
THE POSTMASTER GENERAL
ON
THE POST OFFICE.

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



LONDON:
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CONTENTS.

Inland Service:—	Page
Number of Letters delivered - - - - -	1
Registered Letters - - - - -	2
Number of Post Offices - - - - -	2
New Buildings - - - - -	2
Staff - - - - -	2
Good Conduct Stripes - - - - -	2
Health of Officers - - - - -	3
Appointment of Female Medical Officer - - - - -	3
New Mails - - - - -	3
Additional deliveries - - - - -	3
Late Letter Boxes - - - - -	3
Sale of Stamps - - - - -	3
Parcels Post - - - - -	4
Christmas work - - - - -	4
Returned Letters - - - - -	4
Reply Post Cards - - - - -	4
Foreign and Colonial Posts - - - - -	4
Army Post Office Corps - - - - -	4
Telegraphs - - - - -	5
New Offices - - - - -	6
Submarine cables - - - - -	6
Cable dépôt - - - - -	6
Cable Ship - - - - -	6
Telephones - - - - -	6
Electric light - - - - -	6
Post Office Savings Bank - - - - -	6
Deposits - - - - -	6
Withdrawals - - - - -	7
Interest - - - - -	7
Number of Savings Bank Offices - - - - -	7
Ireland - - - - -	7
Government Stock - - - - -	7
Money Orders - - - - -	8
Postal Orders - - - - -	9
Post Office Annuities and Life Insurance - - - - -	9
Revenue and Expenditure - - - - -	9
Reprint from Historical Sketch in the First Report on the Post Office - - - - -	11

CONTENTS OF APPENDIX.

APPENDIX A.:—		Page
Estimated Number of Letters delivered in the United Kingdom in each year, beginning with the year 1839	-	26
Estimated Number of Post Cards delivered in the United Kingdom in each year, beginning with the year 1872	-	27
Estimated Number of Book Packets and Circulars delivered in the United Kingdom in each year, beginning with the year 1872	-	27
Estimated Number of Newspapers delivered in the United Kingdom in each year, beginning with the year 1872	-	27
APPENDIX B.:—		
Number of Letters registered in the United Kingdom in each year, beginning with the year 1877	-	28
APPENDIX C.:—		
Number of Mails daily between London and other Post Towns in England and Wales	-	29
APPENDIX D.:—		
Contracts for Home Packet Service	-	30
APPENDIX E.:—		
Staff of Officers	-	31
APPENDIX F.:—		
Number of Letters, Post Cards, Book Packets, and Newspapers received in the Returned Letter Offices in the years 1881-82 and 1882-83	-	36
APPENDIX G.:—		
Contracts for Foreign and Colonial Packet Service	-	38
APPENDIX H.:—		
Number of Telegrams forwarded in each year, beginning with the year 1870-71	-	40
Number of Telegrams forwarded in each month of the years 1881-82 and 1882-83	-	41
APPENDIX I.:—		
Value of Telegraph Work performed for other Government Departments in each year, beginning with the year 1870-71	-	42
APPENDIX J.:—		
Post Office Savings Bank. Extracts from the Controller's Report	-	43
Progress since commencement in 1861 to 1879	-	47
Statement of Business for the year 1882	-	48
Investments in Government Stock	-	49
Balance sheet for 1882	-	50
APPENDIX K.:—		
Money Orders :		
Progress of Money Order Business since its commencement in 1839	-	52
Number and Amount of Inland Money Orders in each year, beginning with the year 1839	-	53
Number and Amount of Colonial Money Orders in each year, beginning with the year 1839	-	54
Number and Amount of Foreign Money Orders in each year, beginning with the year 1839	-	55
Amount of Money Order transactions with the various Colonies in each year, beginning with the year 1873	-	56
Amount of Money Order transactions with the various Foreign Countries in each year, beginning with the year 1873	-	57

APPENDIX L. :

Number and Amount of Postal Orders issued from 1st January to 31st March 1881	- - - - -	58
---	-----------	----

APPENDIX M. :

Life Insurance and Annuity Business in each year since the commencement in 1865	- - - - -	59
Number and Amount of Contracts entered into from the commencement in 1865 to 31st December 1882, and contracts in existence on that date	- - - - -	60

APPENDIX N. :

Weight of Correspondence carried and Value of Postal Service performed for Public Offices in the year ended 31st March 1883	- - - - -	61
---	-----------	----

APPENDIX O. :

Private Wires :		
Increase in Number of Contracts, &c. each year from 31st March 1870 and increase in Amount of Rentals	- - - - -	62

APPENDIX P. :

Inland Revenue Licenses ; Number and Description of Licenses issued by the Post Office each year, beginning with the year 1869	- - - - -	63
--	-----------	----

APPENDIX Q. :—

Force and Expenditure in relation to Postage, Money Orders, and Postal Orders in the last Ten Years	- - - - -	64
---	-----------	----

APPENDIX R. :—

Gross and Net Revenue from Postage, Money Orders, and Postal Orders in the last Ten Years	- - - - -	65
---	-----------	----

APPENDIX S. :—

Gross and Net Revenue from the Telegraph Service since the Transfer of the Telegraphs to the Post Office in 1870	- - - - -	66
--	-----------	----

APPENDIX T. :—

Expenditure in relation to Telegraphs	- - - - -	67
---------------------------------------	-----------	----

TWENTY-NINTH ANNUAL 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-ninth Report on the Post Office, being the report for the year ended 31st March 1883.

Your Lordships are aware that, owing to my absence from illness, the duties of Postmaster-General were for nearly three months entrusted to the Right Hon. G. Shaw Lefevre, First Commissioner of Her Majesty's Works, and I am glad to have this opportunity of placing on record my cordial thanks for his kindness in undertaking, in addition to his own duties, the charge of this large Department. I am sure you will share the opinion that his great experience of the general work of administration and his knowledge of questions connected with the erection of buildings and the acquisition of premises required for the Parcels Post were of special advantage to the Department.

The business of the Department continues to manifest satisfactory progress.

The estimated number of letters delivered in the United Kingdom during the 12 months was 1,280,636,200, showing an increase of 4·2 per cent.; the number of post cards, 144,016,200, an increase of 6·4 per cent.; the number of book packets and circulars 288,206,400, an increase of 6·3 per cent.; and the number of newspapers, 140,682,600, being slightly less than last year. The decrease in newspapers may be attributable to increased facilities offered by Railway Companies for sending newspapers as parcels.

Number of
letters, &c.
delivered.

It is estimated that the average number of letters per head of the population was—

In England and Wales	-	-	40
Scotland	-	-	30
Ireland	-	-	16
United Kingdom	-	-	36

Taking the latest returns available with respect to Foreign Countries (viz, those of 1881), I find that the average number per head was—

In the United States	-	-	21
France	-	-	15
Germany	-	-	13
Italy	-	-	6
Spain	-	-	5

Registered
Letters.

The number of registered letters was 11,264,926, being an increase of 3·3 per cent.

Number of
Post Offices.

The number of Post Offices has been increased by 488, making a total of 15,406 in the United Kingdom, of which 920 are Head Offices. 770 letter boxes have been added, making the total number of receptacles of all sorts for letters about 30,100.

Total number
of receptacles
for letters.

The various changes and additions to the business conducted at Country Sub-Offices rendered necessary during the year an investigation into the rates of remuneration granted to Sub-Postmasters throughout the United Kingdom. These officers, it must be remembered, are not required to give their whole time to the public, and the principle on which they are paid may be briefly described as a system of payment by results. The scales of payment have now been carefully reviewed, and brought into harmony with present requirements at an additional expense estimated, as your Lordships are aware, at over 34,000*l.* a year.

New Buildings.

New Post Office Buildings have been provided and brought into use at Barnsley, Godalming, Hartlepool, Hereford, Kelso, and Wednesbury; and satisfactory progress is being made with the new Post Office at Manchester. New Offices are also in progress at other towns, and many existing offices are being considerably enlarged. Additional accommodation has been provided in view of the approaching establishment of the Inland Parcels Post at most of the large offices throughout the kingdom, and in some instances it has been found necessary to obtain premises outside the Post Offices at railway stations and other places. The cordial assistance rendered by the Railway Companies, especially in London, has greatly facilitated these arrangements.

Staff.

The total number of established officers of the Department, *i.e.*, persons holding permanent situations and entitled to pension, is about 44,600; the number added during the year having been 1,495. This number includes 2,561 females, employed as follows:—

As Clerks in the Central Establishments
in London, Dublin, and Edinburgh - 455

As Telegraphists, Counter-women, &c.
throughout the kingdom - 2,106

The list of retired officers in receipt of pensions shows a total of 3,335, whose pensions amount to 176,826*l.* a year.

In addition to the above it is estimated that about 41,000 persons are employed by local Postmasters, &c. to aid in carrying on the business of the Department. The majority of these persons have other employment, and are, therefore, engaged on postal duties during only a portion of the day.

Good Conduct
Stripes.

The conduct of the force throughout the country has been good. During the year a considerable improvement has been effected in the condition of Letter Carriers, both Town and Rural, and great satisfaction has been caused by the extension to the entire country of the system of Good Conduct Stripes, which had previously been confined to London. The increased cost involved is about 63,000*l.* per annum.

The stripes are of three classes, viz. :—

1st class	-	-	-	3 stripes.
2nd class	-	-	-	2 stripes.
3rd class	-	-	-	1 stripe.

Each stripe entitles the wearer to a special allowance of 1s. a week, in addition to his wages.

The health of the Officers in London has been satisfactory, and the Principal Medical Officer reports that the death rate was only 5·31 per 1,000, as compared with 14·7 per 1,000 shown in the London mortality records for persons of the same average ages. A Female Medical Officer was appointed for the first time during the year to take medical charge of the large Female Staff employed at the General Post Office in London.

Health of the
London Staff.

Appointment
of a Female
Medical
Officer.

Several new Mails have been established, including a Mid-day Mail, in both directions between London and Liverpool, Manchester, &c. This Mail leaves Liverpool at 9.45 a.m. and Manchester at 10 a.m., arriving in London at 2.45 p.m., so that letters written in Liverpool and certain other towns in the morning reach London in time for reply the same day. The Down Mail leaves London at 1.30 p.m., and arrives at Manchester and Liverpool at about 6.30 p.m., in time for a reply to be sent by the Up Night Mail.

New mails.

Additional deliveries of letters have been established in several parts of the London Postal District, as well as at Edinburgh, Glasgow, Liverpool, Birkenhead, Bristol, Leeds, Newcastle, Brighton, Burton-on-Trent, Dundee, and several other towns.

Additional
deliveries.

Late Letter Boxes have, since 1st November 1882, been affixed to all Mail trains throughout the Kingdom, by which Post Office Sorters travel, and letters bearing an extra fee of one halfpenny can be posted in them every day in the week (including Sunday) at any station at which the trains stop. It appears that a total of 2,876 letters were posted in this way in the week ended 28th February, when a record was kept.

Late letter
boxes.

A Late Letter Box has been established at Cannon Street Station, in which letters for places abroad, bearing an extra fee of 6d., can be posted on week days for the Foreign Day and Night Mails up to the moment of the departure of the train. A similar arrangement exists for the Foreign Night Mail on Sundays.

Additional Letter Boxes have also been provided at about 300 Railway Stations throughout the Kingdom, including 50 at railway stations in London, which, it is believed, will prove a great convenience to the public.

With a view to grant further facilities to the public for the purchase of stamps, a plan, for some time in operation in Germany, has been adopted, by which shopkeepers desirous of selling stamps without commission, can apply for a license for doing so, the inducement to them being the increased numbers of persons and possible customers, who are thus brought to their shops.

Sale of Stamps.

Parcels Post.

The elaborate arrangements necessary for the introduction of the Inland Parcels Post have occupied much attention, and I have pleasure in recognising the ready assistance afforded by the various officers on whom the chief part of the labour has devolved. I am glad to say that these arrangements are sufficiently advanced to admit of the commencement of the Post on the 1st of August. In connexion with this scheme it has been decided that the Department shall avail itself of every opportunity of employing Army Reserve men for such additional services as may be required, upon which it is undesirable to employ a permanently established force.

Christmas work.

The extra number of letters and packets dealt with in the Central Office during the Christmas week was nearly 14,000,000, including 3 tons of registered letters, against $12\frac{1}{2}$ millions and $4\frac{1}{2}$ tons of registered letters in the previous year. The decrease in Registered Letters was probably due to the extended use of Postal Orders for the transmission of small sums.

Returned Letters.

The number of letters received in the Returned Letter Offices was 5,651,443, an increase of 196,558; of post cards, 596,614, an increase of 37,205; of book packets, 4,988,990, an increase of 287,596; and of newspapers, 477,978, an increase of 63,184. The increase in returned letters is about proportionate to the increase in correspondence. Of the letters 562,291 were unreturnable; 26,293 bore no address, and of this number 1,604 contained cash and cheques, &c. amounting to 6,016*l.*, the whole of which with the exception of about 150*l.* has already been returned to the senders. The total number of letters and packets containing value, showed an increase of 12,000. Notwithstanding repeated warnings to the public, nearly 30,000 articles were received loose and coverless, owing to the weak and flimsy nature of the wrappers used and the insecure mode of packing.

It may be mentioned that one firm in London posted as many as 132,000 letters for a single despatch, and another firm 167,000 Post Cards, and on other occasions there have been very heavy postings of circulars by individual firms ranging from 144,000 to 456,000 in number.

Reply Post Cards.

Under authority of the Act passed last year Reply Post Cards, both Inland and Foreign, have been introduced, but hitherto the public have not availed themselves to any great extent of the facility thus offered.

Foreign and Colonial mails.

As regards Foreign and Colonial Posts, the Republic of Costa Rica has entered the Postal Union, and the postage on letters to that country has therefore been reduced to 4*d.* the $\frac{1}{2}$ oz. During the hostilities in Egypt the Eastern Mail Service by railway through that country was interrupted, and for a period of five months the Mails were sent through the Suez Canal, on board the packets, but the delay thus necessarily involved was, under the circumstances, very trifling.

Army Post Office Corps.

When the Expeditionary Force was sent to Egypt last summer an Army Post Office Corps was organised for the first time for

service abroad, at the suggestion of Lieut.-Colonel Du Plat Taylor, the officer in command of the Post Office Rifle Volunteer Regiment. One hundred non-commissioned officers and men of that regiment were enlisted as soldiers in the Regular Army under certain conditions, half the number being selected for active service and half transferred to the First Class Army Reserve, the whole retaining their pay and position in the Post Office Service.

The detachment for active service embarked with the army for Egypt in charge of Major Sturgeon, of the Money Order Office, who was appointed Army Postmaster, and Captain Viall, of the Receiver and Accountant General's Office, Assistant Army Postmaster, and carried on the regular working of a Post Office, the despatch and receipt of Mails, the sale of Stamps, the issue and payment of Money Orders, &c. at the various positions occupied by the British forces. The men on their return home to resume their duties in the Post Office were transferred to the First Class Army Reserve, and receive, in addition to their ordinary wages, Army Reserve pay, at the rate of 6*d.* a day. The Officers were given commissions in the Reserve of Officers. Both officers and men continue members of the Post Office Volunteer Regiment.

The experiment proved very successful; no life was lost on service, and at the close of the operations I received the following memorandum on the subject from the Secretary of State for War:—

"I have much pleasure in bringing to the notice of the Secretary of State the admirable manner in which the Post Office Corps discharged its duty in Egypt.

"Their discipline was excellent, and the officers, non-commissioned officers, and men carried out the important duties entrusted to them throughout the campaign in a manner which left nothing to be desired.

"Their services have been so valuable that I hope a similar corps may be employed on any future occasion on which it may be necessary to despatch an Expeditionary Force from this country.

"(Signed) WOLSELEY, A.-G."

The number of Telegraph Messages was 32,092,026, being an increase of 746,165 only as compared with 1,933,879 in 1881-2. This diminution in the rate of increase is partly to be accounted for by the fact that two Easters, involving four holidays, occurred in the financial year. Telegraphs.

The number of messages sent in London was 12,374,707 against 12,071,034 in 1881-2, being an increase of 303,673.

Although it has not yet been determined what form the intended reduction of tariff should take, it has, as your Lordships are aware, been decided that as soon as the necessary increase

of plant can be effected, the minimum charge for Inland Telegrams will be reduced from 1s. to 6d.

New offices.

One hundred and two additional Post Offices and forty-five Railway Station Offices were opened for Telegraph work, making the total number 5,742.

* The communication between Great Britain and Ireland has been improved by the establishment of an additional cable between Fishguard and Blackwater, at an expense of nearly 19,000*l.*, besides an outlay of 18,000*l.* for four land lines from London to Fishguard, and from Blackwater to Dublin, Cork, and Limerick, in connexion with the new cable. The total number of wires available for use at present between the two countries is 24, contained in six cables.

Cable depôt.

A site for a cable depôt at Woolwich having been obtained from the War Office, a depôt has been erected at a cost of about 13,000*l.*, and fitted with suitable tanks for the storage of cable, together with all the appliances necessary for the examination and repair of cables.

Cable ship.

Moreover, a cable ship is being constructed, at an estimated cost of 46,500*l.*, which, when completed, will greatly facilitate the repair or laying down of cables, and to a great extent obviate the necessity of hiring private ships.

Telephones.

Additional Telephone Exchanges have been established by the Post Office at Newcastle-on-Tyne, Exeter, Falmouth, Middlesborough, Plymouth, West Hartlepool, Cork, Limerick, Londonderry, and Waterford. The Exchange at Newcastle, to which there are upwards of 200 subscribers, has connecting lines to Sunderland, South Shields, Tyne Dock, North Shields, &c., and is being worked with great success. The nine Companies to whom licenses have been granted for the establishment of Telephone Exchanges have now 47 Exchanges in operation, viz, 37 in England, 8 in Scotland, and 2 in Ireland.

Electric light.

Lighting by electricity has been introduced into the Glasgow Post Office, and very successful experimental trials have been made in the London Central Telegraph Office. The extension of this new mode of illumination is under consideration.

Post Office Savings Bank
Amount due to depositors at end of the year.

The business of the Savings Bank shows satisfactory progress. The total amount due to depositors, including interest (but exclusive of Government Stock), at the close of the year was 39,037,821*l.* as compared with 36,194,495*l.* on 31st December 1881, showing an increase of 2,843,326*l.** This is the largest annual increase since the establishment of the Post Office Savings Banks in 1861.

Deposits.

The deposits (exclusive of those for immediate investment in Government Stock) were 6,110,208 in numbers and 12,227,528*l.*

* The Post Office Savings Bank Accounts are made up to the 31st December in each year, in accordance with the Act of Parliament, but the amount due to Depositors on the 31st of March last was 40,087,000*l.*

in amount, as compared with 5,676,066, amounting to 11,345,957*l.* in 1881, and the withdrawals (excluding those relating to stock) were 1,918,544 in numbers and 10,094,974*l.* in amount, as compared with 1,712,866, amounting to 9,469,668*l.* in 1881. The amount of interest credited to depositors was 891,629*l.*, as against 826,990*l.* in 1881, showing an increase of 64,639*l.*

Withdrawals.

Interest.

The number of Post Office Savings Banks and Money Order Offices was increased by 486, making the total number on the 31st of December 6,999. An increase of 82 has taken place up to the 31st of March, raising the total to 7,081.

Number of Savings Bank Offices.

The greatest number of deposits made on one day was 43,508 on the 9th of January, and the largest amount received in one day was 113,899*l.* on the 2nd of January. The largest number of withdrawals on one day was 18,100, amounting to 61,435*l.*, on the 20th of December. The daily average of deposits was 20,235 in number, and 42,175*l.* in amount, and of withdrawals 6,357 in number, and 34,116*l.* in amount.

Greatest number and amount of deposits in one day.

The average amount of each deposit (not including stock investment business) was 2*l.*, the same as in 1881, while the average amount of each withdrawal was less than in the previous year, being 5*l.* 5*s.* 3*d.* as compared with 5*l.* 10*s.* 7*d.*

Average amount of deposits and withdrawal.

There were 788,858 accounts opened during the year and 537,494 closed, as against 880,831 opened and 458,191 closed in 1881.

Accounts opened and closed.

The number of accounts remaining open at the close of the year was 2,858,976 as against 2,607,612 in the previous year, an increase of 251,364. The accounts were apportioned as follows:—

Number of accounts open at the end of the year.

—	Number.	Proportion to Population.	Average Balance due to each Depositor.
England and Wales - - -	2,643,785	or 1 to 10	£ s. d. 13 14 10
Scotland - - - -	108,701	„ 1 to 35	7 3 9
Ireland - - - -	106,490	„ 1 to 48	18 1 7

The Savings Bank business in Ireland again showed a large increase, the number of deposits during the year having been 278,727, amounting to 752,673*l.*, as compared with 251,146, amounting to 662,170*l.* in 1881. The total amount, including interest due to depositors at the end of the year, was 1,925,460*l.* as against 1,728,395 in 1881, being an increase of 202,065*l.* This does not include the amount of Government Stock standing to the credit of depositors in Ireland, which is estimated at 125,000*l.*

Ireland.

