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TENTH REPORT

OF

THE POSTMASTER GENERAL,

ÒN

THE POST OFFICE.

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



LONDON:

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

1864.

9267.

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TENTH REPORT.

To the Right Honourable the Lords Commissioners of Her Majesty's Treasury.

MY LORDS,

The progress of the Post Office, which must be measured partly by the accommodation which it affords to the public and partly by the extent to which the public avail themselves of that accommodation, has been noted and described annually in the reports which have been presented to your Lordships by my

predecessors and myself during the past nine years.

I propose in this, the Tenth Report, to follow a somewhat different plan, and to review the progress of the department during the year 1863, and also during the 10 years over which this series of reports has extended, in the belief that by so doing I shall be able to give your Lordships a clearer and more striking description of the improvements which have taken place during the period, and better means for judging of their effect and value than it has been possible to give in reports which have followed each other in such quick succession, and so closely upon the improvements themselves.

I propose also to show what has been the progress of the Post Office in each of the great divisions of the kingdom, and in each of the principal centres of trade and population, in the hope that this description will be very acceptable to those who believe that the progress of the Post Office at once promotes and marks the growth of commerce and the spread of education. It is by the preparation of the statistical information which has been required to carry out this change of plan

that the production of this Report has been delayed.

The following tables, with the remarks which I shall have to make upon them, and with some further information on other parts of Post Office management and business, will afford a tolerably complete view of the progress of the Post Office during the 10 years from 1854 to 1863, in the London district; in each of 106 principal postal districts of England and Wales; in the remainder of England and Wales; in Scotland, and in Ireland.

They also show the increase in 1863 over 1854, under each head, and in each of the postal districts or divisions of the kingdom.