The total amount of Government Stock standing to the credit of depositors at the close of the year was 1,143,717*l.*, held by 16,609 persons, against 738,968*l.*, held by 11,812 persons, in 1881, an increase of 404,749*l.* in the amount and of 4,797 in the number

Government Stock.

of stockholders. The continued high price of Government Stocks affected the investments to a considerable extent. Thus, in 1881, 13,709 investments were made, amounting to 694,957*l.* stock, while in the past year the number was 12,153, and the amount of stock purchased 588,211*l.*, while the sales increased from 2,023 in number, and 75,868*l.* in amount, to 4,355, amounting to 177,122*l.* The average amount of stock held by each person at the end of the year was 68*l.* 17*s.* 3*d.* as compared with 62*l.* 11*s.* 3*d.* in 1881. The transactions were apportioned as follows:—

	Investments.		Sales.		Stock Certificates.	
	No.	Amount.	No.	Amount.	No.	Amount.
England and Wales - - -	10,714	£ 519,833 18 11	3,785	£ 151,458 0 9	61	£ 4,650 0 0
Scotland - - -	216	8,773 13 3	118	5,305 5 3	4	300 0 0
Ireland - - -	1,223	59,603 11 3	462	20,549 1 3	12	1,300 0 0

Considerable difficulty has been experienced in providing additional accommodation for the growing wants of the Savings Bank Department, but I am glad to say that, to meet immediate requirements, new premises have been obtained, and alterations effected which will afford additional space. The subject, however, of future accommodation is one that is engaging serious attention.

Money Orders.

By an arrangement commenced 1st April 1882 the payment of Army and Navy Pensions and of Reserve pay is now made by means of money orders. The amount thus paid within the year was 2,562,256*l.*, the number of orders being 552,029. This addition of business has had the effect of checking the decrease which has been observable in Inland orders during the last few years. The main objects of the change were to avoid the necessity of bringing pensioners and reserve men to the District pay offices, involving, in many cases, the loss to them of a day's wages, besides their expenses, and offering, through the numbers brought and necessarily kept waiting together, temptations to waste and dissipate their money. Although the arrangement throws a certain amount of additional work and slight expense on the Post Office, there can be no doubt that it is one which will not only prove beneficial to the men but will also effect a saving to the State.

The records of the Inland Orders show a total of 14,306,297 in number, amounting to 25,223,763*l.*; being a decrease of 386,531 in number as compared with last year; but an increase of 1,855,091*l.* in amount, whereas the returns for 1881-2 showed a decrease of 1,636,648 in number and 861,091*l.* in amount compared with 1880-1. It is estimated that about 50 per cent. of the total number of Inland orders are for sums over 1*l.* The Foreign and the Colonial Orders show an increase both in number and amount; and the total number of Orders issued of every sort was 14,505,254, and the amount 25,754,355*l.*, as compared with 14,880,821 and 23,848,936*l.* in 1881-2.

The rates of commission upon Foreign Money Orders were reduced on the 1st of January last by one third, which will, it is believed, tend to an increase of this class of business. A table of the present rates will be found in the Appendix. A Money Order Convention was completed during the year between the United Kingdom and Portugal.

The Postal Order returns show a large increase. About Postal Orders. 3,451,000*l.*, as compared with 2,000,000*l.* in 1881-2, were transmitted by means of these orders within the year, and no less than 7,980,328 orders were used. The 1*s.*, 5*s.*, 10*s.*, and 20*s.* orders continue to be most in request. With a view to afford greater facilities I have under consideration proposals for modifying and improving the present regulations, and for extending the system to the Colonies.

The number of contracts granted up to 31 December 1882, under the several heads of Immediate Annuities, Deferred Annuities, and Life Insurances, will be seen from Appendix M. Post Office Annuities and Life Insurance.

Your Lordships are aware that the Act of 1882, framed upon the recommendation of a Select Committee of the House of Commons, with the object of facilitating this class of business, has not as yet been brought into operation, owing to the necessity of preparing new actuarial Tables. As soon, however, as these Tables are approved by your Lordships, no time will be lost in giving effect to the intentions of the Legislature.

The gross revenue for the year was over 9,413,812*l.*, arrived at thus :— Revenue and Expenditure.

Postage on letters, postcards, newspapers, &c. - - -	£	£
Commission on Money Orders -	217,686	7,034,982
Commission on Postal Orders -	44,492	
Value of Unclaimed Money Orders -	3,800	
	<hr/>	265,978
Savings Bank profits - - -	-	344,792
Revenue from Telegraphs - - -	-	1,768,060
		<hr/>
		9,413,812

The expenditure was :

For Postal service, including Money Order and Postal Order business - - -	3,911,519
„ Packet service - - -	633,879
„ Savings Bank - - -	221,653
„ Telegraph service, including expenditure by other Departments* - - -	1,585,013
	<hr/>
	6,352,064

The net revenue was therefore - - - 3,061,748

being a decrease of 38,727*l.* on the previous year.

* The annual interest on the capital sum of 10,880,571*l.* raised by the Government for the purchase of the Telegraphs, amounting to 326,417*l.*, is not borne on the Post Office Votes, but is charged on the Consolidated Fund.

Comparing these figures with those of the previous year we find the following results :—

Revenue :			£
Postage on letters, &c.	-	-	increase 264,750
Commission on Money Orders and Postal Orders, and value of Unclaimed Orders	-	-	„ 8,610
Savings Bank profits	-	-	decrease 3,284
Telegraphs	-	-	increase 113,659
Expenditure :			
Postal Service, including Money Orders and Postal Order business	-	-	increase 262,798
Savings Bank	-	-	„ 21,079
Telegraph Service, including expenditure by other Departments	-	-	„ 144,284
Packet Service	-	-	decrease 3,996

It will be observed that the increase of expenditure during the year was again large. Much of this increase was due to the development of business, but there were also special items of outlay, already referred to, for instance, 63,000*l.* for the improvement of the Letter Carriers' position, 34,000*l.* for the remuneration of Sub-Postmasters, 37,000*l.* for improved Telegraphic Communication with Ireland, and 13,000*l.* for a Cable Depôt.

I cannot conclude this Report without expressing my regret at the loss which the Department has sustained during the year by the deaths of Mr. George Chetwynd, C.B., Receiver and Accountant General, Mr. T. G. Ramsay, Controller of the Savings Bank Department, and Dr. Waller Lewis, the Chief Medical Officer. Mr. Chetwynd, whose career extended over 40 years, was well known to your Lordships as an able and indefatigable officer, who rendered distinguished service.

In Mr. Ramsay and Dr. Lewis the Department has lost two officers who through a long period performed faithful and zealous service.

I have the honour to be,

My Lords,

Your Lordships' obedient humble servant,

HENRY FAWCETT.

General Post Office,

14 July 1883.

P.S.—The First Annual Report, dated 1855, contains so much that is interesting with regard to the Early History of the Post Office, that I have thought it desirable to reprint an extract from that document. This extract will be found in the Appendix.

Reprinted from the First Annual Report, 1855.

HISTORICAL SUMMARY.

The first establishment in this country of a Postal Service for the conveyance of the letters of the public is involved in some obscurity. First establishment of Postal service involved in obscurity.

The letters both of private and public personages were originally sent by special messengers only,* and more recently by common carriers,† who began to ply regularly with their pack horses about the time of the wars of the Roses. As these carriers travelled the journey through with the same horses, this mode of transmission must have been very slow, yet it was long the only conveyance available by the public.

Government posts, that is relays of horses and men under control of the Government, were not established till nearly two centuries later; but as early as the time of Edward II. horses were kept by private individuals for hire, so that a messenger might travel post, *i.e.*, by relays, and as "Haste, post, haste," is found written on the backs of private letters at the close of the fifteenth and the beginning of the sixteenth centuries, it may be inferred that the use of this mode of conveyance was not restricted to the correspondence of the Government.

In 1481, Edward IV., then at war with Scotland, is said to have established a system of relays of horses (probably from York to Edinburgh), the post stations being 20 miles apart, so that despatches were conveyed 200 miles in three days.

In 1548, the charge for post horses impressed for the service of the Crown was fixed by statute (2 & 3 Edward VI. c. 3.) at a penny a mile.

There seems to be no evidence of the existence of any system for conveying the letters of the public during the reign of Elizabeth, although posts for forwarding the public despatches were doubtless organised, inasmuch as one Thomas Randolph is mentioned by Camden as being Chief Postmaster of England in 1581: and it appears that in Ireland the first horse posts were established in this reign during O'Neil's wars, for the purpose of bringing intelligence of military events.

The first establishment of a Letter Post by the Government was in the reign of James I., who, as is stated by a proclamation of Charles I., set on foot a Post Office for letters to foreign First official Letter Post.

* Records in the Close and Misæ Rolls of payments to *nuncii* for carrying letters, &c. for the King, commence in the reign of King John, and are continued through many subsequent reigns.

† It appears by the Records of the City of Bristol that the Corporation paid a penny to the carrier for carrying a letter to London. Shakspeare uses the words "post" and "carrier" as synonymous. By 12 Car. II. c. 35. (1660), common carriers are excepted from the prohibition to interfere with the monopoly of carrying letters as created by that Act.

countries "for the benefit of the English merchants";* but nothing of the kind seems to have been done for the accommodation of inland correspondence, and special messengers were still employed to carry the letters† of the State.

First Post
Office for
inland letters.

It was not till the reign of Charles I. that a Post Office for inland letters was established. In 1635 the King issued a proclamation in which he recites that up to that time there had been no certain communication between England and Scotland, "wherefore he now commands his Postmaster of England for foreign parts to settle a running post or two, to run night and day between Edinburgh and London, to go thither and come back again in six days,† and to take with them all such letters as shall be directed to any post town in or near that road." It is at the same time ordered that bye posts shall be connected with many places on the main line, to bring in and carry out the letters from and to Lincoln, Hull, and other towns; a similar post to Chester and Holyhead, and another to Exeter and Plymouth, are to be established; and it is promised that as soon as possible the like conveyances shall be organised for the Oxford and Bristol road, and also for that leading through Colchester for Norwich. The rates of postage are fixed at 2*d.* the single letter for any distance under 80 miles; 4*d.* up to 140 miles; 6*d.* for any longer distance in England; and 8*d.* to any place in Scotland. By a subsequent proclamation of 1637, it is ordered that no other messengers nor foot posts shall carry any letters but those alone which shall be employed by the King's Postmaster-General, unless to places to which the King's posts do not go, and with the exception of common known carriers, or messengers particularly sent on purpose, or persons carrying a letter for a friend.

First rates of
postage.

This new establishment was entrusted to Thomas Witherings, who had before been appointed Foreign Postmaster; but in 1640 he was superseded for alleged abuses in both his offices, which were sequestered and placed in the hands of Philip Burlamachy, to be exercised thenceforth under the care and superintendence of the Principal Secretary of State. From this time the Post

* So early as 1514 the Alien Merchants residing in London had established a Post Office of their own from London to the outports, appointing from time to time their own Postmaster; but in 1568 a quarrel arose among them, the Spaniards appointing one Postmaster and the Flemings another. The dispute was referred to Government. The English merchants also appear to have presented a petition in the matter, complaining that this post acted unfairly towards them by keeping back their letters, &c., and so giving to the foreigners the advantage of the markets. The issue of this dispute is not known, but it seems to explain the expression in the text.

† In order to prevent the Crown couriers from loitering on the road, it was customary for each postmaster to endorse on the despatch the hour of the courier's arrival at his post house. A letter of 1623, from the Deputy Mayor of Plymouth to Sir Edward Conway, Secretary of State, is in existence bearing such endorsements. The courier started from Plymouth at 11 a.m., June 17th, and arrived in London at 8 p.m. on the 19th.

‡ The mails are now conveyed from Edinburgh to London in less than 15 hours. Even so late as between 1730 and 1740 the Post was transmitted only three times a week between London and Edinburgh, and on one occasion the London office sent only a single letter.

Office may be considered to have become one of the settled institutions of the country.

The object of the Crown in establishing this letter post was probably quite as much the formation of a profitable monopoly as the accommodation of the public.

The prohibition of the carrying of letters by persons other than those employed by the King's Postmaster caused great dissatisfaction, being viewed as an unwarrantable stretch of prerogative. In 1642 a Committee of the House of Commons was appointed to inquire into the matter, and the subject afterwards engaged the attention of Parliament. But the utility of the institution was too great to admit of its abandonment; and we find that in 1644 Mr. Edmund Prideaux, who afterwards held the appointment of Attorney-General to the Commonwealth, and who had been chairman of the Committee of 1642, was elected by a resolution of both Houses of Parliament to be Chief Postmaster. Exclusive privilege.

Prideaux established a weekly conveyance of letters into all parts of the kingdom, which, according to Blackstone, saved the public a charge of 7,000*l.* a year in maintaining postmasters.

In 1649 the Common Council of London set up a post in rivalry with that of the Parliament. But the Commons, although they had loudly denounced the formation of a monopoly by the Crown, promptly proceeded to put down this infringement of their own monopoly; and from this time the carrying of letters has been in the hands of Government.

In the beginning of the system the Postmaster was allowed to take the profits in consideration of his bearing the charges; afterwards, however, as the revenue increased, the office of Postmaster was farmed; and this practice of farming was continued, as regards the bye posts, almost to the end of the eighteenth century. Farming.

In 1649 the amount of the revenue derived from the posts was 5,000*l.*

Under the authority of Cromwell and his Parliament, in 1657, the Post Office underwent material changes. The ordinance under which this was effected gives as a motive for the establishment of posts, "that they will be the best means to discover and prevent many dangerous and wicked designs against the Commonwealth."

At the Restoration, the settlement of the Post Office which had been made under the Commonwealth was confirmed. The statute 12 Car. II. c. 35. re-enacts in substance the ordinance of the Commonwealth; and this Act, being the first strictly legal authority for the establishment of the Post Office, has been called its charter. Post Office Charter.

In the year 1663 the revenue of the Post Office was, by the statute 15 Car. II. c. 14., settled on James, Duke of York, and his heirs male in perpetuity. At this time it had increased to 21,000*l.*, that being the sum at which the office was farmed.

Scotland.

In Scotland, although the proclamation of 1635 provides for the conveyance of letters from London to Edinburgh, no provision seems to have been made at that time for an internal post; but during the last half of the seventeenth century, several internal posts were established on the principal lines of road, though without any legislative enactment to that effect, until the time of William III., when, in 1695, the Scotch Parliament passed in Act for the general establishment of a Letter Post.

London
District Post.

In 1683 a Penny Post for the conveyance of letters and small parcels about London and its suburbs, was set up by Robert Murray, an upholsterer, who assigned the same to William Dockwra. This was denounced by the ultra-Protestant party as a contrivance of the Jesuits; and it was alleged that if the bags were examined they would be found full of Popish plots. Nevertheless, Dockwra seems to have conducted his undertaking with success for some years, till its profits excited the envy of the Government, who seized it on the ground of its being an infringement of the rights of the Crown; though a pension of 200*l.* a year was afterwards granted to Dockwra by way of compensation. This was the commencement of the London District Post, of which Dockwra was subsequently appointed Controller, and which, until last year (1854), existed as a separate department of the General Post Office.

At first there appears to have been no limit to the weight of a packet sent by the District Post, but its value was restricted to 10*l.*

In 1685 the revenue of the Post Office, which in 1663 had been conferred on the Duke of York, now that that prince had succeeded to the throne, was settled on the King, his heirs and successors, the amount being then estimated at 65,000*l.* a year.

Appendix A.

By two interesting letters from Mr. F. J. Scudamore, Chief Examiner, to Mr. Frederic Hill, Assistant Secretary, portions of which will be found in the Appendix, it appears that the accounts of the Post Office revenue are preserved in an unbroken series from this year (1685) to the present time; and they seem to contain much curious matter.

In 1698 Dockwra was removed from his office on a charge of mismanagement. The charge is contained in a memorial by the officers and messengers of the Penny Post (as the District Post was then called) to the Commissioners of the Treasury, alleging that Dockwra wilfully "doth what in him lyes to lessen the revenue of the Penny Post Office, that he may farm it or get it into his own hands," for which purpose it was declared that he had removed the Post Office to an inconvenient place. The memorial went on to state that "he forbids the taking in any handboxes (except very small), and all parcells above a pound which when they were taken did bring in a considerable advantage to the office, they being now at great charge sent by porters into the city, and coaches and watermen into the country, which formerly went by Penny Post messengers much cheaper and more satisfactory."

It was further alleged, that "he stops, under spetious pretences, most parcells that are taken in, which is great damage to tradesmen, by loosing their customers, or spoiling their goods, and many times hazard the life of the patient when physic is sent by a doctor or an apothecary."

Dockwra was also charged with stopping parcels, which it was hinted he misappropriated; with opening letters and taking from them bills, &c.; and with persecuting all the officers except his own creatures.

In 1708, an attempt was made by Mr. Povey to establish a Halfpenny Post in opposition to the official Penny Post, but this enterprise, like Dockwra's, was suppressed by a lawsuit.

In 1710, the statute of 9 Anne, c. 10., was passed, which repealed the 12 Car. II. and the Scotch Act of 1695, remodelled the law of the Post Office, and remained until 1837 the foundation of that branch of the law. By its provisions a General Post Office for the three Kingdoms and for the Colonies was established under one head, who was to bear the style of "Her Majesty's Postmaster General," and was empowered to keep one Chief Letter Office in London, one in Edinburgh, one in Dublin, one in New York, and one in the West Indies. In 1784, however, the Irish Parliament passed an Act which, in conjunction with the British Acts, 24 Geo. III. cc. 6. 8., had the effect of severing the Irish from the British Post Office, and creating an independent Postmaster General for Ireland; but the Post Offices were reunited under the British Postmaster General, by the Act 1 William IV. c. 8, passed in 1831.

Statute of Anne.

After the passing of the statute of Anne, the next event deserving of notice is the farming of the Cross Posts, by Ralph Allen, in 1720. Allen observed that the organisation of these posts was very imperfect, and that they were so few in number that many districts were unprovided with postal service, while in other cases letters passing between neighbouring towns were conveyed by very circuitous routes, which in those days of slow locomotion caused serious delays; and he thought that a great improvement both of the revenue and in public accommodation might be effected by an extension and re-arrangement of the Cross Post system. He thereupon induced the Government to grant him a lease of the Cross Posts for life at a rent of 6,000*l.* a year, and carried into effect his intended improvements, realizing an annual profit of upwards of 12,000*l.*, which he lived to enjoy for 44 years, spending it mainly in works of charity, and in hospitality to men of learning and genius.

Cross Posts.

On the death of Allen, in 1764, the Cross Posts were put under Mr. William Ward, who (for a salary of 300*l.* per annum) undertook to hand over their profits, which then amounted to about 20,000*l.* a year, to the Crown. This branch increased rapidly, and in 1799, when the Bye Letter Office was abolished, and its functions transferred to the General Post Office, the annual profits amounted to 200,000*l.*

Establishment
in 1764, as
compared with
present time.

The Office at this time (1764), though much increased since its first establishment, was of very insignificant proportions compared with those which it has since assumed. Thus the records show that in 1763 the Secretary had one clerk and two supernumerary clerks assigned to him, whereas the Secretary's office now comprises 67 clerks. The Receiver-General had two clerks and the Accountant-General a deputy and one clerk; though these two offices (now united in one) require at present the services of 51 clerks. Two clerks only were employed to open "dead and insolvent letters," but the like duties now occupy the time of 35 clerks. The Packet Establishment consisted of four Harwich packet boats, six Dover boats, and five New York boats, which cost the office 10,000*l.* per annum, whereas at the present time the number of packets employed under contracts for the mail service is not less than 110, and the sum paid for the use of them is more than 800,000*l.* a year.

At the time above referred to there were pensions payable out of the revenue of the Post Office to the amount of 72,000*l.* per annum,* and the Department was bound by statute to pay into the Exchequer 700*l.* a week, or 36,000*l.* per annum. The annual payment, indeed, actually amounted to 70,000*l.*; but this sum is less than a seventeenth part of the present net revenue.

Franking.

In 1784 the privilege of franking was greatly restricted. Up to that time Members of both Houses of Parliament had probably enjoyed the privilege of sending and receiving letters through the Post without payment, from the first establishment of the Post Office, or at least from its adoption by the Long Parliament. This privilege was much abused. Before 1764, Members were able to frank by merely writing their names upon the cover of the letter. Parcels of such franks were obtained from Members by their friends and put aside for use, like the stamped covers sold by the Post Office at the present day; and there was even a trade carried on in them by the servants of Members, whose practice it was to ask their masters to sign them in great numbers at a time. There was reason, too, to believe that franks were forged to a large extent; and it was estimated that had postage been paid on the franked correspondence the revenue would have been increased by 170,000*l.*

In 1763 it was enacted that the whole superscription of the letter must be in the handwriting of the Member; this, however, was not found a sufficient check to the evil, and in 1784 and 1795 further restrictions were imposed. Finally, at the establishment of Penny Postage in 1840, the privilege of both Parliamentary and Official franking was abolished.†

* Three of these pensions still continue chargeable on the Post Office revenue, viz., one of 4,700*l.* to the Duke of Grafton as the representative of the Duchess of Cleveland, paid since the year 1686; one of 4,000*l.* to the heirs of the Duke of Schomberg, since 1694-5; and one of 5,000*l.* to the Duke of Marlborough, since 1707-8.

† By the Journal of the House of Commons for December 17th, 1660, it appears that a proviso was inserted into the Post Office Bill, then before the House, directing that letters sent by or to Members of Parliament should be carried free of

In 1784 one of the greatest reforms ever made in the Post Office was effected by the introduction of the plan of Mr. John Palmer. Up to that time the mail bags had been carried by post-boys on horseback, at an average rate, including stoppages, of from three to four miles an hour. Mr. Palmer, in his scheme submitted to Mr. Pitt, in 1783, gives the following account of the then existing system:—"The Post, at present, instead of " being the swiftest, is almost the slowest, conveyance in the " country; and though, from the great improvement in our " roads, other carriers have proportionably mended their speed, " the post is as slow as ever.* It is likewise very unsafe, as the " frequent robberies of it testify; and to avoid a loss of this " nature people generally cut Bank bills or bills at sight in two, " and send the bills by different posts. The mails are generally " intrusted to some idle boy, without character, mounted on a " worn-out hack, and who, so far from being able to defend him- " self or escape from a robber, is much more likely to be in " league with him."

Mr. Palmer, who was manager at the theatre of Bath, had observed that when the tradesmen of that city were particularly anxious to have a letter conveyed with speed and safety, they were in the habit of enclosing it in a brown paper cover, and sending it by the coach, though the charge for such conveyance was much higher than the postage of a letter. He therefore proposed that the mail bags should, as far as possible, be sent by the passenger coaches, accompanied by well armed and trustworthy guards. He also suggested other important alterations, as that the mails should be so timed as to arrive in London, and, as far as might be, in other places, at the same hour, so that the letters might be delivered altogether; and that they should be despatched from and arrive in London at a time convenient to the public, the mails having hitherto left London at all hours of the night.

charge; but by another entry, five days later, it seems that the House of Lords had struck out this proviso, and that their Lordships' amendment was agreed to; and in an entry, dated 1735, and referring to the former entry, it is stated that this proviso was left out by the Lords because there was no provision that their own letters should pass free. The concurrence of the Commons in the amendment of the Lords was obtained on an assurance by the Ministers of the Crown that the privilege should in fact be granted. A warrant to that effect was accordingly issued, and in 1763 the privilege was confirmed by Act of Parliament.

In 1735 it was reported by a Committee of the House of Commons to be a breach of privilege for Postmasters, without a Secretary of State's warrant, to look into letters (as appeared to be the practice) to discover whether or not they belonged to Members; and that it was a breach of privilege to counterfeit the signature of a Member.

In this Journal is a statement of the loss to the revenue from the years 1716 to 1730 caused by franking; in the former year this loss was stated at 17,121*l.*, and in the latter at 38,082*l.*; there is also a table of the net revenue of the Post Office.

The Committee reported that "the privilege of franking letters by the Knights, " &c., chosen to represent the Commons in Parliament began with the erecting of a " Post Office in this Kingdom by Act of Parliament" [1660].

* In 1696 the Treasury sanctioned an arrangement for conveying the mails between Exeter and Bristol twice a week, under a stipulation that the distance (65 miles) should be performed in 24 hours.

This plan was vehemently opposed by the officers of the Post Office, but Mr. Pitt saw its merits, and, under his auspices, an Act of Parliament was passed authorising its adoption.

Mr. Palmer was appointed, under the title of Controller General of the Post Office, to superintend the carrying out of the scheme, at a salary of 1,500*l.* per annum, together with 2½ per cent. upon any excess in the net revenue over 240,000*l.*; and he appears to have performed his duties with great ability. The speed of the mails was at once increased from three and a half to more than six miles an hour, and subsequently still greater acceleration was effected.

This improvement, notwithstanding some additions to the rates of postage which accompanied it, caused a great immediate increase of correspondence as well as of revenue, which continued steadily to advance for many years afterwards.

In 1792 Mr. Palmer was suspended from his functions, and an allowance of 3,000*l.* a year (a sum much below the emoluments to which he was entitled under his agreement) was assigned to him in lieu thereof. He memorialised the Treasury against this arrangement, but without success. Subsequently, however, he petitioned Parliament for redress, and in 1813, after a struggle of many years, a Parliamentary grant of 50,000*l.* was made to him.

Money Order
Office.

In 1792 a Money Order Office was first set on foot; but as the history of this department has been given in the recent report of the Treasury Commissioners, it will suffice to say, that the conduct of it was originally undertaken by some of the Post Office Clerks on their own account, and that in 1838 it became a recognised branch of the establishment.

Owing to the high rate of commission formerly charged, and the double postage necessarily incurred, Money Orders were comparatively little used, until after the introduction of the Penny Postage. In 1840, the commission, however, was greatly reduced, and the facilities were extended; the result being a vast increase in the number of Orders. Thus, in 1839, there were issued in the United Kingdom less than 190,000 Orders, amounting to about 313,000*l.*; while in 1854, as will appear in a subsequent part of the Report, the number of Orders had risen to nearly five millions and a half, and their amount in money to nearly 10,500,000*l.*

Increase in
rates of
postage.

In 1796 the rates of Inland Postage were raised to a scale varying from 3*d.* to 9*d.*, and they were afterwards raised still further.

Ship Letters.

In 1799 an Act was passed authorising the Postmaster General to send bags of letters by any private ships, such letters being subjected to half the packet rates. This is the origin of the ship-letter system, under which, besides the postal communication by regular packets, letters are conveyed to every part of the world visited by private ships.

New General
Post Office.

In 1814 measures were taken to provide a new General Post Office, the old one in Lombard Street having become too small

for the business to be transacted. It was not, however, till 1829 that the present building in St. Martin's Le Grand was opened for use.

About the year 1818, Mr. Macadam's improved system of road-making began to be of great service to the Post Office, by enabling the mails to be much accelerated. Their speed was gradually increased to 10 miles an hour and even more, until in the case of the Devonport Mail, the journey of 216 miles, including stoppages, was punctually performed in 21 hours and 14 minutes. Acceleration of Mails.

In 1827 some concession was made to the public by rescinding the rule which imposed double postage on two letters written upon one sheet of paper, and even upon a letter and a bill if upon the same sheet.

In 1830, upon the opening of the line between Liverpool and Manchester, the mails were for the first time conveyed by railway. Railways first used.

In 1835, by the indefatigable exertions of the late Lieutenant Waghorn, the mails to India were for the first time conveyed by the direct route, through the Mediterranean and over the Isthmus of Suez; a line of communication subsequently extended to China and Australia. Overland route to India.

In 1836 the stamp duty on newspapers was reduced from about 3½d. net to 1d., a reduction which led to a great increase in the number of newspapers sent through the Post Office. Newspapers.

Early in 1837 Mr. Rowland Hill broached his plan of Penny Postage, which, after an examination by a Royal Commission, and a full investigation by a Committee of the House of Commons, appointed on the motion of Mr. Wallace, M.P. for Greenock, was adopted by the Legislature in the session of 1839, and carried into effect in the beginning of the following year. Penny postage.

The effect of this change was to increase the number of chargeable letters passing through the Post Office from 76 millions in 1839 to nearly 169 millions in 1840, and the number has since continued to increase rapidly, as will hereafter appear.

COPY of a LETTER from Mr. F. I. SCUDAMORE to Mr. FREDERIC HILL.

SIR,

Receiver and Accountant General's Office.

IN compliance with your desire that I should give you some further account of the early records of the Post Office, I have examined the books preserved in the vaults of this building, and have extracted some particulars from them, which I think will be found to possess an interest as well for the general public as for those who desire only to study the history of the Post Office.

The Treasury Letter Book, containing copies of the letters which passed between the Postmaster General and the Treasury, and beginning on the 5th January 1691; the Whitehall Letter Book, containing the

correspondence between this Department and Government Offices, and beginning in the year 1708; the Agents' Letter Book, containing the correspondence between the Postmasters General and their Agents at Dover, Harwich, and Falmouth, and beginning in the year 1703; and the Surveyor's Letter Book, containing the Surveyor's confidential reports upon the Deputy Postmasters, and beginning in the year 1737,—have been examined by me, and will furnish matter to this letter.

I may pause here to observe, that the lovers of caligraphy will find much to admire in the first volume of the Agents' Letter Book. It is a bulky volume; and as the letters to the Agents must have been copied into it day by day, and together with the ordinary business of the Office, it is a remarkable proof of the rapidity with which our ancestors could form those quaint characters which, to those who are familiar only with the current handwriting of our time, appear to have been elaborated with painful care.

Various entries in the earliest pages of the Agents' Letter Book prove that there was a Postmaster's Letter Book in use at the same early period; but it has not come down to us, as our series of Letter Books to Deputies begins in 1747.

There is also a Commission Book, beginning in the year 1714; but it contains nothing of interest, and I shall not have to notice it at all.

In order to bring my remarks within reasonable limit, I have been obliged only to speak of the events which occurred between the years 1690 and 1720, and during the period in which Sir Robert Cotton and Sir Thomas Frankland were jointly the Postmasters General.

They were evidently very active, energetic, and shrewd men. Their letters and their written instructions to Agents and Deputies show how thoroughly they understood the interest of the department over which they ruled; and, in proof of their farseeing shrewdness, I will quote only this passage from a letter, in which they proposed to the Lords of the Treasury an alteration in the circulation and rates of postage in a particular district:—

“We have, indeed, found by experience that where we have made the correspondence more casie and cheape, the number of letters has been thereby much increased, and therefore do believe such a settlement may be attended with a like effect in those parts.”

All letters and mandates bore the signatures of both the Postmasters, but it seems probable that Sir Robert Cotton attended chiefly to the Inland business, whilst Sir Thomas Frankland managed the Packets; for in the Agents Letter Book there are frequent notices to this effect:

“Your business cannot be settled until Sir Thomas Frankland, “who hath a fitte of the gout, shall be somewhat recovered.”

This afflicted Postmaster General was a Yorkshire baronet of good estate, but Sir R. Cotton was only a knight, and, for all I can learn, of no great estate, which will, perhaps, account for his immunity from gout.

The packets in those times, when war raged for so many years, and when every sea was covered with French privateers, gave our Postmasters General very great and constant anxiety.

Their orders to the captains of such vessels are urgent, that they shall run while they can, fight when they can no longer run, and throw the mails overboard when fighting will no longer avail. In 1693 we find frequent rescripts from Queen Mary, the King being absent, ordering her Master Gunner “to provide the Diligence packet, of 35 tuns and 14 guns (or some other powerful man-of-war), with powder, shot, and fire-arms, and all other munitions of war.” Then comes a

piteous petition from James Vickers, captain of the *Grace Dogger*, who, as he lay in Dublin Bay waiting until the tide would take him over the Bar, was seized by a French privateer, the captain of which stripped the *Grace Dogger* of her rigging, sails, spars, and yards, and of all the furniture "wherewith she had been provided for the due accommodation of passengers, leaving not so much as a spoone or a naile hooke "to hang anything on," and finally ransomed her to the aforesaid James Vickers for 50 guineas, which sum, with the cost of the other losses, our Postmaster General had to pay.

Then comes the petition of Anne Pageall, widow of John Pageall, captain of the *Barbabella*, showing that the said John had been carried prisoner into Dunkirk, and had there suffered grievous sickness for six months, whereof at length he died; and this petition also meets with favourable consideration.

Hereupon our Postmasters General resolved to build swift packet boats that shall escape the enemy, but build them so low in the water, that shortly afterwards, "wee doe find that in blowing weather they take "in soe much water that the men are constantly wet all through, and "can noe ways goe below to change themselves, being obliged to keep "the hatches shut to save the vessels from sinking, which is such a "discouragement of the sailors that it will be of the greatest difficulty "to get any to endure such hardships in the winter weather."

It is clear, therefore, to our Postmasters General that "boats of force to withstand the enemy" must be built, and "boats of force" they set themselves to equip. They feel justified then in raising the freight of passengers from Harwich to Holland from 12s. and 6s. for first and second class passengers to 20s. and 10s., but they judge that "recruits "and indigent persons shall still have their passage free." We get occasional glimpses of these indigent passengers by the Harwich and Falmouth boats, and find "Francisco Martino" and "Francisco Evangelista," who have suffered "for their king, and have not wherewithal "to pay their charges," availing themselves of the bounty which England has always extended to political refugees.

In May 1695 the crews of the packets between Harwich and Holland were placed on the following footing:—

			£	s.	
Master and commander	-	-	10	0	per mensem.
Mate	-	-	3	10	"
Surgeon	-	-	3	10	"
Boatswain	-	-	3	5	"
Midshipman	-	-	1	15	"
Carpenter	-	-	3	5	"
Boatswain's mate	-	-	1	15	"
Gunner's mate	-	-	1	15	"
Quartermaster	-	-	1	15	"
Captain's servant	-	-	1	0	"
11 able seamen, at 17. 10s.	-	-	16	10	"
Agent's instrument	-	-	2	0	"
In all			50	0	per mensem.

These, it must be allowed, were good wages, and though the surgeon may have been as much for the passengers as for the crew, yet the presence of surgeon on board a vessel of so small a complement argues great liberality on the part of the Government.

It was obviously unnecessary that boats going on such short voyages should carry a chaplain, but the Rev. Hippolito Luzany, minister at Harwich, had a stipend for attending to the sailors when on shore, and for "doing their offices of birth, marriage, and burial." To encourage them to greater exertion in the combats which they had with the enemy, they were allowed to take prizes if they fell in their way, and they received pensions for wounds according to a code, drawn up with a nice discrimination of the relative value of different parts of the body, and with a most amusing profusion of the technical terms of anatomy. Thus, after a fierce engagement which took place in February 1705, we find that Edward James had a donation of 5*l.* because a "musket shot had grazed on the tibia of his left leg;" that Gabriel Treludra had 12*l.* "because a shot had divided his frontal muscles, and fractured his skull;" that Thomas Williams had the same sum because "a Granada shell had stuck fast in his left foot;" that John Cook, who "received a shot in the hinder part of his head, whereby a large division of the scalp was made," had a donation of 6*l.* 13*s.* 4*d.* for present relief, and a yearly pension of the same amount; and that Benjamin Lillycrop, who "lost the forefinger of his left hand," had "2*l.* for present relief, and a yearly pension of the same amount."

The Postmasters General, in a letter to their agent at Falmouth on the subject of pensions for wounds, inform him thus: "each arm or leg amputated above the elbow or knee is 8*l.* per annum; below the knee is 20 nobles. Loss of the sight of one eye is 4*l.*, of the pupil of the eye 5*l.*, of the sight of both eyes 12*l.*, of the pupils of both eyes 14*l.*; and according to these rules we consider also how much also the hurts affect the body, and make the allowances accordingly."

The Postmasters General were evidently continually troubled during the war by special consignments to them of goods and parcels, and even human beings, for whose safe transportation to their destination they were to be held responsible.

So various were the articles entrusted to them that I will jot down a list culled from a very few pages of the Agents' Letter Book.

Imprimis.—"Fifteen couple of hounds going to the King of the Romans with a free pass."

Item.—"Some parcels of cloth for the Clothing Colonels (*sic*) in my Lord North's and my Lord Grey's regiments."

Item.—"Two servant maids going as laundresses to my Lord Ambassador Methuen."

Item.—"Doctor Crichton, carrying with him a cow and divers other necessaries."

Item.—"Three suits of cloaths for some nobleman's lady at the Court of Portugal."

Item.—"A box containing three pounds of tea, sent as a present by my Lady Arlington to the Queen Dowager of England at Lisbon."

Item.—"Eleven couple of houndes for Major-General Hompesch."

Item.—"A case of knives and forks for Mr. Stepney, Her Majesty's Envoy to the King of Holland."

Item.—"One little parcell of lace, to be made use of in cloathing Duke Schomberg's regiment."

Item.—"Two bales of stockings for the use of the Ambassador of the Crown of Portugal."

Item.—"A box of medicines for my Lord Galway in Portugal."

Item.—"A deal case with four fitches of bacon for Mr. Pennington, of Rotterdam."

Really, with all these cares upon them, and what with scolding an Agent once, because "he had not provided a sufficiency of pork and beef

“ for the Prince ;” again, because “ he had bought powder at Falmouth that would have been so much cheaper in London ; again, because “ he had stirred up a mutiny between a captain and his men, which was “ unhandsome conduct in him ;” again, because “ he has not ordered “ the Dolphin to sail, though the wind is marked westerly in the Wind “ Journals,” whereat the Postmasters General “ admire ;” what with bringing Captain Clies to trial, “ for that he had spoken words reflecting on the Royal family, which the Postmasters General took “ particular unkind of him,” and reprimanding another for “ breaking “ open the portmanteau of Mons. Raoul (a gentleman passenger), and “ spoiling him of a parcel of snuff,” what with “ purchasing new “ vessels, stores, and provisions, and ordering the old ones to be sold “ *by inch of candle* ;”—with all these cares one sees that our Postmasters General had enough to do. Their letters are sometimes plaintive enough. “ Wee are concerned,” say they, “ to find the letters “ brought by your boat (from the West Indies) to be so consumed by “ the rats that we cannot find out to whom they belong.” Another letter to their agent at Harwich shall speak for itself. It runs :—

“ Mr. Edisbury,

“ The woman, whose complaint we herewith send you, having given us much trouble upon the same, we desire you will enquire into the same, and see justice done her, believing she may have had her brandy stole from her by the sailors.

“ We are your affectionate friends,

“ R. C., T. F.”

Many of their letters are dated in the middle of the night, and at other extraordinary hours ; all are remarkable for clearness, compactness, and precision ; and in some, as, for instance, in one very long letter dismissing a contumacious agent, we see that the writers were worthy contemporaries of that most English of all English writers, Daniel Defoe.

Hitherto, however, I have treated only of one part of their business ; and it must not be thought that the management of the inland circulation was less troublesome to them than the control of the packets.

The arrears of their deputies, as may be imagined, gave them much trouble. Any one who peruses the two first Treasury Letter Books will come to the conclusion that to be in arrear was the normal condition of Deputy Postmasters : so frequent were their petitions (which are all recorded in the aforesaid books) to the Lords of the Treasury for the remission of the debts.

The grounds of these petitions are very similar. It would be long to tell how many postmasters had ruined themselves by advancing money to His Majesty (King William) when he landed in the west, or how many had suffered “ through much spoiling of their horses by officers “ riding post in the blessed revolution.”

“ The wrath of the Jacobites, too, would seem to have been ” a “ direful spring of woes unnumbered ” to Orange Postmasters. John Woodgate, of Canterbury, was well affected to King William, as he proved by the affidavit of the Honeywoods, Oxendens, Knatchbulls, and other worthy gentlemen, who “ had wrought upon him to continue “ postmaster long after he knew that the lowness of the salary was “ ruining him.” To this loyal man the Postmasters of Deal and Dover, who were disaffected to the government, could not but owe a grudge, which they “ fed fat ” by sending passengers, goods, and horses to other houses than that kept by John Woodgate ; from which conduct of

theirs arose that deficiency in John Woodgate's payments to the Crown which he now prayed the Treasury to forgive.

* * * * *

The Deputies grumbled sorely about the lowness of their salaries. "In the time of King Charles the Second," they said, "they had been content to take such low salaries, because they were exempted from quartering soldiers, but that this exemption being taken away, the salaries should be raised."

The Surveyor, who made a journey yearly to every Postmaster in England, was always sending up the queerest possible confidential returns. Thus he writes, in his truncated style, "At this place" (Petersfield) "found the Deputy so unhappy in his circumstances, that he cannot appear but of Sundays;" and again, "Came to Chester, where found the Deputy very uneasy in his mind. Run through an inquiry of the reasons, and found as follows:—The Deputy charged the Clarke with being frequently out, and keeping company, thought to be more expensive than the wages allowed him; and several other little articles, which appeared more a malice than else."

The Deputies were allowed to send and receive their own letters free of charge, and our Surveyor therefore writes very wisely if not grammatically thus:—

"To put a tradesmen into the employment of the office, it will not only lessen the revenue by his owne letters free, but give himself allowance for those of his correspondent; also other tradesmen will be made uneasy, fearing the discovery of each others correspondence in trade."

The chief business of the Surveyor, however, was to see that the Postmasters kept up the proper distinction between bye-letters, the postage on which belonged to the farmers, and those letters which were properly chargeable to Revenue. This was not an easy task, for the Deputies held the loosest notions on the subject, and, in doubtful cases, appear to have escheated the postage to their own use, as being fearful of injuring either party by giving it to one or the other. The riders, too, who carried the Mails on horseback from place to place, were wont to carry letters and bring answers for a hire which assuredly never profited either the farmers or the Crown. Hear what our Surveyor says on this head:—"At this place" (Salisbury), "found the Post Boys to have carried on vile practices in taking the bye-letters, delivering them in this city, and take back the answers, and specially the Andover riders. Between the 14th and 15th instant, found on Richard Kent, one of the Andover riders, five bye-letters, all for this city. Upon examination of the fellow, he confessed that he had made it a practice, and persisted to continue in it, saying that he had no wages from his master. I took the fellow before the magistrate, proved the facts, and as the fellow could not get bail, was committed; but pleading to have no friends nor money, desired a punishment to be whipped, and accordingly he was to the purpose. Wrote the case to Andover, and ordered that the fellow should be discharged, but no regard was had thereto; but the next day the same rider came post, run about the city for letters, and was insolent. The second time the said Richard Kent came post with two gentlemen, made it his business to take up letters, the fellow, instead of returning to Andover, gets two idle fellows and rides away with three horses, which was a return for his master not obeying instructions, as he ought not to have been suffered to ride after the said facts was proved against him."

There is a spice of malice in our Surveyor, but his book is throughout both amusing and instructive, as it gives the fullest possible details of the routes by which the letters circulated. He complains bitterly that the gentry "doe give much money to the riders, whereby they be very subject to get in liquor, which stopes the Males." That it did not take much to "stopes the Males" we may gather from the fact that when Mr. Harley (Lord Oxford) complained that an express to him had been delayed, the Postmasters General replied that "it had travelled 136 miles in 36 hours, which is the usual rate of expresses."

Before quitting the subject of the circulation, I must give one more illustration of our Postmasters' shrewdness.

Same gentleman of Warwick had requested that the London letters should be sent direct to Warwick, instead of through Coventry, by which route much time was lost. "Nay," said our Postmasters General, "From London through Coventry to Warwick is more than 80 miles, so that we can charge 3*d.* per letter going that way, whereas we could only charge 2*d.* per letter if they went direct." "But," they add, "perhaps we may get more letters at the cheaper rate."

They dealt in a more summary fashion with John Symonds and Marshall Smith, licensed carriers of letters, who had put in a petition to the effect that "certain haglers and others, unlicensed carriers of letters, doe presume to outgoe the authorized pack-horses, and deliver their letters before the authorized waggons, carts, and packhorses can arrive, which is contrary to the known laws of the realm."

Our Postmasters General might not like the hagglers to meddle in the business, but they could not like that primeval slowness of transit which John Symonds and Marshall Smith sought to perpetuate; and the petition was summarily dismissed.

* * * * *

I am, &c.

(Signed) FRANK IYES SCUDAMORE.

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.	Increase per cent. per annum.	In London District, including Local Letters.	Increase per cent. per annum.												
Estimated No. of Letters, 1839 -	-	-	-	-	60,000,000	-	4	8,000,000	-	3	8,000,000	-	3	76,000,000	-	3
Estimated No. of Franks, 1839 -	-	-	-	-	6,172,000	-	-	386,000	-	-	1,055,000	-	-	6,553,000	-	-
Estimated No. of Letters, 1840 -	88,000,000	-	44,000,000	-	132,000,000	120.0	8	19,000,000	148.5	7	19,000,000	119.2	2	103,000,000	22.2	7
Average of 5 years, 1841-45 -	122,000,000	10.7	57,000,000	9.0	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	5.5	259,000,000	5.2	15	34,000,000	4.2	12	34,000,000	5.0	4	327,000,000	5.0	12
" " 1851-55 -	233,000,000	6.5	97,000,000	5.0	330,000,000	6.0	18	41,000,000	5.2	14	39,000,000	3.5	6	410,000,000	5.7	15
" " 1856-60 -	302,000,000	4.2	125,000,000	5.5	427,000,000	4.5	23	51,000,000	3.2	16	46,000,000	3.0	7	523,000,000	4.2	18
" " 1861-65 -	373,000,000	5.7	161,000,000	5.7	534,000,000	5.7	29	61,000,000	0.5	20	53,000,000	3.2	9	648,000,000	5.5	22
" " 1866-70 -	472,000,000	4.2	192,000,000	3.2	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	7.0	721,000,000	2.5	33	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	3.0	737,000,000	2.2	33	82,000,000	2.5	24	66,000,000	-	13	896,000,000	2.0	23
" 1873 -	518,000,000	1.5	238,000,000	5.0	756,000,000	2.5	33	84,000,000	2.5	24	67,000,000	1.5	13	907,000,000	2.5	29
" 1874 -	533,572,100	6.8	250,474,000	5.0	804,053,100	6.5	33	90,196,300	7.4	25	70,004,100	4.5	18	964,253,300	6.3	30
" 1875 -	580,081,400	4.8	266,771,000	6.5	846,852,400	5.3	35	90,976,400	0.9	26	70,563,300	0.8	13	1,008,392,100	4.0	31
" 1876 -	634,510,000	2.5	261,632,800	-	896,142,800	1.1	35	91,120,700	0.2	26	71,792,100	1.7	13	1,018,985,200	1.0	31
" 1877-8 -	686,776,000	0.7	285,192,700	9.0	971,968,700	3.3	36	96,516,300	9.3	28	74,245,200	3.4	14	1,067,792,300	3.8	32
" 1878-9 -	690,499,800	4.6	295,803,300	3.7	986,303,100	4.3	37	98,991,300	-	28	76,075,600	2.5	14	1,097,372,900	3.7	32
" 1879-80 -	640,653,900	2.2	310,077,900	4.8	950,731,800	3.0	36	101,948,300	3.0	28	75,037,400	-	14	1,127,907,600	2.8	33
" 1900-01 -	600,052,700	1.7	330,419,300	6.6	931,372,000	3.3	33	104,006,200	3.0	29	78,706,700	3.4	15	1,105,146,000	3.3	34
" 1961-62 -	686,100,000	6.5	353,147,100	6.6	1,037,316,700	6.7	40	160,799,000	4.6	29	82,234,300	4.1	10	1,220,364,600	5.5	35
" 1969-70 -	719,060,100	4.1	364,534,100	4.0	1,077,447,300	6.6	31	110,000,000	0.3	31	94,479,200	0.4	17	1,291,926,300	4.3	36

APPENDIX A.—continued.

Post Cards, Book Packets, and Newspapers.

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	73,369,100	11·6	9,206,300	6·7	4,510,900	5·5	87,116,300	10·7
1876	78,412,100	6·9	9,510,100	4·7	4,883,500	7·5	92,805,700	6·7
1877-8	86,051,500	9·7	11,067,500	14·8	5,118,300	4·8	102,237,300	10·0
1878-9	94,471,500	9·8	11,599,000	4·8	5,375,200	5·0	111,445,700	9·0
1879-80	96,637,400	2·3	12,284,700	5·9	5,536,300	3·0	114,458,400	2·7
1880-81	103,473,100	7·1	13,401,500	9·1	6,009,400	8·5	122,884,000	7·4
1881-82	114,251,500	10·4	14,651,400	9·3	6,426,100	6·9	135,329,000	10·1
1882-83	121,243,300	6·1	15,541,800	6·1	7,230,800	12·5	144,016,000	6·4

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	113,769,600	11·3	15,787,300	12·7	10,410,200	—	141,967,100	10·0
1875	133,304,900	15·2	15,728,700	—	9,548,000	—	158,686,600	11·7
1876	146,405,300	9·8	15,552,700	16·7	8,966,900	—	173,724,900	9·4
1877-8	157,691,600	7·7	21,536,800	16·2	10,272,200	14·5	189,500,600	8·9
1878-9	164,789,400	4·5	21,330,100	—	10,967,000	6·7	197,076,500	4·1
1879-80	180,641,400	9·6	22,110,500	3·8	11,281,100	2·9	213,963,000	8·6
1880-81	206,003,400	13·0	24,238,300	9·5	12,114,500	7·4	240,356,200	12·3
1881-82	228,990,400	12·3	27,875,000	15·0	14,164,300	16·9	271,038,700	12·8
1882-83	244,713,800	6·9	28,806,000	3·7	14,596,600	3·1	288,206,400	6·3

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	5·0	11,235,000	12·9	113,016,500	3·6
1874	91,280,400	2·3	13,212,700	4·8	12,589,800	11·4	117,032,900	3·5
1875	93,345,000	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	3·7
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	—
1880-81	102,764,600	2·4	15,120,000	3·8	15,911,500	1·8	133,796,100	2·5
1881-82	108,651,700	5·7	15,477,300	2·4	16,060,100	4·7	140,189,100	5·2
1882-83	108,613,500	—	15,784,600	2·0	16,204,500	—	140,602,600	—

APPENDIX B.

Registered Letters.

STATEMENT showing the Number of Letters Registered by the Public in the United Kingdom in the years 1877, 1878-79, 1879-80, 1880-81, 1881-82, and 1882-83.

YEAR.	ENGLAND AND WALES.						SCOTLAND.		IRELAND.		TOTAL.			
	Country Offices.		London District.		Total.									
	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	-	-	2,375,973	-	1,384,718	-	3,663,080	-	373,915	-	278,443	-	4,316,017	-
1878-79	-	-	4,390,545	76·2	1,900,289	48·0	6,190,814	68·9	551,715	47·6	453,821	60·2	7,200,350	66·8
1879-80	-	-	5,340,065	24·7	2,240,865	17·9	7,539,930	22·6	616,905	11·8	533,356	16·0	8,739,191	21·3
1880-81	-	-	6,144,985	14·9	2,596,550	15·9	8,741,515	16·2	698,008	12·8	597,023	12·1	10,034,546	14·8
1881-82	-	-	6,674,839	8·6	2,804,109	8·0	9,479,028	8·4	753,461	8·3	639,790	12·2	10,092,318	8·6
1882-83	-	-	6,837,123	·3	2,905,632	3·6	9,732,755	2·7	806,554	7·0	725,017	8·3	11,264,028	3·3

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

APPENDIX C.

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	93	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	202	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	58	251	214	162	140	96	113	63	58	20	21	3	7	3	4	1	2	-	-	617
" 1881	17	57	250	210	154	140	101	112	66	63	23	25	3	5	3	4	1	2	-	-	618
" 1882	17	55	242	205	154	143	94	109	80	71	25	25	4	5	3	3	1	2	-	2	620
" 1883	14	52	210	201	162	150	116	111	84	79	32	26	4	6	3	-	-	-	-	-	625

APPENDIX D.

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 (SHETLAND).	1st April 1881	After 1 April 1884 on 6 months' notice.	2,200 <i>l</i> .	-	-	200 <i>l</i> .	Vessels have liberty to call at Wick and certain ports of Orkney.
CHANNEL ISLANDS - Do. (additional services)	1st Jan. 1876	On 6 months' notice.	6,500 <i>l</i> . 200 <i>l</i> .	Between Southampton and Guernsey 9 hours; between Southampton and Jersey 12 hours.	-	2,000 <i>l</i> . - -	-
GREENOCK and BELFAST (GREENOCK, TARBERT and ISLAY.	16th July 1849 4th Nov. 1878	On 6 months' notice. On 6 months' notice.	Performed free of cost. 800 <i>l</i> .	-	-	100 <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.	17.14 <i>s</i> . per minute, 11 journeys between London and Kingstown, and (on Sundays) between Crews and Kingstown, are not accomplished within 11 hours respectively from appointed times of departure.	-	The payment is subject to reduction when the receipts from Passenger traffic in any one year exceed 35,000 <i>l</i> .
LIVERPOOL and DOUGLAS (ISLE OF MAN).	1st Oct. 1881	After 1st Oct. 1884 on 6 months' notice.	4,500 <i>l</i> .	-	-	-	-
PERZANCE and SCILLY	-	On 6 months' notice.	450 <i>l</i> .	-	-	-	-
PORTSMOUTH and RYDE	1st April 1880	On 6 months' notice.	800 <i>l</i> .	-	-	-	-
SCHAMSTER and STROMNESS (UNIKET).	27th July 1877	After 3 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> .	-
SOUTHAMPTON and COWES	-	-	180 <i>l</i> .	-	-	-	-
WOLFGOY and ULLAFOOL	3rd Aug. 1881	After 3 years on 12 months' notice.	2,000 <i>l</i> .	-	20 <i>l</i> . for undue delay or deviation from course.	500 <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.

APPENDIX E.

Staff of Officers.

31 Mar. 1882.	Description of Officers.	England and Wales.	Scotland.	Ireland.	Totals.		31 Mar. 1883.
					Males.	Females.	
1	A. Postmaster-General - - -	1	—	—	1	—	1
8	B. Secretary, Financial Secretary, Third Secretary, Assistant Secretaries, Secretary for Ireland, and Surveyor Ge- neral for Scotland.	6	1	1	8	—	8
30	C. Superior Officers in Metropo- litan Offices, Heads of De- partments, &c.	32	2	2	35	1	36
15	D. Surveyors - - - - -	10	3	3	16	—	16
915 13,678	E. Head Postmasters - - - - Letter Receivers and Sub- Postmasters.	640 10,576	153 1,497	180 2,154	792 11,509	131 2,658	923 14,227
	F. Clerks and Superintending Officers.	2,377	171	129	2,194	483	2,677
29,186	G. Sorting Clerks and Telegra- phists, Sorters, Countor- men, &c.	9,987	1,077	881	9,867	2,078	11,945
	H. Letter Carriers, Porters, &c. -	12,026	1,649	1,123	14,756	42	14,798
*9,550	I. Persons employed in unesta- blished positions, viz., As- sistants to Postmaster, &c., Auxiliary Letter Carriers, Telegraph Messengers, Tele- graph Construction Hands, Copyists, Female Servants, Commissionaires, &c.:						
	Metropolitan - - - -	4,901	254	454	4,689	1,010	5,699
	Provinces - - - - -	27,235	3,523	4,505	20,427	14,896	35,323
19	J. Postmasters and Clerks in Colonies (under direction of Postmaster General).	—	—	—	17	1	18
20	Agents in Foreign Countries for collection of postage.	—	—	—	18	—	18
53,752		67,881	8,330	9,442	61,389	21,300	85,689

* This number did not include Assistants to Postmasters, Sub-Post-
masters, and persons employed on small Rural Deliveries } Estimated at nearly 30,000.

APPENDIX E.—*continued.*

	England and Wales.		Scotland.		Ireland.		Totals.		Totals.			
	Males.	Fe- males.	Males.	Fe- males.	Males.	Fe- males.	Males.	Fe- males.				
A.												
Postmaster General - -	1	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	1			
B.												
Secretary, Financial Secretary, Third Secretary, Assistant Secretaries (3), Secretary for Ireland, and Surveyor General for Scotland.	6	—	1	—	1	—	8	—	8			
C.												
Chief Clerk (Secretary's Office).	1	—	—	—	—	—	35	1	36			
Principal Clerks—												
Upper Section - -	8	—	—	—	—	—						
Lower Section - -	8	—	—	—	—	—						
Clerk for Missing Letter Business.	1	—	—	—	—	—						
Medical Officers - - -	2	1	1	—	1	—						
Solicitors - - - -	1	—	1	—	1	—						
Receiver and Accountant General.	1	—	—	—	—	—						
Engineer-in-Chief - -	1	—	—	—	—	—						
Controllers of {	Packets - - - -	1	—	—	—	—						
	Savings Bank Department.	1	—	—	—	—						
	Money Order Office -	1	—	—	—	—						
	London Postal Service	1	—	—	—	—						
	Central Telegraph Station.	1	—	—	—	—						
	Returned Letter Office	1	—	—	—	—						
Stores (Telegraphs) -	1	—	—	—	—	—						
Storekeeper - - - -	1	—	—	—	—	—						
D.												
Surveyors - - - -	10	—	3	—	3	—				16	—	16
E.												
Head Postmasters—							792	121	923			
Metropolitan - - -	12	—	—	—	—	—						
Provinces - - - -	552	76	119	34	169	21						
Letter Receivers and Sub-Postmasters—							11,569	2,658	14,227			
Metropolitan - - -	623	68	34	6	97	27						
Provinces - - - -	8,128	1,757	1,114	343	1,573	457						

APPENDIX E.—*continued.*

F.

CLERKS AND SUPERINTENDING OFFICERS.

Metropolitan Offices.	LONDON.													EDINBURGH.	DUBLIN.	
	Secys.	Strkpr.	Med.	Solr.	Surv.	R.&A.G.	S.B.	M.O.O.	L.P.S.	R.L.O.	E. in C.	C. of S.	C.S.			Totals.
MALES.																
Clerks:—																
Grade I.	68	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	68	—	—
Grade II.	13	2	—	—	32	255	348	63	85	21	—	—	—	819	52	68
Lower Division	19	—	—	—	—	33	165	10	1	—	6	8	—	242	5	9
Professional	—	—	—	7	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	7	—	1
Assistant Receiver and Accountant General.	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—
Chief Clerk, Chief Examiner, Cashier, Principal Book-keeper, and Accountants.	—	—	—	—	—	4	3	—	1	—	—	—	—	8	5	5
Controller (Sorting Office, Dublin), Assistant Controllers, Sub-Controllers, and Chief Superintendents.	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	1	8	—	—	1	4	15	1	1
Assistant Engineer, Sub-Marine Superintendent and Assistant Superintendents.	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	3	—	—	3	—	—
Technical Officers, Examiners, &c.	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	14	16	—	30	—	—
Nautical Assistant to Controller of Packets.	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—
Officers in charge of Indian Mails.	3	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	3	—	—
Clerks in charge	6	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	6	—	2
Assistant to Medical Officers and Dispenser.	—	—	2	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	2	—	—
Registrar and Assistant Registrar.	2	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	2	—	—
Travelling Officers, Missing Letter Branch.	9	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	9	—	—
Superintendents and Assistant Superintendents.	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	30	—	23	5	—	59	—	—
	122	2	2	7	32	293	517	74	125	21	46	30	4	1,275	63	86
FEMALES.																
Superintendents and Assistant Superintendents.	—	—	—	—	—	2	2	—	—	—	1	—	—	5	1	1
Clerks	—	—	—	—	—	203	219	—	—	—	—	—	—	422	13	13
Totals	122	2	2	7	32	498	738	74	125	21	47	30	4	1,702	77	100

Clerks and Superintending Officers.	England and Wales.	Scotland.	Ireland.
Provinces :—			
Males	654	97	29
Females	21	7	—
Totals	675	104	29

APPENDIX E.—continued.

G.

SORTING CLERKS AND TELEGRAPHISTS, SORTERS, COUNTERMEN, &c.

Metropolitan Offices.	LONDON.												Totals.	EDINBURGH.	DUBLIN.	
	Secys.	Stkpr.	Med.	Solr.	Sur.	R.&A.G.	S.B.	M.O.O.	L.P.S.	R.L.O.	E. in C.	C. of S.				C.S.
MALES.																
Postal :—																
Supervisors and Inspectors.	2	2	—	—	—	6	—	—	75	—	—	—	—	85	2	4
Overseers and Countermen.	—	5	—	—	—	—	—	—	359	2	—	—	—	366	13	10
Paper Keepers and Assistants.	57	—	—	—	—	—	91	47	—	29	—	—	—	224	1	1
Tracers - - -	—	—	—	—	—	128	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	128	19	7
Boy Clerks - - -	—	—	—	—	—	7	92	48	—	—	—	—	—	147	—	—
Sorters, 1st Class -	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	659	—	—	—	—	659	34	50
„ 2nd „ - - -	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1,135	—	—	—	—	1,135	70	149
Writing Assistants -	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	13	—	—	—	—	13	—	—
Bag men - - -	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	20	—	—	—	—	20	—	—
Telegraphs :—																
Superintendents and Assistant Superintendents.	5	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	48	53	3	3
Inspectors and Counter Inspectors.	3	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	3	—	79	1	—	86	—	—
Engineering Clerks -	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	63	10	—	73	—	—
New Distributors -	23	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	23	—	—
Telegraphists - -	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	241	—	4	—	1,040	1,235	133	143
	90	7	—	—	—	141	183	95	2,505	81	146	11	1,688	4,297	275	367
FEMALES.																
Returners - - -	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	45	—	—	—	45	8	—
Counterwomen and Telegraphists.	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	326	—	2	—	607	935	66	64
Totals - - -	90	7	—	—	—	141	183	95	2,831	76	148	11	1,695	5,277	343	431

Provinces.	England and Wales.		Scotland.		Ireland.		Males.	Females.	Totals.
	Males.	Females.	Males.	Females.	Males.	Females.			
Sorting Clerks and Telegraphists.	3,975	735	574	100	379	71	4,928	906	5,834

APPENDIX E.—continued.

H.

LETTER CARRIERS, PORTERS, MESSENGERS, MECHANICS, &c.

Metropolitan Offices.	LONDON.													EDINBURGH.	DUBLIN.	
	Secys.	Stkpr.	Med.	Solr.	Surv.	R. & AG.	S.B.	M.O.O.	L.P.S.	R.L.O.	E. in C.	C. of S.	C.S.			Totals.
Mail Guards, Marine Mail Guards, &c.	3	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	3	—	8
Messengers, Lobby Officers, &c.	17	—	3	1	—	15	—	—	28	2	2	—	—	68	6	30
Letter Carriers—Town :—																
" 1st Class -	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1,078	—	—	—	—	1,078	193	97
" 2nd " -	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	445	—	—	—	—	445	43	29
" Suburban, H.L.C.	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	66	—	—	—	—	66	—	—
" " Div. I.	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	303	—	—	—	—	303	—	—
" " " II.	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	368	—	—	—	—	368	—	—
" " " III.	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	124	—	—	—	—	124	—	—
Boy Sorters -	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	399	—	—	—	—	399	4	—
Boy Messengers -	19	1	1	—	—	29	72	6	6	2	4	—	—	140	8	10
Foremen, Porters, &c.	—	96	—	—	—	5	15	6	192	2	—	—	—	316	3	12
Binder -	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—
Constables -	8	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	8	—	1
Foremen, Mechanics, Linemen, &c.	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	319	5	—	—	324	—	—
Inspectors of Telegraph Messengers, Tube Attendants, &c.	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	38	—	—	—	61	99	3	8
Totals -	48	97	4	1	—	49	87	12	3,047	6	325	5	61	3,742	260	195

Provinces.	England and Wales.	Scotland.	Ireland.
Males - - - - -	8,251	1,380	928
Females - - - - -	33	9	—

APPENDIX F.

Returned Letters, &c.

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, BELFAST, and CORK 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 ended 31st March 1882, and in the Year ended 31st March 1883.

	Letters received.		Letters re-sent 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.	
	1881-2.	1882-3.	1881-2.	1882-3.	1881-2.	1882-3.	1881-2.	1882-3.	1881-2.	1882-3.	1881-2.	1882-3.	1881-2.	1882-3.	1881-2.	1882-3.
LONDON	2,375,983	2,522,204	32,519	37,711	2,035,087	2,137,617	76,442	92,318	231,966	254,758	90,411	101,638	1,988,308	1,980,657	230,811	296,712
MANCHESTER	371,818	381,710	3,457	4,544	382,595	315,642	7,607	8,189	41,209	53,335	29,477	30,072	385,432	383,348	17,177	18,875
LIVERPOOL	330,085	340,042	5,089	4,767	276,407	291,904	14,505	15,696	84,084	83,465	27,340	28,558	305,637	334,734	19,882	19,403
BIRMINGHAM	234,113	229,969	2,002	1,394	204,723	201,935	3,543	3,656	23,846	23,014	23,144	23,587	254,703	242,446	9,897	8,069
LEEDS	218,127	216,478	3,569	3,084	179,479	177,783	5,667	6,385	24,412	29,228	14,637	15,144	246,857	301,837	10,897	9,993
BRISTOL	333,128	333,519	2,193	2,193	279,948	282,260	14,496	15,111	36,578	33,965	15,799	14,870	368,247	368,064	16,209	15,278
NEWCASTLE-ON-TYNE	155,330	160,637	4,007	2,371	123,969	128,569	5,872	6,547	21,462	22,550	9,965	10,339	129,413	146,682	11,007	6,403
EDINBURGH	234,011	235,739	7,378	7,072	197,519	200,278	6,111	6,556	23,003	21,233	22,509	22,434	243,008	254,138	18,283	19,517
GLASGOW	180,401	170,325	12,077	13,431	154,583	149,604	4,367	4,837	9,864	9,453	25,617	26,910	114,912	122,706	7,983	10,642
DUBLIN	331,833	292,447	3,972	3,467	208,371	185,284	13,146	15,749	96,344	77,998	18,557	20,581	270,861	241,737	40,361	34,455
BELFAST	—	25,450	—	480	—	21,428	—	1,362	—	1,896	—	1,499	—	22,692	—	3,174
CORK	—	16,443	—	608	—	13,636	—	1,607	—	1,292	—	473	—	9,672	—	1,147
Other Post Offices (authorized to return certain letters & direct to senders)	701,506	739,350	—	—	701,506	759,350	—	—	—	—	231,986	300,509	463,921	538,187	32,397	36,370
	8,464,368	8,551,443	76,177	82,088	4,070,137	4,839,215	166,783	177,892	548,310	602,291	589,409	596,614	4,701,394	4,988,990	414,794	477,975
			5,905		150,081		21,007		10,475		37,306		237,596		63,184	

* Returned Letter Branches were established in Belfast and Cork in October 1882.

APPENDIX G.

Colonial and Foreign

Line of Packets.	Contracts.		Payment.
	Com- mencement.	Termination.	
AUSTRALIA: Point de Galle and Melbourne, Aden 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) 8,445
Fortnightly service from Liverpool	1 July 1878	On 6 months' notice	(a) 5,720
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	-
CYPRUS and ALEXANDRIA	1 Sept. 1881	On 12 months' notice	7,320
EAST INDIES and CHINA	1 Feb. 1880	On 31st January 1888	358,600
EAST COAST OF AFRICA: Aden and Zanziba	6 Dec. 1872	On 5th December 1882	6,024
EUROPE: Dover and Calais	20 June 1878	On 12 months' notice	(b) 11,617
Dover and Ostend	Arrangement with Belgian Government		4,560
Malta and Syracuse or Messina	Contract with Government of Malta		(c) 1,500
NORTH AMERICA: Queenstown to New York	1 Dec. 1877	On 12 months' notice	(a) 92,525
Halifax, Bermuda, and Jamaica	1 Jan. 1878	On 12 months' notice	17,500
PANAMA to VALPARAISO	1 July 1878	On 6 months' notice	(a) 2,537
WEST INDIES: Bi-monthly Service	1 Jan. 1880	On 31st December 1885	80,500
Additional Services: Non-Contract Service	-	-	(a) 451
Liverpool to West Indies and Mexico	24 Oct. 1881	On 6 months' notice	(a) 810
Belize and New Orleans	Contract with Honduras Government termi- nating on 30th September 1884		(c) 2,000
Turk's Island and St Thomas	Contract with Turk's Island Government		(c) 200
WEST COAST OF AFRICA	No Contract		(a) 5,388

(a) The payments in these cases depend upon the amount of correspondence conveyed by the packets.

(b) Including 2,535*l.* for excess of premiums over penalties.

(c) These sums represent the Imperial share of the cost of the services.

APPENDIX G.

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.	4d.
- - - - -		- - - - -	Nil.	6d.
- - - - -		130	7,700	2½d.
200l. for every 12 hours late at Brindisi. In other cases 100l.	} India, 88,000l.	66,000	204,600	{ Mediterranean 2½d. India - - - } 4d. Ceylon - - - } China, &c. - }
- - - - -		200	5,800	4d.
5l. for 15 minutes or upwards.	- - - - -	- - - - -	Nil.	2½d.
- - - - -	- - - - -	- - - - -	Nil.	2½d.
- - - - -	- - - - -	- - - - -	Nil.	2½d.
- - - - -	- - - - -	40,000	52,000	2½d.
- - - - -	- - - - -	1,000	16,500	{ Canadian Dominion and Newfoundland. } 2½d. Bermuda - - - } 4d. Ecuador - - - } Peru - - - } 4d. Chili - - - } Bolivia - - - } 1s.
25l. for every 24 hours.	} - - - - -	- - - - -	Nil.	
- - - - -		- - - - -	- - - - -	
- - - - -		- - - - -	- - - - -	
One-eighth part of ordinary payment for every 24 hours.	} - - - - -	31,000	53,000	4d.
- - - - -		- - - - -	- - - - -	
- - - - -		- - - - -	- - - - -	
- - - - -	- - - - -	6,400	2,000	4d.

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	2,287,859	1,452,160	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
1880-81 -	13,456,555	11,176,459	24,633,014	3,042,291	1,736,677	29,411,982
1881-82 -	14,204,479	12,071,084	26,275,513	3,207,994	1,862,354	31,345,861
1882-83 -	14,554,015	12,874,707	26,928,722	3,244,202	1,919,102	32,092,026

The figures for each year since 1877-78 include the number of certain Press Messages 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 1881-82 and 1882-83; 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.
	1881-82.	1882-83.		
April - - -	2,816,669*	2,334,834	—	481,835
May - - -	2,394,826	2,485,181	90,355	
June - - -	2,454,919	3,183,000*	728,081	
July - - -	3,204,194*	2,770,042	—	434,152
August - - -	2,570,564	2,714,643	144,079	
September - - -	2,569,501	3,364,360*	794,859	
October - - -	3,067,139*	2,669,735	—	397,404
November - - -	2,361,611	2,525,650	164,039	
December - - -	2,698,202	2,758,136*	59,934	
January - - -	2,108,156	2,135,363	27,207	
February - - -	2,179,046	2,263,713	84,667	
March - - -	2,921,034*	2,887,369*	—	33,665
	31,345,861	32,092,026	2,093,221	1,947,056
Total Increase			-	- 746,165

* Five weeks.

APPENDIX I.

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 1883.

Period.	Telegrams.		Wire Rentals.		Salaries.		Work executed.		Total.	
	Inland.	Foreign.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.
Period to 31st March 1871	243 3 1	513 9 5	882 1 7	256 15 9	1 15 0	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	933 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	3,296 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				
" 1881	7,586 8 0	—	6,891 9 6	5,000 13 11	—	19,478 16 5				
" 1882	10,635 19 0	—	8,608 19 9	2,674 16 10	0 14 7	21,920 10 2				
" 1883	12,978 2 0	—	10,069 17 8	3,030 14 8	8 15 8	26,087 10 0				
TOTALS	69,373 7 1	4,217 9 3	59,990 6 4	27,017 13 1	156 19 2	160,745 14 11				

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 J.

POST OFFICE SAVINGS BANK.

Extracts from the Controller's Report.

The Irish portion of the Post Office Savings Bank business again Ireland.
showed a large increase.

The result as regards the amount remaining to the credit of depositors, including interest, on the 31st December last, is shown in the following statement of the amount so due in each year since 1873 :—

Year.	Total Amount, including Interest, due to Depositors on 31st Dec.			Annual Increase.
	£			£
1873 - - - -	845,550			—
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
1880 - - - -	1,555,894*			138,505
1881 - - - -	1,723,395*			167,501
1882 - - - -	1,925,460*			202,065

* Exclusive of Stock standing to the credit of the depositors estimated at—1880, 17,000*l.*; 1881, 87,000*l.*; 1882, 125,000*l.*

In the further statement subjoined, the amount due to depositors, and the annual increase for the last two years, are divided according to counties; and it will be seen therefrom that every county participated in the increase :—

Counties.	Total Amount, including Interest, due to Depositors at close of Year.			Increase in 1881 over 1880.	Increase in 1882 over 1881.
	1880.	1881.	1882.		
	£	£	£	£	£
Antrim - - -	199,441	222,811	246,139	23,370	23,328
Armagh - - -	29,292	32,898	37,869	3,606	4,971
Carlow - - -	15,363	16,768	18,031	1,405	1,263
Cavan - - -	20,721	22,953	27,114	2,232	4,161
Clare - - -	19,005	21,688	24,004	2,683	2,316
Cork - - -	127,239	141,641	158,675	14,402	17,034
Donegal - - -	38,508	44,403	51,494	5,895	7,091

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Counties.	Total Amount, including Interest, due to Depositors at close of Year.			Increase in 1881 over 1880.	Increase in 1882 over 1881.
	1880.	1881.	1882.		
Down - - -	£ 84,917	£ 102,279	£ 112,661	£ 17,362	£ 10,382
Dublin - - -	337,856	367,673	398,994	29,817	31,321
Fermanagh - - -	16,664	17,408	19,523	744	2,115
Galway - - -	54,722	59,589	66,737	4,867	7,148
Kerry - - -	22,884	24,982	27,705	2,098	2,723
Kildare - - -	31,083	33,716	36,260	2,633	2,544
Kilkenny - - -	24,717	27,045	30,466	2,328	3,421
King's County - - -	20,225	22,144	24,927	1,919	2,783
Leitrim - - -	12,188	13,433	16,024	1,245	2,591
Limerick - - -	35,966	41,818	45,411	5,347	4,098
Londonderry - - -	33,581	36,376	41,502	2,795	5,126
Longford - - -	9,089	10,098	11,628	1,004	1,535
Louth - - -	52,358	55,369	56,867	3,016	1,498
Mayo - - -	45,069	48,875	55,415	3,806	6,540
Meath - - -	17,941	18,479	20,808	538	2,329
Monaghan - - -	17,549	19,995	23,032	2,446	3,037
Queen's County - - -	17,765	19,413	21,498	1,648	2,085
Roscommon - - -	16,303	20,539	24,874	4,236	4,335
Sligo - - -	28,023	31,319	34,478	3,296	3,159
Tipperary - - -	62,441	68,807	77,513	6,366	8,706
Tyrone - - -	45,840	52,786	74,101	6,946	21,315
Waterford - - -	24,481	26,454	29,756	1,973	3,302
Westmeath - - -	25,012	27,546	31,110	2,534	3,564
Wexford - - -	37,630	40,995	44,149	3,365	3,154
Wicklow - - -	32,026	33,605	36,695	1,579	3,090
Total - - -	1,555,894	1,723,395	1,925,460	167,501	202,065

Societies' Accounts.

Authority was given last year to 1,191 Trade, Provident, and Charitable Societies, to invest their funds with the Post Office Savings Bank, as against 1,264 in the previous year; and 542 Friendly Societies were similarly authorised, as against 526 in the previous year.

Penny Banks.

There were 283 applications last year to open accounts for Penny Banks, as against 262 such applications in the previous year. No less than 151 of the Penny Banks for which accounts were opened last year were in schools, of these 32 were Board Schools. This satisfactory result being mainly due to a Circular on "School Savings Banks" issued by the Education Department last July. From the report of a meeting of the London School Board in the same month, it appears that during 1881 the sum of 1,416*l.* was deposited by some 4,500 depositors in the London Board School Penny Banks. In November, a notice was issued to Teachers by the same School Board directing that the school children be encouraged to open accounts in the Post Office Savings Bank, and that the stamp form and the Penny Bank book issued by this Department be adopted for use.

Opening Accounts without personal attendance of depositors at Post Office.

A considerable number of applications continue to be received from clergymen, schoolmasters, and others, for forms of declaration to be used by their parishioners, scholars, &c., in opening accounts with the Post Office Savings Bank. A notice was inserted in the Post Office Circular in July last, directing Postmasters to supply forms to persons applying for them, and to allow every facility for opening accounts without the personal attendance of the depositors.

Savings Bank business at factories, &c.

Visits continue to be made to certain large Factories, &c. by clerks from the nearest Post Offices, for the purpose of receiving deposits

from the employes, but in some cases the arrangement has ceased in consequence of the small amount of business done. The following statement shows the number and amount of deposits received at these visits during last year :—

Name of Works, &c.	Number of Visits during 1882.	Deposits.		Remarks.
		No.	Amount.	
Messrs. Bass and Co.'s Brewery, Burton-on-Trent.	60	198	£ s. d. 172 15 0	Ceased 29 July 1882.
Washford Mills, Needle and Fish-hook Manufactory, Red-ditch.	12	61	40 12 0	—
Windsor Street Gas Works, Birmingham.	15	4	0 7 0	Ceased 14 April 1882.
Saltley Gas Works, Birmingham.	52	15	18 19 0	Ceased 5 Jan. 1883.
Messrs. Hazell and Co.'s Printing Works, Aylesbury.	52	232	140 16 0	—
Messrs. Hazell and Co.'s Printing Works, Kirby Street, London.	37	78	36 3 0	Commenced 22 April 1882, and ceased 27 Jan. 1883.
Jewish Working Men's Club and Institute, Aldgate.	50	88	68 4 0	—
Holy Trinity, Kilburn Branch of Church of England Temperance Society, Kilburn, Manor Terrace.	26	84	80 10 0	—
Shustoke Reservoir Works, Birmingham.	31	87	122 7 0	Ceased 5 Aug. 1882.
Steam Sewing Mills, Newcastle, Staff.	36	211	19 8 0	Commenced 22 April 1882.
Weekly Meetings of "Blue Ribbon (Temperance) Army," Albert Hall, Swansea.	39	732	278 5 0	Commenced 8 April 1882.
Weekly Meetings of "Blue Ribbon Army," Temperance Hall, Walsall.	7	28	12 14 0	Commenced 14 Oct. 1882, and ceased 25 Nov. 1882.
Total - -	417	1,818	991 0 0	

There were 212 applications last year respecting moneys of depositors who had become insane, as against 174 such applications in the previous year. Insane depositors.

The claims to the moneys of deceased depositors during 1882 numbered 14,651, being 1,091 more than in the previous year; and probates of wills or letters of administration were produced in 3,744 cases as against 3,417 in 1881. Deceased depositors.

Six Trustee Savings Banks were closed during last year, viz.:—those at Castleknock, Clogher, Ewell, Harrow, Odiham, and Warrenpoint, making a total of 223 which have been closed since the establishment of the Post Office Savings Bank. The number of Trustee Savings Banks remaining open is 430. The aggregate amount transferred last year from Trustee Savings Banks was 74,235*l.*, as compared with 46,972*l.* in 1881. During the first quarter of the present year a further sum of 30,139*l.* has been transferred to the Post Office Savings Bank, of which the greater part was transferred by the closing of the Trustee Bank at Bridgwater. The amount transferred last year from Trustee Savings Banks closed. Amount transferred to Post Office Savings Bank. Amount transferred from

Post Office Savings Bank to Trustee Savings Banks was 11,763*l.* as against 10,560*l.* in 1881.

* * * * *

Foreign and Colonial Savings Banks.

It would appear from reports, &c. received from our colonies and various continental countries that systems of Post Office Savings Banks, more or less analogous to our own, are fast becoming universal, and that the few remaining Governments which have not already introduced these institutions are giving the subject careful attention. During the past year information has been applied for from Switzerland, and from British Guiana, Jamaica, and Heligoland; and officials from Wurtemberg and Ceylon have made personal inquiry as to our system and the additions lately made to it; while reports from Italy, Canada, and Queensland show that the facilities for thrift in those countries are increasingly appreciated. In France, the result of the business of the Post Office Savings Banks during the first year of their operation, although not brilliant, may be considered fairly satisfactory, there being on the 1st January last 210,712 depositors with 46,823,457 francs (1,872,938*l.*) to their credit. With regard to School Savings Banks in France, the development of which has received special attention, it appears from the latest published official statistics that, at the close of 1881, such banks were established in 16,494 French schools, 349,219 of the scholars having deposits in excess of one franc, and consequently holding deposit books of the *grande caisse d'Epargne*. The total deposits of the children amounted to 7,984,811 francs (319,392*l.*). By a convention between France and Belgium depositors in the Post Office Savings Banks can now have their accounts, if below 2,000 francs, transferred from one country to the other free of expense. In Austria, the difficulties which have long militated against the establishment of Post Office Savings Banks have at last been overcome, and an Act for their introduction received the Imperial Assent on the 28th May 1882. The first account was opened by the Emperor himself on the 12th January last, and by the 31st of the same month 174,620 deposits had been received, amounting to 773,830 florins (about 77,383*l.*). The system provides for the investment of deposits in Government stock, and the collection of small savings by means of stamp deposit forms, not more than one of which may be presented as a deposit within seven days. The minimum deposit is fixed at 50 kreuzers (about 1*s.*), and the annual limit, which is not irrespective of withdrawals as in this country, at 300 florins (about 30*l.*). The balance to a depositor's credit, inclusive of interest calculated at the rate of 3 per cent., is not to exceed 1,000 florins (about 100*l.*); and depositors, when opening their accounts, are to furnish a pass-word to be used for purposes of identification when making withdrawals. The Dutch Postal Savings Banks, which were established in April 1881, have, with a view to facilitating the saving of small sums by school children, adopted the system of depositing by means of postage stamps affixed to forms. Provision has also been made for enabling a depositor, who is obliged to leave home frequently, to empower a member of his family to deal with his account: and in any commune where Savings Bank business is not transacted at the Post Office, or wherever there is no Post Office Savings Bank within a 20 minutes' walk, the letter carriers have been authorised to receive and repay deposits. In Sweden, a Royal Commission, specially appointed to consider the question, reported last December in favour of the introduction of Post Office Savings Banks. At Lisbon, a National Congress was held in July, under the auspices of the Provident Societies of Portugal, this being the first occasion on which such an assembly has been called together in that country.

France.

School Savings Banks.

Austria.

Holland.

Sweden.

Portugal.

Post Office Savings Banks.

YEAR.	From 16 Sept. 1861 to 31 Dec. 1862.	1863.	1864.	1865.	1866.	1867.	1868.	1869.	1870.	1871.	1872.	1873.	1874.	1875.	1876.	1877.	1878.	1879.
Number of Post Office Savings Banks.	2,535	2,535	2,535	2,535	2,535	2,535	2,535	2,535	2,535	2,535	2,535	2,535	2,535	2,535	2,535	2,535	2,535	2,535
Number of Deposits.	630,216	2,114,668	3	2	22,189	97,294	438,637	4	10	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2
Amount of Deposits.	842,848	2,651,206	3	2	11	55,204	197,431	1,027,154	5	4	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Amount of Withdrawals.	1,192,762	3,350,000	3	2	10	40,466	309,242	1,814,849	5	18	8	8	8	8	8	8	8	8
Number of Withdrawals.	3,301	1,192,762	3	2	10	40,466	309,242	1,814,849	5	18	8	8	8	8	8	8	8	8
Average Amount of each Deposit.	1,192,762	3,350,000	3	2	10	40,466	309,242	1,814,849	5	18	8	8	8	8	8	8	8	8
Average Amount of each Withdrawal.	1,192,762	3,350,000	3	2	10	40,466	309,242	1,814,849	5	18	8	8	8	8	8	8	8	8
Interest credited to Depositors.	1,192,762	3,350,000	3	2	10	40,466	309,242	1,814,849	5	18	8	8	8	8	8	8	8	8
Charges of Management.	1,192,762	3,350,000	3	2	10	40,466	309,242	1,814,849	5	18	8	8	8	8	8	8	8	8
Average Cost of each Transaction, viz., of each Deposit or Withdrawal.	1,192,762	3,350,000	3	2	10	40,466	309,242	1,814,849	5	18	8	8	8	8	8	8	8	8
Number of Accounts opened.	1,192,762	3,350,000	3	2	10	40,466	309,242	1,814,849	5	18	8	8	8	8	8	8	8	8
Number of Accounts closed.	1,192,762	3,350,000	3	2	10	40,466	309,242	1,814,849	5	18	8	8	8	8	8	8	8	8
Number of Accounts remaining open at close of the Year.	1,192,762	3,350,000	3	2	10	40,466	309,242	1,814,849	5	18	8	8	8	8	8	8	8	8
Amount, inclusive of Interest, standing to credit of all open Accounts at close of the Year.	1,192,762	3,350,000	3	2	10	40,466	309,242	1,814,849	5	18	8	8	8	8	8	8	8	8
Average Amount standing to credit of each open Account at close of the Year.	1,192,762	3,350,000	3	2	10	40,466	309,242	1,814,849	5	18	8	8	8	8	8	8	8	8
Percentage of Cost of Management to total funds in possession of the Post Office Savings Bank.	1,192,762	3,350,000	3	2	10	40,466	309,242	1,814,849	5	18	8	8	8	8	8	8	8	8
Total Sum standing to credit of Post Office Savings Banks on Books of National Debt Commissioners at close of the Year.	1,192,762	3,350,000	3	2	10	40,466	309,242	1,814,849	5	18	8	8	8	8	8	8	8	8
Balance in hands of Postmaster-General, after making Provision for outstanding Warrants, at close of the Year.	1,192,762	3,350,000	3	2	10	40,466	309,242	1,814,849	5	18	8	8	8	8	8	8	8	8
Total Balance in hand, applicable to payment of Depositors, at close of the Year.*	1,192,762	3,350,000	3	2	10	40,466	309,242	1,814,849	5	18	8	8	8	8	8	8	8	8
Number at close of the Year of Old Savings Banks and Post Office	1,192,762	3,350,000	3	2	10	40,466	309,242	1,814,849	5	18	8	8	8	8	8	8	8	8
Number at close of the Year of the Depositors in Old Savings Banks combined.	1,192,762	3,350,000	3	2	10	40,466	309,242	1,814,849	5	18	8	8	8	8	8	8	8	8

*These sums do not include the dividends according to the Post Office Savings Banks on the 5th January (that is, five days after the close of the account in each year), up to the year 1866 inclusive, but after that year the Securities belonging to the Banks have been.

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

‡ In 1868, the charge for postage, amounting to about 1d. per transaction, ceased to be debited against the Savings Bank Department, but in 1877 the sum of 22,537.12d. was charged under this head for nine months. Had no charge for postage been made in this year the cost per transaction would have been continued at 6.3d.

§ 167,380 accounts having small balances, which had had no transactions for a considerable period, were transferred to the Dormant Account at the end of 1879 was 187,567.

|| The sum of 448,537. 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 73,419. 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 per-centage of expenses to capital to 1s. 9. 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 would be 8.2d., and the per-centage of expenses to capital 10s. 7. 1/2d. Further, if the charges 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 7.1/2d., and the average per-centage of expenses to capital will be 11s. 3. 1/2d.

¶ The sum of 192,207. for charges of management in 1879 includes the sum of 25,564. paid in respect of the new building. Omitting this amount, but adding interest at the rate of 5 per cent. thereon, as well as on the expenditure of 73,419. for similar purposes in 1878, the cost per transaction will be 8.2d., and the per-centage of expenses to capital 10s. 8. 1/2d.

¶ These sums do not include the dividends according to the Post Office Savings Banks on the 5th January (that is, five days after the close of the account in each year), up to the year 1866 inclusive, but after that year the Securities belonging to the Banks have been.

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

‡ In 1868, the charge for postage, amounting to about 1d. per transaction, ceased to be debited against the Savings Bank Department, but in 1877 the sum of 22,537.12d. was charged under this head for nine months. Had no charge for postage been made in this year the cost per transaction would have been continued at 6.3d.

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¶ The sum of 192,207. for charges of management in 1879 includes the sum of 25,564. paid in respect of the new building. Omitting this amount, but adding interest at the rate of 5 per cent. thereon, as well as on the expenditure of 73,419. for similar purposes in 1878, the cost per transaction will be 8.2d., and the per-centage of expenses to capital 10s. 8. 1/2d.

APPENDIX J.—*continued.*

Post Office Savings Banks.

	1880.	1881.	1882.
Number of Post Office Savings Banks	-	-	-
Number of deposits	1880. 3,754,064	1881. 5,076,066	1882. 6,110,208
Ordinary	1,025	10,382	10,047
For immediate investment in Stock	-	-	-
*Sales of Stock and Stock Certifi-	†	2,125	4,432
cates obtained	‡	11,303	26,782
Dividends	-	-	-
	3,755,689	5,099,876	6,151,469
Amount of deposits	1880. £10,210,631	1881. £11,345,957	1882. £12,227,628
Ordinary	79,611	427,312	382,847
For immediate investment in Stock	-	-	-
*Sales of Stock and Stock Certifi-	1,890	83,447	184,322
cates obtained	‡	10,439	26,535
Dividends	-	-	-
	10,801,152	11,867,155	12,821,230
Average amount of each ordinary deposit	-	-	-
Interest credited to depositors	-	-	-
Number of withdrawals	1880. 1,405,300	1881. 1,712,806	1882. 1,913,544
Ordinary	†	13,700	12,153
Investments in Stock	-	-	-
Sales of Stock and Stock Certifi-	31	2,125	4,432
cates obtained	-	-	-
	1,405,331	1,728,700	1,935,129
Amount of withdrawals	1880. £9,210,564	1881. £9,460,668	1882. £10,094,974
Ordinary	128,190	691,156	590,225
Investments in Stock, including commission	-	-	-
Sales of Stock and Stock Certificates obtained, including commission and fees	1,890	83,463	184,335
	9,346,634	10,244,287	10,869,534
Average amount of each ordinary withdrawal	-	-	-
Charges of management	-	-	-
Average cost of each transaction, namely, of each deposit or withdrawal in the year 1880, and of each deposit, withdrawal, or Stock transaction in the years 1881 and 1882	-	-	-
Number of accounts opened	-	-	-
Number of accounts closed	-	-	-
Number of accounts remaining open at close of the year	-	-	-
Amount, inclusive of interest, standing to credit of all open accounts	-	-	-
Average amount standing to credit of each open account	-	-	-
Per-centage 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	-	-	-
Estimated value of the Central Savings Bank premises in Queen Victoria Street	-	-	-
Total value of assets applicable to payment of depositors	-	-	-
Number at close of the year of Old Savings Banks and Post Office Savings Banks combined	-	-	-
Number at close of the year of depositors in Old Savings Banks and Post Office Savings Banks combined	-	-	-

* When Stock is sold or a Stock Certificate obtained, the amount is placed to the credit of the Savings Bank account, so as to be dealt with as a withdrawal.

† The numbers of these transactions were not included for the year 1880.

‡ The first dividend upon Stock bought through the Post Office Savings Bank was not due until 31st January 1881.

§ The sum of 188,801l. for charges of management in 1880 includes 16,373l. paid in respect of the new building. Omitting this amount, the cost per transaction was 7½d. and the percentage of expenses to capital 10s. 2½d.

|| If the Stock transactions for the year 1880 had been included, the average cost per transaction for that year would still have remained the same, viz., 8½d.

APPENDIX J.—*continued.*

Post Office Savings Banks.

INVESTMENTS IN GOVERNMENT STOCK.

				1880. (From 22nd Nov. to 31st Dec.)	1881.	1882.
Number of Stock accounts opened	-	-	-	2,162	11,019	7,551
Number of Stock accounts closed	-	-	-	31	1,388	2,754
Number of Stock accounts remaining open at close of the year	-	-	-	2,131	11,812	16,609
Number of investments	-	-	-	2,230	13,709	12,158
Number of sales	-	-	-	9	2,023	4,355
Number of Stock Certificates obtained	-	-	-	22	102	77
Number of deposits for immediate investment	-	-	-	1,625	10,382	10,047
Amount of deposits for immediate investment	-	-	-	£79,641	£427,312	£382,847
Average amount of each deposit for immediate investment	-	-	-	£49	£41 3 2	£38 2 1
Number of Savings Bank accounts opened with deposits for immediate investment	-	-	-	563	2,875	1,913
Amount of money invested	-	-	-	£128,013	£690,181	£589,395
	1880. £	1881. £	1882. £			
From deposits made for the purpose	- 79,641	427,312	382,847			
From existing deposits	- 48,372	262,869	206,548			
	128,013	690,181	589,395			
Amount of Commission and Bank of England Fees	-	-	-	£177	£1,112	£1,112
	1880. £ s.	1881. £ s.	1882. £ s.			
Commission	- 175 10	1,104 10	1,105 17			
Bank of England fees	- 1 10	7 10	6 3			
	177 0	1,112 0	1,112 0			
Amount of Stock bought	-	-	-	£129,514	£694,957	£588,211
Average amount of each purchase of Stock	-	-	-	£58 1 6	£50 13 10	£48 8 0
Amount of Stock sold	-	-	-	£385	£75,868	£177,122
Average amount of each sale of Stock	-	-	-	£12 15 6	£37 10 0	£40 14 0
Amount of Stock Certificates obtained	-	-	-	£1,500	£7,700	£6,150
Amount of Stock transferred to Old Savings Banks	-	-	-	—	£50	£190
Amount of Stock remaining to credit of Stockholders at close of the year	-	-	-	£127,629	£738,968	£1,143,717
Average amount of Stock remaining to credit of each Stockholder at close of the year	-	-	-	£59 17 9	£62 11 3	£68 17 3

APPENDIX J.—continued.
POST OFFICE SAVINGS BANK.
BALANCE SHEET.

RETURN of the BALANCE SHEETS of the POST OFFICE SAVINGS BANKS for the Year 1882, showing the Balance due to Depositors, the Amount of Expenses remaining Unpaid, the Value of Securities according to the average price of the day on 31st December 1882, Amount of Cash in Hand and Dividends accrued but not received at the end of the Year, &c. and the Surplus of Assets over Liabilities.

LIABILITIES.			ASSETS.		
£	s.	d.	£	s.	d.
Balance due to Depositors on the 31st December 1882 (including interest) - - - - -			Value of Securities according to the average price of the day on 31 Dec. 1882 - - - - -		
39,037,821	3	1	40,770,172	1	1
Amount of expenses remaining unpaid (partly estimated) - - - - -			Amount of cash in hands of Commissioners for the Reduction of the National Debt - - - - -		
8,374	10	0	92,408	2	3
Surplus of assets over Liabilities - - - - -			Total Amount in the hands of the Commissioners for the Reduction of the National Debt - - - - -		
					40,862,640 3 4
			Amount received for issuing new Deposit Books - - - - -		
			1,779	19	4
			Less—Amount paid to the National Debt Commissioners - - - - -		
			883	4	4
			Amount in the hands of Her Majesty's Postmaster General - - - - -		
			186,779	6	4
			Less—Amount required to meet Warrants issued to Depositors but not cashed on 31st December 1882 - - - - -		
			41,751	8	0
			Value of the Central Savings Bank Premises in Queen Victoria Street, E.C. - - - - -		
					145,027 18 4
					120,000 0 0
					41,248,564 16 8
£ 41,248,564 16 8			£ s. d.		
			Total amount received from Depositors, including interest, to 31st December 1882 - - - - -		
			150,120,230 6 6		
			Total amount repaid to Depositors to 31st December 1882 - - - - -		
			120,091,409 3 5		

Number of Transactions.		Number of Accounts.	
Deposits.	Withdrawals.	Opened.	Closed.
55,837,464	19,537,262	8,453,374	5,694,398
			2,858,076

The total cost of the Post Office Savings Banks from their establishment to the 31st December 1882, including the sum of 8,374 10s. 0d. charged as above, was 2,447,735s. 2s. 10d. The total number of transactions, i.e., Deposits and Withdrawals, in the period was 75,394,726. The average cost of each transaction from the commencement of Post Office Savings Banks to the end of the year 1882 was 7s. 4d. Prior to the passing of the Post Office Savings Banks Act, 1861, it was estimated (see Parliamentary Paper, No. 623, 1861) that the average cost of each transaction would be 7d. The sums of 126,279s. 14s. 11d., 147,116s. 16s. 0d., 77,787s. 12s. 1d., 126,345s. 4s. 11d., 144,792s. 3s. 11d., and 123,186s. 0s. 1d. have been paid into the Exchequer out of the funds of the Post Office Savings Banks in the years 1877, 1878, 1879, 1880, 1881, and 1882 respectively, and the balance of the new Savings Bank building in Queen Victoria Street, and 43,426s. towards the cost of the same, have been paid for out of the funds of the Post Office Savings Banks.

APPENDIX J.—*continued.*

Post Office Savings Bank.

VALUE OF SECURITIES held on account of POST OFFICE SAVINGS BANKS at average price on the 31st December 1882.

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 Securities at average price on 31 Dec. 1882.			Dividends accrued but not received at the end of the year.					
	£	s.	d.	£	s.	d.	£	s.	d.
Consolidated 3l. per cents. - - -	8,810,698	10	9	8,896,806	0	0	128,560	3	2
Reduced 3l. per cents. - - -	3,807,906	5	0	3,850,745	0	0	—	—	—
New 3l. per cents. - - -	9,474,915	13	8	9,581,508	0	0	—	—	—
New 2½l. per cents. - - -	1,591,430	11	2	1,368,630	0	0	19,352	6	3
Turkish Guaranteed 4l. per cent. Bonds	103,100	0	0	107,739	0	0	—	—	—
Exchequer (March) Bills - - -	20,000	0	0	19,900	0	0	182	9	3
Exchequer Bonds - - -	750,000	0	0	750,000	0	0	8,225	11	8
Exchequer (Suez) Bonds - - -	1,547,600	0	0	1,547,600	0	0	15,262	4	10
Bonds per 32 & 33 Vict. c. 42., and 43 Vict. c. 4., repayable by Irish Land Commission, as legal successors to the Commissioners of Church Temporalities in Ireland, per 44 & 45 Vict. c. 71., and Bonds per 45 & 46 Vict. c. 62.	650,000	0	0	650,000	0	0	—	—	—
Canada Guaranteed 4l. per cent. Bonds	37,500	0	0	42,562	0	0	—	—	—
Advance to Public Works Loan Commissioners - - -	2,077,816	14	0	2,077,817	0	0	15,536	18	5
Annuities for terms of years, expiring at various periods of the year 1885 - - -	2,642,770	19	9	(a.) 6,844,433	0	0	—	—	—
Annuity under Revenue, Friendly Societies, and National Debt Act, 1882 (45 & 46 Vict. c. 72. s. 23), expiring 8th September 1892 - - -	5,428	18	8	(a.) 46,504	0	0	—	—	—
Annuity for a term of years, granted to repay advances per Act 32 & 33 Vict. c. 42. payable by Irish Land Commission as legal successors to the Commissioners of Church Temporalities in Ireland per 44 & 45 Vict. c. 71., expiring 31st December 1905 - - -	138,800	0	0	(a.) 2,236,163	0	0	—	—	—
Annuity under Indian Loan Act, 1881, expiring 5th July 1906 - - -	115,864	10	0	(a.) 1,950,890	0	0	—	—	—
Red Sea and India Telegraph Annuity, expiring 4th August 1908 - - -	3,100	0	0	(a.) 47,275	0	0	—	—	—
Annuities of an amount sufficient to repay sums advanced under Pensions Commutation Acts, 32 & 33 Vict. c. 32. and 34 & 35 Vict. c. 36., to 31st December 1880 - - -	90,022	8	0	(a.) 348,308	0	0	—	—	—
Advances under Pensions Commutation Act during year ended 31st December 1882, per 34 & 35 Vict. c. 36., in respect of which an annuity has not been granted - - -	209,965	12	6	209,966	0	0	4,107	12	6
				40,578,936	0	0	191,236	1	1
Add value of Securities - - -							40,578,936	0	0
Cash balance in Bank of England - - -							92,463	2	3
							40,862,640	3	4

(a) Value, inclusive of interest, to 31st December 1881.

National Debt Office,
2nd July 1883.

H. COURT.
Assistant-Comptroller.

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.
1839 -	-	188,921	-	-	-	-	-	£ 313,124	-	188,921	£ 313,124	-
1840 -	-	587,797	211	-	-	-	-	960,975	211	587,797	960,975	206
Average of 5 years { 1841-45	-	2,429,855	313	-	-	-	-	4,937,256	313	2,429,855	4,937,256	414
" 1846-50	-	4,087,708	69	-	-	-	-	7,954,538	69	4,087,708	7,954,538	61
" 1851-55	-	5,219,559	27	-	-	-	-	9,941,316	27	5,219,559	9,941,316	25
" 1856-60	-	6,686,338	28	-	-	-	-	12,762,571	28	6,686,338	12,762,571	28
" 1861-65	-	8,001,127	19	-	-	-	-	16,398,361	19	8,001,127	16,398,361	13
" 1866-70	-	9,588,585	19	-	-	-	-	19,319,707	19	9,588,585	19,319,707	19
1871 -	-	12,062,886	26	-	-	-	-	21,799,583	26	12,062,886	21,799,583	13
1872 -	-	13,984,189	16	-	-	-	-	24,013,747	16	13,984,189	24,013,747	13
1873 -	-	15,118,036	8	-	-	-	-	25,600,089	8	15,118,036	25,600,089	7
1874 -	-	15,900,562	5	-	-	-	-	26,296,441	5	15,900,562	26,296,441	2.5
1875 -	-	16,485,061	3.7	-	-	-	-	26,497,918	3.7	16,485,061	26,497,918	0.7
3 months ended { 31st March 1876	-	4,350,835	-	-	-	-	-	6,901,566	-	4,350,835	6,901,566	-
1876-77	-	17,822,021	8.1	-	-	-	-	27,516,098	8.1	17,822,021	27,516,098	3.8
1877-78	-	18,368,901	3.1	-	-	-	-	27,870,117	3.1	18,368,901	27,870,117	1.4
1878-79	-	17,290,764	Decrease	-	-	-	-	25,911,923	Decrease	17,290,764	25,911,923	Decrease
1879-80	-	16,774,354	" 3.8	-	-	-	-	24,776,331	" 3.8	16,774,354	24,776,331	" 3.4
1880-81	-	16,329,470	" 2.7	-	-	-	-	24,228,763	" 2.7	16,329,470	24,228,763	" 1.3
1881-82	-	14,692,324	" 10.2	-	-	-	-	23,367,672	" 10.2	14,692,324	23,367,672	" 2.3
1882-83	-	14,906,297	" 2.8	-	-	-	-	25,224,769	" 2.8	14,906,297	25,224,769	" 8.7

* These numbers were overvalued 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.

INLAND ORDERS.

Year.	ENGLAND AND WALES.				SCOTLAND.				IRELAND.				UNITED KINGDOM.			
	Number. Amount.	Increase per cent. on Number.	Increase per cent. on Amount.	Number of Money Orders issued to each 100 of population.	Number. Amount.	Increase per cent. on Number.	Increase per cent. on Amount.	Number of Money Orders issued to each 100 of population.	Number. Amount.	Increase per cent. on Number.	Increase per cent. on Amount.	Number of Money Orders issued to each 100 of population.	Number. Amount.	Increase per cent. on Number.	Increase per cent. on Amount.	Number of Money Orders issued to each 100 of population.
1839	142,723	240,003	—	0.9	16,183	25,765	—	0.6	30,015	47,295	—	0.4	188,921	313,124	—	0.7
1840	482,764	802,827	—	3.1	51,526	80,980	—	1.9	53,507	77,107	—	0.7	587,797	900,975	—	2.2
Average of 5 years 1841-45	2,020,977	4,211,885	318	12.3	210,093	385,936	308	7.8	198,785	339,443	271	3.0	2,420,855	4,937,256	313	8.9
1846-50	3,365,969	6,608,684	66	58	374,187	680,966	78	13.3	347,547	585,151	75	7.2	4,087,703	7,954,533	69	14.7
1851-55	4,393,045	8,488,175	30	23.9	418,966	797,863	12	13	407,008	683,277	17	6.6	5,219,559	9,941,316	27	25
1856-60	5,678,297	10,898,412	29	28	524,097	975,289	25	26	484,064	863,863	18	9.6	6,686,368	12,737,504	28	28
1861-65	6,790,296	14,021,737	20	32.9	649,417	1,283,434	24	31	552,414	1,063,170	14	26	8,001,127	16,398,391	19	27.1
1866-70	8,136,538	16,484,950	20	37.2	792,295	1,500,661	22	24.2	636,822	1,274,066	15	16	9,588,585	19,319,707	13	31.2
1871	10,275,875	18,566,317	26	45.1	983,911	1,786,674	24	29.2	803,106	1,446,681	26	14	12,062,886	21,799,583	25	38.2
1872	11,901,482	20,375,179	16	51.6	1,164,639	2,046,062	18	34.3	918,975	1,592,566	14	10	13,984,189	24,013,747	15	43.9
1873	12,863,094	21,629,750	8	55.7	1,273,686	2,210,107	9	37.1	982,546	1,760,212	7	10.5	15,118,636	25,690,069	8	47.1
1874	13,550,011	22,246,625	5	57.3	1,324,415	2,268,799	4	38.2	1,026,136	1,781,017	4.5	1	15,900,562	26,296,441	5	49.7
1875	14,043,014	22,397,716	3.6	58.6	1,397,754	2,309,819	3.3	39.1	1,074,893	1,790,383	4.7	0.5	16,485,661	26,497,918	3.7	50.3
3 months ended 31st March 1876	3,715,657	5,789,805	—	—	346,158	539,009	—	—	289,120	552,632	—	—	4,350,935	6,901,566	—	—
1876-77	15,197,704	25,165,495	8.2	62.7	1,465,177	2,403,632	7.1	41.5	1,160,040	1,945,831	7.9	8.6	17,822,921	27,516,698	8.1	53.9
1877-78	15,697,629	25,392,661	2.8	63.7	1,531,158	2,485,724	4.5	43.7	1,290,981	1,991,732	3.4	2.3	18,368,901	27,870,117	3.1	54.9
1878-79	14,773,390	22,087,603	5.5	59.4	1,432,752	2,286,938	5.1	40.4	*1,064,624	1,457,627	11.3	27.8	17,290,764	25,611,156	8.7	51.1
1879-80	14,313,100	21,088,299	3.1	56.8	1,435,640	2,282,119	1.2	39.5	1,025,014	1,365,913	3.6	15.7	16,774,354	24,777,613	3.7	49.1
1880-81	13,994,701	20,620,213	2.6	54.7	1,413,997	2,291,269	1.5	38.6	980,778	1,371,281	4.3	3.5	16,329,476	24,228,727	2.7	47.4
1881-82	12,519,430	19,891,331	10.1	48.7	1,286,053	2,202,123	9.7	34.3	887,345	1,274,218	9.5	3.3	14,692,828	23,367,107	10.7	42.0
1882-83	12,208,086	21,788,691	2.5	46.2	1,247,744	2,170,807	3.7	33.7	859,467	1,264,265	4.1	8	14,306,297	23,223,763	2.6	40.5

In 1840 the commission on Money Orders was reduced as follows:—
For any sum not exceeding 2*l.*, from 6*d.* to 3*d.*.
For any sum above 2*l.*, and not exceeding 5*l.*, from 1*s.* 6*d.* to 6*d.*.

Rates of Commission up to 1871.

	s.	d.
For sums not exceeding 2 <i>l.</i>	0	8
" above 2 <i>l.</i> , but not exceeding 5 <i>l.</i>	0	6
" above 5 <i>l.</i> , but not exceeding 7 <i>l.</i>	0	6
" above 7 <i>l.</i> , but not exceeding 10 <i>l.</i>	1	0

Rates of Commission from 1871 to 31st December 1877.

	s.	d.
For sums under 10 <i>s.</i>	0	2
" of 10 <i>s.</i> and under 1 <i>l.</i>	0	2
" of 1 <i>l.</i>	0	3
" of 2 <i>l.</i>	0	4
" of 3 <i>l.</i>	0	4
" of 4 <i>l.</i>	0	5
" of 5 <i>l.</i>	0	6
" of 6 <i>l.</i>	0	7
" of 7 <i>l.</i>	0	8
" of 8 <i>l.</i>	0	9
" of 9 <i>l.</i>	0	10
" of 10 <i>l.</i>	0	11
" of 11 <i>l.</i>	0	12
" of 12 <i>l.</i>	0	13
" of 13 <i>l.</i>	0	14
" of 14 <i>l.</i>	0	15
" of 15 <i>l.</i>	0	16
" of 16 <i>l.</i>	0	17
" of 17 <i>l.</i>	0	18
" of 18 <i>l.</i>	0	19
" of 19 <i>l.</i>	0	20
" of 20 <i>l.</i>	0	21
" of 21 <i>l.</i>	0	22
" of 22 <i>l.</i>	0	23
" of 23 <i>l.</i>	0	24
" of 24 <i>l.</i>	0	25
" of 25 <i>l.</i>	0	26
" of 26 <i>l.</i>	0	27
" of 27 <i>l.</i>	0	28
" of 28 <i>l.</i>	0	29
" of 29 <i>l.</i>	0	30
" of 30 <i>l.</i>	0	31
" of 31 <i>l.</i>	0	32
" of 32 <i>l.</i>	0	33
" of 33 <i>l.</i>	0	34
" of 34 <i>l.</i>	0	35
" of 35 <i>l.</i>	0	36
" of 36 <i>l.</i>	0	37
" of 37 <i>l.</i>	0	38
" of 38 <i>l.</i>	0	39
" of 39 <i>l.</i>	0	40
" of 40 <i>l.</i>	0	41
" of 41 <i>l.</i>	0	42
" of 42 <i>l.</i>	0	43
" of 43 <i>l.</i>	0	44
" of 44 <i>l.</i>	0	45
" of 45 <i>l.</i>	0	46
" of 46 <i>l.</i>	0	47
" of 47 <i>l.</i>	0	48
" of 48 <i>l.</i>	0	49
" of 49 <i>l.</i>	0	50
" of 50 <i>l.</i>	0	51
" of 51 <i>l.</i>	0	52
" of 52 <i>l.</i>	0	53
" of 53 <i>l.</i>	0	54
" of 54 <i>l.</i>	0	55
" of 55 <i>l.</i>	0	56
" of 56 <i>l.</i>	0	57
" of 57 <i>l.</i>	0	58
" of 58 <i>l.</i>	0	59
" of 59 <i>l.</i>	0	60
" of 60 <i>l.</i>	0	61
" of 61 <i>l.</i>	0	62
" of 62 <i>l.</i>	0	63
" of 63 <i>l.</i>	0	64
" of 64 <i>l.</i>	0	65
" of 65 <i>l.</i>	0	66
" of 66 <i>l.</i>	0	67
" of 67 <i>l.</i>	0	68
" of 68 <i>l.</i>	0	69
" of 69 <i>l.</i>	0	70
" of 70 <i>l.</i>	0	71
" of 71 <i>l.</i>	0	72
" of 72 <i>l.</i>	0	73
" of 73 <i>l.</i>	0	74
" of 74 <i>l.</i>	0	75
" of 75 <i>l.</i>	0	76
" of 76 <i>l.</i>	0	77
" of 77 <i>l.</i>	0	78
" of 78 <i>l.</i>	0	79
" of 79 <i>l.</i>	0	80
" of 80 <i>l.</i>	0	81
" of 81 <i>l.</i>	0	82
" of 82 <i>l.</i>	0	83
" of 83 <i>l.</i>	0	84
" of 84 <i>l.</i>	0	85
" of 85 <i>l.</i>	0	86
" of 86 <i>l.</i>	0	87
" of 87 <i>l.</i>	0	88
" of 88 <i>l.</i>	0	89
" of 89 <i>l.</i>	0	90
" of 90 <i>l.</i>	0	91
" of 91 <i>l.</i>	0	92
" of 92 <i>l.</i>	0	93
" of 93 <i>l.</i>	0	94
" of 94 <i>l.</i>	0	95
" of 95 <i>l.</i>	0	96
" of 96 <i>l.</i>	0	97
" of 97 <i>l.</i>	0	98
" of 98 <i>l.</i>	0	99
" of 99 <i>l.</i>	0	100

Present Rates of Commission.

	s.	d.
For sums under 10 <i>s.</i>	0	7
" of 10 <i>s.</i> and under 2 <i>l.</i>	0	8
" other sums, as in preceding Table.	0	9

The number of Inland Orders issued in Ireland in 1878-9 was overstated by 100,000.

The great decrease in the number and amount of Inland Orders in Ireland in 1878-9 is mainly attributable to the discontinuance of the use of Money Orders for payment of National School Teachers.

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.
1856	-	£	-	-	3,965	12,961	-	-	3,965	£	-	-
1857	-		-	-	4,744	14,168	19·6	9·3	4,744		19·6	9·3
1858	-		-	-	3,724	10,050	-	-	3,724		-	-
1859	-	2,256	-	-	8,102	22,943	117	128	8,811	25,189	136	150
1860	-	7,726	273	242	13,005	40,256	67·9	75·4	16,254	47,982	84·4	90·4
Average of 1861-65	-	30,326	208	292	45,937	195,816	245	386	54,100	226,142	232	371
5 years	-											
1866-70	-	63,613	97·9	109	106,407	404,104	131	152	122,625	557,717	126	146
1871	-	80,431	22·1	26·4	123,472	520,550	15·9	5·3	143,211	600,981	16·7	7·7
1872	-	84,727	6·5	5·3	133,480	565,849	8·1	8·3	154,512	648,576	7·9	7·9
1873	-	89,002	3·9	5·	154,196	642,527	15·5	13·9	176,060	731,520	13·9	12·8
1874	-	93,261	6·	4·7	149,250	626,885	-	-	172,438	725,156	-	-
1875	-	98,082	6·3	5·1	146,966	603,183	-	-	170,617	701,245	-	-
3 months ended 31st March 1876	-	24,689	-	-	33,068	137,221	-	-	39,404	161,910	-	-
1876-77	-	104,357	10·1	-	140,436	587,470	-	-	167,597	671,827	-	-
1877-78	-	109,466	8·2	4·8	146,346	598,915	4·	0·4	175,749	679,371	4·8	1·1
1878-79	-	103,784	0·5	-	155,290	605,032	6·	6·2	184,819	711,816	5·	4·7
1879-80	-	113,242	6·8	6·	172,068	650,850	10·8	7·5	203,600	784,002	10·2	7·3
1880-81	-	122,514	8·	8·1	187,837	690,405	9·1	6·	221,562	812,979	9·	6·4
1881-82	-	121,210	·9	1· decrease	210,554	771,515	19·	12·	244,976	892,725	10·4	9·8
1882-83	-	140,172	5·3	3·3 increase	240,938	912,986	14·	16·3	277,063	1,043,198	13·	17·

APPENDIX K.—continued.

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 Packet 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 Colonies.	Issued in the U.K.	Issued in Colonies.
1873	£ 1,207	23,308	£ 20,921	143,014	£ 33,849	163,138	£ 2,806	11,231	£ 2,073	57,725	£ 6,036	48,700	£ 2,900	91,126	£ 8,937	104,225	£ 80,002	642,527
1874	1,063	39,808	28,865	140,364	38,232	135,083	2,934	15,496	2,931	44,234	7,322	58,072	3,532	107,338	8,502	88,720	93,361	629,806
1875	1,205	31,808	29,897	140,197	38,317	110,949	3,178	22,406	2,080	46,189	9,307	66,563	3,220	98,406	9,939	86,574	98,063	603,183
1876-77	1,601	27,444	30,070	143,957	40,022	93,803	3,435	31,839	3,702	43,176	10,284	67,310	3,879	78,819	10,705	75,082	104,358	567,470
1877-78	1,609	19,708	30,617	168,331	40,154	82,512	4,116	35,962	5,166	63,362	10,319	73,064	4,118	66,441	13,357	69,635	109,456	569,915
1878-79	1,816	27,663	30,545	168,754	36,463	81,729	4,441	39,660	4,310	62,299	9,738	85,033	4,383	63,256	14,569	74,746	106,784	605,032
1879-80	2,412	41,222	32,943	167,712	37,931	84,256	4,694	49,543	4,910	61,368	11,972	95,258	3,892	65,427	14,466	66,064	113,340	650,830
1880-81	2,925	34,907	37,006	167,772	37,909	90,536	5,313	58,281	6,532	80,384	14,800	98,578	4,300	66,813	13,740	57,198	122,514	690,465
1881-82	3,358	46,463	34,906	161,657	36,069	110,608	7,300	85,964	7,103	66,836	13,934	90,834	3,526	60,483	12,731	61,554	131,210	771,513
1882-83	2,005	33,301	33,945	154,556	35,310	102,157	9,871	111,098	9,864	110,023	14,083	90,630	4,560	76,186	11,461	31,566	130,173	913,966

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—*continued*.

Year.	Belgium.		Denmark.		Egypt.		France.		Germany.		Italy.		Japan.	
	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 Japan.
1873 -	£ 10,738	£ 15,652	£ 2,176	£ 2,005	£ -	£ -	£ 8,688	£ 1,827	£ 39,331	£ 30,240	£ 7,067	£ 4,897	£ -	£ -
1874 -	£ 11,356	£ 14,621	£ 2,800	£ 2,882	£ 44	£ 1,381	£ 13,530	£ 5,519	£ 50,070	£ 38,369	£ 9,803	£ 6,214	£ -	£ -
1875 -	£ 11,400	£ 15,017	£ 2,995	£ 4,219	£ 128	£ 1,953	£ 36,891	£ 18,403	£ 53,991	£ 43,044	£ 11,166	£ 6,558	£ -	£ -
1876-77 -	£ 13,129	£ 16,772	£ 3,429	£ 4,022	£ 74	£ 1,845	£ 50,940	£ 38,005	£ 74,668	£ 53,778	£ 16,274	£ 7,377	£ -	£ -
1877-78 -	£ 12,924	£ 15,286	£ 4,288	£ 5,461	£ 132	£ 2,754	£ 69,924	£ 43,156	£ 86,480	£ 66,992	£ 20,059	£ 8,417	£ -	£ -
1878-79 -	£ 13,294	£ 16,019	£ 3,890	£ 6,059	£ 965	£ 7,971	£ 83,037	£ 65,358	£ 96,673	£ 61,606	£ 21,197	£ 8,440	£ -	£ -
1879-80 -	£ 13,476	£ 16,144	£ 4,110	£ 5,693	£ 627	£ 9,106	£ 78,343	£ 79,149	£ 105,198	£ 71,003	£ 22,014	£ 10,407	£ -	£ -
1880-81 -	£ 13,823	£ 21,925	£ 4,806	£ 5,674	£ 738	£ 7,691	£ 79,019	£ 90,380	£ 110,691	£ 71,960	£ 23,362	£ 11,254	£ -	£ -
1881-82 -	£ 13,440	£ 21,792	£ 4,625	£ 7,308	£ 597	£ 8,589	£ 80,838	£ 92,782	£ 118,279	£ 79,614	£ 26,472	£ 12,195	£ 71	£ 417
1882-83 -	£ 15,005	£ 23,349	£ 5,825	£ 9,424	£ 1,394	£ 20,036	£ 83,449	£ 98,669	£ 128,184	£ 85,406	£ 28,687	£ 13,762	£ 183	£ 896

continued.

Year.	Netherlands.		Norway.		Sweden.		Switzerland.		United States.		TOTAL.	
	Issued in the U.K.	Issued in Netherlands.	Issued in the U.K.	Issued in Norway.	Issued in the U.K.	Issued in Sweden.	Issued in the U.K.	Issued in Switzerland.	Issued in the U.K.	Issued in U.S.	Issued in the U.K.	Issued Abroad.
1873 -	£ 3,107	£ 4,000	£ -	£ -	£ -	£ -	£ 11,510	£ 5,403	£ 48,370	£ 275,453	£ 131,053	£ 339,613
1874 -	£ 3,595	£ 3,831	£ -	£ -	£ -	£ -	£ 12,742	£ 5,052	£ 60,336	£ 240,886	£ 169,417	£ 318,668
1875 -	£ 4,809	£ 5,064	£ -	£ -	£ -	£ -	£ 13,006	£ 5,504	£ 62,854	£ 186,197	£ 202,900	£ 291,020
1876-77 -	£ 5,481	£ 6,887	£ 2,230	£ 1,115	£ -	£ -	£ 16,419	£ 6,483	£ 75,695	£ 150,464	£ 260,259	£ 294,743
1877-78 -	£ 5,741	£ 9,674	£ 2,712	£ 1,476	£ -	£ -	£ 16,792	£ 6,633	£ 73,180	£ 157,707	£ 291,128	£ 312,888
1878-79 -	£ 5,879	£ 10,906	£ 3,947	£ 2,037	£ -	£ -	£ 17,652	£ 6,900	£ 71,069	£ 176,382	£ 317,713	£ 361,659
1879-80 -	£ 5,802	£ 9,631	£ 5,069	£ 2,084	£ -	£ -	£ 18,797	£ 9,563	£ 70,490	£ 290,841	£ 323,927	£ 506,670
1880-81 -	£ 6,231	£ 10,678	£ 6,782	£ 2,469	£ -	£ -	£ 18,315	£ 11,239	£ 72,051	£ 392,782	£ 335,806	£ 629,032
1881-82 -	£ 6,549	£ 12,282	£ 8,124	£ 2,031	£ 1,687	£ 1,364	£ 19,096	£ 12,481	£ 80,267	£ 522,288	£ 360,054	£ 773,123
1882-83 -	£ 7,358	£ 13,328	£ 10,602	£ 2,279	£ 5,640	£ 3,416	£ 19,313	£ 12,790	£ 96,711	£ 647,097	£ 400,420	£ 1,080,542

APPENDIX L.

Postal Orders.

TABLE showing the NUMBER and VALUE of POSTAL ORDERS issued to the PUBLIC from the commencement on the 1st January 1881 to the 31st March 1883.

YEAR.	NUMBER OF EACH CLASS OF ORDERS.												TOTAL.	
	s. d. 1 0	s. d. 1 6	s. d. 2 6	s. d. 5 0	s. d. 7 6	s. d. 10 0	s. d. 12 6	s. d. 15 0	s. d. 17 6	s. d. 20 0	No.	Value.		
Quarter ended 31 March 1881	62,589	48,994	62,041	124,147	40,381	122,745	17,953	31,736	11,091	125,312	646,989	292,150 10 0		
1881-82	-	452,823	362,094	437,096	853,306	262,920	808,736	110,691	60,611	911,978	4,462,920	2,006,917 19 0		
1882-83	-	948,678	759,105	825,198	1,463,620	449,229	1,330,098	181,832	97,345	1,606,454	7,980,328	3,451,284 0 6		
TOTALS	-	1,464,090	1,170,198	1,324,335	2,441,073	752,530	2,261,579	310,476	169,047	2,643,744	13,090,237	5,750,352 9 6		

RATES OF POUNDAGE.																					
Poundage.		$\frac{1}{2}$ d.		1d.				2d.													
		s.	d.	s.	d.	s.	d.	s.	d.	s.	d.	s.	d.								
Amount of Order	-	1	0	1	6	2	6	5	0	7	6	10	0	12	6	15	0	17	6	20	0

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

Year.	ANNUITIES.										LIFE INSURANCES.						
	Immediate.					Deferred.					Contracts entered into.	Receipts.	Payments.	Amount of Claims on Death and Surrender.			
	Contracts entered into.	Receipts.	Payments.	Contracts entered into.	Receipts.	Payments.*	Fees received on Immediate and Deferred Annuity Contracts, the Charges on Monthly Allowances being included in the Premium.	Amount of Insurances.	No.	Amount of Premiums.					No.		
No.	Amount of Annuities.	Amount of Purchase Money.	No.	Amount of Annuities.	No.	Amount of Annuities.	Amount of Purchase Money and Monthly Allowances.	No.	Amount of Premium.	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	67	1,342	—	139	547	40,547	1,076	1,165	—	—	—	—
1866	196	4,827	48,829	280	3,183	297	2,845	8	94	621	47,261	3,782	2,838	1	70	1	70
1867	268	5,966	63,068	725	8,042	313	2,392	8	131	364	26,989	5,598	3,580	5	318	5	318
1868	323	6,396	70,775	1,286	14,112	40	2,505	16	248	350	26,781	6,468	4,192	11	734	11	734
1869	352	6,811	74,401	1,895	19,925	385	2,092	10	380	422	32,670	7,814	5,044	10	537	10	537
1870†	306	6,120	67,738	2,529	26,099	514	3,529	9	346	385	31,254	9,274	5,877	39†	1,676	39†	1,676
1871	360	7,272	81,839	3,125	32,056	502	2,840	16	854	358	27,695	9,891	6,482	59	1,744	59	1,744
1872	1,010‡	9,870	97,269	3,737	38,464	480	2,898	16	618	737	55,982	11,659	7,420	54	2,184	54	2,184
1873	1,344‡	10,290	105,877	6,257	47,374	583	3,925	19	1,397	396	33,073	13,206	8,279	76	2,516	76	2,516
1874	1,814‡	12,259	115,021	9,492	56,888	583	4,827	19	1,454	278	21,622	13,450	8,615	92	3,766	92	3,766
1875	582	7,926	85,781	11,129	63,641	661	3,543	10	526	370	32,022	14,549	9,500	84	3,127	84	3,127
1876	729	10,013	109,054	11,697	69,240	639	2,691	52	872	270	22,875	14,101	9,238	101	4,380	101	4,380
1877	745	10,933	120,255	12,444	76,612	687	4,747	87	961	393	33,444	15,140	10,108	98	3,252	98	3,252
1878	769	11,375	126,227	13,190	84,219	654	4,932	108	2,290	229	19,698	15,833	10,605	137	4,351	137	4,351
1879	964	15,262	167,625	13,873	92,013	628	4,644	114	2,112	226	18,870	15,227	10,427	139	5,288	139	5,288
1880	892	13,249	146,562	14,933	101,734	621	4,406	119	1,570	258	20,378	15,379	10,506	125	3,886	125	3,886
1881	956	16,434	184,737	15,898	111,211	686	5,243	131	1,763	300	23,900	15,883	10,967	114	3,675	114	3,675
1882	789	13,435	155,828	16,729	122,125	772	6,440	156	2,327	234	18,447	16,039	11,069	141	5,694	141	5,694

* 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 1872, 1873, and 1874 arose from Contracts entered into on the lives of Masters and Seamen of the Mercantile Marine, through the Board of Trade.

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 1882, and the Number and Amount of Contracts in existence on the 31st December 1882.

	CONTRACTS ENTERED INTO.						TOTAL.					
	From 17 April 1865 to 31 December 1881.			From 1 Jan. 1882 to 31 December 1882.								
	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 1882, viz. :—												
Immediate Annuities - -	11,646	156,606	4	8	799	18,435	8	0	12,445	170,041	12	8
Deferred Annuities and Monthly Allowances, Money not returnable - -	268	4,937	11	6	31	561	7	0	299	5,498	18	6
Deferred Annuities and Monthly Allowances, Money returnable - - - -	521	11,068	17	0	41	941	3	0	562	12,009	0	0
Contracts for Sums payable at Death entered into from the commencement of business on the 17th April 1865 to the 31st December 1882 - - - - -	6,524	515,078	14	3	234	18,446	11	1	6,758	533,525	5	4
Contracts for Annuities in existence on the 31st December 1882, viz. :—												
Immediate Annuities - -	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	8,793	130,644	7	10
Deferred Annuities and Monthly Allowances, Money not returnable - -	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	267	4,827	2	6
Deferred Annuities and Monthly Allowances, Money returnable - - - -	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	813	6,789	10	0
Contracts for Sums payable at Death, in existence on the 31st December 1882 - - - -	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	4,615	371,540	9	9

APPENDIX N.

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 1883.

NAMES OF OFFICES.	England and Wales.		Scotland.		Ireland.		Total.	
	Weight in Ounces.	Value.	Weight in Ounces.	Value.	Weight in Ounces.	Value.	Weight in Ounces.	Value.
Adjutant General	oz.	£	oz.	£	oz.	£	oz.	£
Admiralty, Lords Commis- sioners of the	1,283,431	11,178	—	—	121,156	563	1,283,431	11,178
Army Medical Board	—	—	—	—	74,141	345	74,141	345
Attorney General	8,337	35	—	—	—	—	8,337	35
Australian Exhibition, Com- missioners of	3,420	14	—	—	—	—	3,420	14
Board of Education	—	—	32,269	134	691,661	2,928	723,930	3,062
Board of Supervision	—	—	35,127	146	—	—	35,127	146
Board of Trade	642,666	2,911	—	—	—	—	642,666	2,911
Board of Works	—	—	—	—	437,737	1,981	437,737	1,981
Census Office	47,753	207	—	—	—	—	47,753	207
Chancellor, The Lord	22,975	100	—	—	—	—	22,975	100
Charity Commissioners	108,127	481	—	—	—	—	108,127	481
Chelsea Hospital	23,622	112	—	—	—	—	23,622	112
Chief and Under Secretary, Dublin Castle	—	—	—	—	355,672	1,581	355,672	1,581
Civil Service Commissioners	342,746	1,532	—	—	—	—	342,746	1,532
Clerk of the Parliaments, House of Lords	568,544	592	—	—	—	—	568,544	592
Colonial Office	469,846	6,780	—	—	—	—	469,846	6,780
Commander of the Forces	—	—	—	—	15,923	74	15,923	74
Commissariat Department	—	—	—	—	214,698	952	214,698	952
Constabulary Office	—	—	—	—	652,036	2,863	652,036	2,863
Convict Prisons, Directors of	—	—	—	—	197,101	883	197,101	883
Council Office	1,467,331	6,561	—	—	—	—	1,467,331	6,561
Court of Chancery	65,318	303	—	—	—	—	65,318	303
Court of Probate	171,409	768	—	—	—	—	171,409	768
Crown Office	—	—	102,872	428	—	—	102,872	428
Crown Office, House of Lords	5,093	17	—	—	—	—	5,093	17
Crown and Hanaper	—	—	—	—	10,649	49	10,649	49
Customs	539,374	2,344	—	—	28,829	135	568,203	2,479
Exchequer and Audit Department	269,144	1,245	—	—	—	—	269,144	1,245
Fisheries Exhibition, Commis- sioners of	83,830	274	—	—	—	—	83,830	274
Foreign Office	252,678	3,619	—	—	—	—	252,678	3,619
Home Office	1,210,569	4,037	—	—	—	—	1,210,569	4,037
Inland Revenue	5,833,072	21,631	590,331	2,043	2,356,050	10,161	8,779,453	33,835
Inspector of Fisheries	—	—	—	—	130,265	583	130,265	583
Insurances and Annuities	11,255	5	—	—	—	—	11,255	5
Irish Office	110,037	442	—	—	—	—	110,037	442
Land Commissioners	51,568	235	—	—	—	—	51,568	235
Loan Fund Board	—	—	—	—	5,548	25	5,548	25
Local Government Board	1,431,256	5,961	—	—	384,884	1,714	1,816,140	7,675
Lord Lieutenant and Private Secretary	—	—	—	—	21,630	103	21,630	103
Mercantile Marine Board	59,852	269	—	—	—	—	59,852	269
Merchant Seamen, Registrar of	495,323	2,236	—	—	—	—	495,323	2,236
National Debt Office	31,513	146	—	—	—	—	31,513	146
Ordnance Survey	—	—	—	—	39,727	185	39,727	185
Paymaster of Civil Services	—	—	—	—	35,623	166	35,623	166
Paymaster General	52,433	289	—	—	—	—	52,433	289
Public Record Office	—	—	—	—	8,699	41	8,699	41
Quartermaster General	—	—	—	—	33,397	155	33,397	155
Queen's Remembrancer	—	—	10,954	45	—	—	10,954	45
Register House	—	—	50,497	200	—	—	50,497	200
Registrar General	580,890	1,637	365,688	625	375,287	1,696	1,321,865	3,958
Registrar of Friendly Societies	119,432	519	10,769	45	11,501	53	141,702	617
Registrar Petty Sessions, Clerks	—	—	—	—	128,981	636	128,981	636
Registrar of Trade Marks	20,478	75	—	—	—	—	20,478	75
Science and Art Department	1,220,223	5,232	—	—	—	—	1,220,223	5,232
Solicitor General	7,462	31	—	—	—	—	7,462	31
Stationery Office	169,458	370	—	—	94,589	423	264,047	793
Treasury	391,369	1,712	—	—	—	—	391,369	1,712
Valuation Office	—	—	—	—	54,128	252	54,128	252
War Office	3,485,436	10,246	31,663	141	100,502	468	3,617,601	19,855
Woods and Forests, Commis- sioners of	71,221	307	—	—	—	—	71,221	307
Works and Buildings, Commis- sioners of	190,020	786	—	—	—	—	190,020	786
TOTALS	21,908,511	104,239	1,230,170	3,807	6,590,414	29,015	29,729,095	137,061

APPENDIX O.

Private Wires.

STATEMENT showing the NUMBER OF PRIVATE WIRE CONTRACTS, MILES OF WIRE, and INSTRUMENTS, and the Net Additional Rentals in each Financial Year since the Transfer.

Financial Year.	Net Increase in each Financial Year.				Totals at the end of each Financial Year.			
	Contracts.	Miles.	Instruments.	Rentals.	Contracts.	Miles.	Instruments.	Rentals.†
				£ s. d.				£ s. d.
*At the 31st March 1870	-	-	-	-	732	2,525	1,773	20,992 10 6
1870-71	44	62	198	1,586 6 0	776	2,587	1,971	22,573 16 6
1871-72	86	270	166	3,530 11 0	862	2,857	2,137	26,109 7 6
1872-73	165	674	399	6,590 8 6	1,027	3,531	2,536	32,699 16 0
1873-74	239	702	833	8,520 12 0	1,266	4,233	3,369	41,230 8 0
1874-75	176	637	807	6,675 14 0	1,442	4,890	4,176	47,396 2 0
1875-76	140	351	340	3,874 1 0	1,582	5,241	4,516	51,770 3 0
1876-77	105	466	389	4,581 18 0	1,687	5,707	4,855	56,352 1 0
1877-78	143	273	444	3,770 4 0	1,830	5,980	5,299	60,122 5 0
1878-79	59	402	357	3,183 5 6	1,889	6,382	5,656	63,305 10 6
1879-80	-	1,218	353	3,455 17 1	1,899	7,600	6,009	66,761 7 7
1880-81	56	1,455	317	7,771 9 2	1,945	9,055	6,326	74,532 16 9
1881-82	293	2,000	656	14,203 6 0	2,238	11,055	6,982	88,736 2 9
1882-83	452	1,384	766	12,787 18 6	2,690	12,439	7,748	101,523 16 3

* Contracts inherited from the Telegraph Companies and those made by the Post Office between the 29th January and the 31st March 1870.

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

APPENDIX P. Inland Revenue Licenses.

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

Year.	Brewers.		Dogs.		Male Servants at 15s. each.		Carriages.		Horse Dealers at 12s. 10s. 6d. each.		Horses and Mules at 10s. 6d. each.		Armorial Bearings.		Guns at 10s. each.		Game.		Game Keepers at 40s. each.	Total Number.	Revenue.
	At 9s. each.	At 6s. each.	At 5s. each.	At 7s. 6d. each.	At 15s. each.	At 15s. each.	At 42s. each.	At 15s. each.	At 12s. 10s. 6d. each.	At 10s. 6d. each.	At 10s. 6d. each.	At 10s. 6d. each.	At 42s. each.	At 21s. each.	At 10s. each.	At 10s. each.	Red at 60s.	Blue and Green at 40s.			
1869 -	-	-	-	473,218	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	473,218	118,204 10 0
1870 -	-	-	-	524,032	-	74,607	32,020	73,171	10	203,351	6,171	10,219	40,742	-	-	-	-	-	-	964,323	460,027 16 6
1871 -	-	-	-	552,229	-	70,846	31,887	73,111	10	201,527	5,945	10,303	82,161	-	-	-	-	-	-	1,008,038	473,211 15 6
1872 -	-	-	-	573,728	-	71,294	32,978	74,412	10	203,914	5,943	11,090	82,259	-	-	-	-	-	-	1,037,608	483,439 9 0
1873 -	-	-	-	615,342	-	69,286	32,930	74,651	8	204,562	5,756	10,762	70,671	-	-	-	-	-	-	1,085,938	493,157 0 0
1874 -	-	-	-	685,636	-	68,326	34,094	75,495	8	203,393	5,836	10,943	79,451	4	2	-	-	-	-	1,163,207	521,249 14 6
1875 -	-	-	-	755,408	-	67,849	34,964	77,531	-	-	5,741	10,963	86,878	10	-	-	-	-	2	1,089,341	433,346 8 0
Quarter ended 31 Mar. 1876 }	-	-	-	680,730	-	67,662	33,340	72,617	-	-	5,603	10,704	3,266	-	-	-	-	-	-	873,692	370,078 15 0
	-	-	-	847,699	-	61,204	36,060	81,107	-	-	5,713	11,279	86,554	14	-	-	-	-	1	1,130,241	462,837 15 0
1876-77 -	-	-	-	930,056	-	57,152	37,127	82,783	-	-	5,654	11,835	85,859	11	-	-	-	-	1	1,210,483	493,700 7 0
1877-78 -	-	-	-	82,957	668,918	53,355	37,060	80,998	-	-	5,656	11,834	92,208	14	-	-	-	-	-	1,033,500	520,308 11 0
1878-79 -	-	-	-	-	652,063	62,702	46,653	109,034	-	-	6,403	14,471	87,728	7	2	-	-	2	2	979,335	543,923 5 6
1879-80 -	-	-	-	-	633,969	79,253	59,784	133,369	-	-	7,806	18,443	88,223	5,233	717	-	-	610	610	1,101,108	645,561 16 6
1880-81 -	68,176	-	-	-	646,302	84,903	65,754	156,704	-	-	8,386	20,030	91,507	8,031	1,206	-	-	768	768	1,176,834	703,181 8 0
1881-82 -	6,655	96,423	-	-	658,060	93,722	74,212	173,171	-	-	9,008	21,630	102,250	13,887	1,757	-	-	1,480	1,480	1,243,457	774,117 16 0
1882-83 -	6,587	84,793	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-

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

APPENDIX Q.

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

Year.	EXPENDITURE.													
	COST OF COLLECTION AND DELIVERY, OF MANAGEMENT, AND OF MONEY ORDER AND POSTAL ORDER BUSINESS.					COST OF CONVEYANCE OF MAILS.								
	Salaries, Wages, Pensions, Travelling Allowances, Pountage on Sale of Stamps, Commission on Money Order and Postal Order Business, Cost of Uniform Clothing, of Medical Attendance, of Substitutes during Holidays or Sickness, and Amount of Official Postage, Law Charges, and Incidental Expenses.	Manufacture of Postage Stamps, Post Cards, and Stamped Newspaper Wrappers.	Stationery.	Buildings and Repairs, Rents, Rates, Taxes, Fuel, and Light.	Total Cost of Collection, Delivery, and Management, and of Money Order and Postal Order Business.	Conveyance by Coaches, Carts, and Omnibuses.	Conveyance by Railways.	Mail Bags and Boxes, Tolls, and Ferryage, Apparatus for Exchange of Buses conveyed by Railway, and Miscellaneous Expenses.	Conveyance of Mails by Private Ships under Contract, and by private Ships.	Conveyance of Mails over Isthmuses of Suez and Panama and in other Foreign Parts, and Salaries of Admiralty Agents and other Officers in charge of Foreign and Colonial Mails.	Total Cost of Conveyance.	Conveyance of Savings Bank Correspondence.	Net Cost of Conveyance.	Total Cost of Post Office Service.
1873	1,774,792	68,170	37,272	132,307	2,010,451	147,877	644,179	23,970	944,896	21,303	1,782,298	—	1,782,298	8,792,679
1874	1,874,438	70,000	37,420	168,855	2,130,713	157,008	649,613	23,865	915,580 (a)	18,434	1,764,590	—	1,764,590	8,912,213
1875	1,941,794	86,420	42,465	142,881	2,213,470	162,321	663,957	25,435	835,595 (b)	16,922	1,707,421	—	1,707,421	8,950,891
Quarter ended 31st Mar. 1876	406,615	21,656	12,614	44,550	575,435	40,403	169,105	7,209	207,141	4,029	427,587	—	427,587	1,003,322
1876-7	2,045,876	92,101	48,925	206,483	2,393,475	171,370	684,465	24,241	779,632	16,823	1,676,581	—	1,676,581	4,070,066
1877-8	2,116,715	96,697	43,160	179,912	2,436,424	175,433	692,140	25,048	679,425 (d)	16,714	1,586,761	32,565 (c)	1,554,196	3,960,620
1878-9	2,177,569	103,640	46,012	156,963	2,483,184	177,748	697,069	25,843	684,937	16,149	1,601,766	34,874 (f)	1,566,892	3,840,076
1879-80	2,243,412	108,151	43,588	109,238	2,504,389	181,703	701,070	24,737	664,620	16,992	1,588,222	31,853	1,556,369	4,000,758
1880-81	2,281,551	101,302	46,432	145,951	2,575,236	184,416	707,436	25,327	665,446	16,450	1,602,075	38,752	1,563,323	4,133,659
1881-82	2,435,676	107,862	44,244	152,113	2,737,895	186,976	714,124	32,696	687,875	16,425	1,587,496	38,675	1,548,761	4,266,690
1882-83	2,613,461	117,765	39,789	207,273	2,978,777	190,542	732,821	39,495	693,879	14,716	1,602,253	35,632	1,566,621	4,545,368

(a) 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 Port de Galie into their own hands in the year 1874.

(b) 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 1876.

(c) These sums include 69,892, 53,874, and 25,216, paid towards the purchase of the site of the Manchester New Post Office in the years 1874-7, 1877-8, and 1878-9 respectively.

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

(e) No charge was made in respect of the Cost of the Conveyance of the Post Office Savings Bank Correspondence from 1st April 1898 to 31st March 1877 inclusive.

(f) The arrears in respect of the Cost of Savings Bank Correspondence from 1st April 1898 to 31st March 1877 inclusive, viz., 234,494, were charged to the Savings Bank Department in the year 1879-80.

Gross and Net Revenue from Postage, Money Orders and Postal Orders in the last Ten Years.

Year.	Gross Revenue from Letters, Post Cards, Newspapers, and Books.	Commission.		Unclaimed Money Orders.	Total Postal Revenue.	Total Cost of Post Office Service.	Net Revenue.
		Money Order.	Postal Order.				
1873	£ 5,134,316	208,037	-	£ 5,167	£ 5,342,040	£ 3,792,679	£ 1,555,361.
1874	5,531,022	215,463	-	5,116	5,701,600	3,915,313	1,530,387
1875	5,590,535 (a)	219,197	-	5,300	5,815,032	3,920,301	1,894,141
Quarter ended 31st March 1876	1,280,951	56,640	-	1,270	1,338,361 (b)	1,003,323	335,539
1876	6,762,053	229,303	-	5,731	6,997,072	4,070,006	1,947,066
1876-7	5,798,901	242,463	-	6,048	5,990,029	3,906,692	2,056,662
1877-8	6,010,306	258,063	-	6,051	6,274,450	3,840,076	2,434,374
1878-9	6,800,750	251,569	-	6,146	6,858,445	4,060,768	2,497,687
1879-80	6,478,046	246,033	-	4,948	6,733,427 (d)	4,135,050	2,597,768
1880-81	6,770,232	228,947	3,750 (c)	3,764	7,027,000	4,294,596	2,741,004
1881-82	7,051,082	317,686	23,637	3,900	7,390,860	4,545,398	2,765,603
1882-83			44,492				
Average Annual Net Revenue of first period of Five Years		second period of Five Years		-	-	-	£1,833,398
Ditto				-	-	-	£2,605,379

(a) The Postage collected on Australian Correspondence in this country from the beginning of the year 1874 was agreed to be handed over to the Australian Colonies, as part of an arrangement whereby a considerable saving in the cost of the Packet Service was effected; but the Australian accounts, in which credit for the Postage in question was given, were not entered in the books of the Post Office before the year 1876, thus causing the reduction of revenue consequent on the arrangement first to appear in that year.

(b) The amount of Postal Revenue proper to the Quarter ended 31st March 1876 was 1,497,830*l.*, the amount entered in the Post Office Books having been reduced by the sum of 138,969*l.*, through a change in the system of bringing Postage Stamps to account. The actual Revenue, however, was not affected thereby.

(c) Postal Orders were first issued on 1st January 1881.

(d) Postal Revenue as per Finance Accounts - 7,293,335*l.*

Add Unclaimed Money Orders - 3,800*l.*

Extra Receipts - 3,825*l.*

7,623*l.*

7,300,960*l.*

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. (c)	Working Expenses charged to the Telegraph Vote. (c)	Net Revenue.
							To Cable Companies. (b)	For Portage and Message Money refunded. (i)			
	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£
1870 (2 months.)	—	—	—	—	—	107,479	5,300	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	159,885
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	1,427,812	416,475	27,871	1,083,466	967,790(e)	115,676
1875	1,448,823	58,478	50,849	5,212	13,285	1,576,647	410,770(f)	28,798	1,137,079	1,077,347(g)	59,782
1876	1,479,477	58,165	52,884	6,896	26,416	1,523,838	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(j)	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	1,716,728	261,861	2,378	1,452,489	1,111,483	341,006
1881	1,663,251	85,031	67,747	13,737	17,960	1,847,736	234,103	2,716	1,610,907	1,242,092	368,815
1882	1,697,552	87,233	72,481	25,090	13,644	1,896,000	262,493	3,064	1,630,443	1,365,683	264,810
1883	1,781,617	97,989	84,429	29,517	15,515	2,009,067	265,860	3,144	1,740,063(l)	1,504,493	235,570

(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 64,000*l*.

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

(f) Arrears amounting to 30,000*l* were paid in this year.

(g) Pensions of redundant officers of Telegraph Companies amounting to 41,602*l* were for the first time charged to the Telegraph Vote. Of this amount 24,000*l* 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 69,942*l* 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

Add Extra Receipts

Value of old Stores, &c. sold by other Departments

1,740,063*l*

27,007*l*

1,767,070*l*

1,108,000*l*

APPENDIX T.

Expenditure in relation to Telegraphs.

Year.	EXPENDITURE.						
	Working Ex- penses charged to the Tele- graph Vote, according to the Appropria- tion Account.	Manufacture and Issue of Stamps used on Telegrams.	Stationery.	Buildings.	Auditing of Telegraph Accounts by Exchequer and Audit Depart- ment.	Rates and Contributions in lieu of Rates paid by Treasury.	Total Cost of Telegraph Service.
1880-81	-	£ 1,242,092	£ 1,938	£ 23,911	£ 38,663	£ 1,146	£ 1,308,454
1881-82	-	£ 1,365,633	£ 710	£ 22,118	£ 49,916	£ 1,353	£ 1,440,498
1882-83	-	£ 1,504,493	£ 741	£ 22,474	£ 54,831	£ 1,561	£ 1,585,013

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