A. POSTAL DISTRICTS.	Nu Inha	nber of bited	45 B	B. pod edina lation.	Recep	nber of otacles etters.	Deli	mber of veries illy.	Letters	Number A of delivered Year.	Number of Lotters i.e. of Letters in the District for in the District in 1863.	Popula Num	ertion of ters to ation, a aber of s to eat vidual.
	1854.	1863.	1854.	1863.	1854.	1863.	1854.	1863.	1854.	8 1863. 3	Estimated Nu Letters, t.c posted in th Delivery in the Year 1866	1854.	1863
London application	382,949	445,787	2,831,950	3,316,932	471	1,045		4	103,000,000	161,000,000	76,000,000	36	45
Ashford .	3,003	4,461	16,121	23,010	16	28	2	3	298,116	530,842	66,355	- 18	12 23
Ashton-under-Lyne -	15,224	18,350	81,691	92,921	8	14	2	2	514,865	555,672	39,690	1 6	6
Barnsley .	9,209	11,434	46,768	56,942	14	21	2	2	480,424	664,976	73,886	I 10	57 11
Bath	26,624	27,401	143,986	141,965	70	106	3	3	2,693,080	4,031,014	836,649	018	28
Bedford -	7,588	8,269	37,222	39,512	19	31	2	3	469,729	788,450	76,960	12	₹ 50
Birkenhead	9,118	11,835	59,103	79,049	23	42	3	3	1,201,408	2,059,473	257,434	20	10 26
Birmingham	67,140	86,591	339,150	432,855	56	131	3	4	7,914,000	12,197,000	8,357,744	23	17 28
Blackburn	19,420	22.678	107,902	122,645	16	23	2	2	787,527	1,253,408	125,340	- 7	SE 10
Blandford	6,425	6,561	31,794	31,467	33	42	3	3	380,523	583,882	62,400	12	₹ 18
Bolton .	20,449	26,226	111,941	135,505	15	38	2	3	792,491	1,509,482	188,685	1.7	# £ 33
Boston	9,234	10,518	44,767	49,499	20	32	2	2	595,907	883,584	126,226	₹13	₹ 17
Bradford, Yorkshire +	29,024	28,998	150,722	132,954	23	34	3	3	2,188,000	8,555,000	592,500	- 14	13-26
Bridgewater	9,309	9,931	46,810	48,094	25	40	3	4	759,980	969,930	150,800	- 16	15 20
Brighton	12,439	15,308	78,942	94,947	19	27	3	3	3,050,814	4,590,349	353,103	138	48
Bristol - · ·	39,237	43,763	231,718	254,122	94	123	3	3	7,223,000	7,608,000	1,662,030	31	E 29
Bromsgrove	8,124	8,417	38,810	30,390	22	31	2	2	412,568	638,755	81,432	8 10	= 16
Burnley	12,777	14,992	67,384	77,939	6	17	2	2	385,801	616,967	44,069	2 5	1 8
Burton-on-Trent -	7,035	8,686	36,087	44.440	22	35	1	2	852,384	1,024,153	123,240	23	12 23
Bury, Lancashire -	14,801	17,188	77,614	87,471	6	11	2	2	410,735	620,685	51,723	1 5	1 7
Bury St. Edmunds -	10,790	10,992	52,848	50,724	83	45	3	2	616,967	928,395	173,264	E 11	12 18
Cambridge	13,814	15,292	68,366	71,131	36	52	2	2	1,112,059	1,648,309	255,528	= 16	E2 23
Canterbury	9,805	10,534	51,012	54,505	21	31	2	2	842,894	1,260,649	90,046	€ 16	1 23
Cardiff	8,059	14,038	47,415	82,333	12	33	3	3	1,540,396	1,722,552	291,200	- 32	18 20
Carlisle	13,632	17,927	76,288	93,493	36	65	2	2	972,413	2,159,027	334,880	8 12	E 23
Chatham & Rochester -	10,750	12,184	63,602	73,854	20	30	2	3	1,031,433	1,584,284	63,368	- 16	20
Cheltenham	13,656	13,604	70,470	70,853	33	54	2	2	1,708,473	2,443,779	338,666	E 24	34
Chester	12,532	14,269	66,787	74,633	33	43	3	3	1,083,234	1,912,664	273,364	* 16	E 25
Chesterfield	11,436	14,320	56,229	72,235	14	33	2	2	645,021	924,989	92,498	8 11	1 13
Colchester	21,236	25,598	109,563	136,695	89	58	2	3	846,430	1,481,506	306,436	0 8	F2 11
Coventry	15,113	15,845	69,557	70,879	18	26	2	3	1,129,895	1,150,526	84,916	□ 17	11 16
Darlington	17,614	19,685	92,942	102,802	64	74	3	3	1,125,475	1,920,802	541,060	E 12	E 18
Derby	19,337	22,566	93,055	105,484	46	79	2	2	1,614,665	3,035,682	433,668	7 17	0 2
Devonport	6,110	6,482	53,331	65,177	13	17	3	3	944,398	1,463,189	49,140	■ 17	1 2

Beyond Four Mile and within Five Mile Circle
At Principal Places beyond Five Mile and within Twelve Mile Circle
At remaining Places between Five Mile and Twelve Mile Circle † The apparent falling off in the Numbers of Houses and Population since 1854 is attributable to changes in the area of the Bradford Postal District.

A. Postal Districts. The Postal District of any town is the whole area within which the Head Post Office of that town relicions.

B. Inhabited Houses and Population. The numbers in these columns have been compiled from the Reports of the Column and Population.

Proportion of Local Letters to Population.	Money	nber of yOrder ices.	Money	ount of orders ued.	Money		Sa	Post Off vings B on March	anks	I Number of Depositors old Savings Banks prior establishment of Post de Banks.	umber of Depositors Savings Banks and ffice Banks combined t March 1864.	in Number of Banks Depositors e establishment of ce Banks.	Postal Districts.
1863.	1854.	1863.	1854.	1863.	1854.	1863.	No. of Banks.	No. of Depo- sitors.	Balance due to Depo- sitors.	Total Number of Din old Savings Bato establishment Office Banks.	Total Number of in old Savings Post Office Ban on 31st March	increase in Sayings Bas since the e Post Office.	
22	96	373	£ 1,798,955	£ 3,181,874	£ 2,980,985	£ 4,688,301	374	117,995	£ 1,143,337	332,798	422,672	89,874	London, pobnod
27	3	6	10,859	14,632	5,974	9,355	5	393	4,922	1,394	1,678	284	Ashford, brotheA
A A	1	1	11,154	13,732	10,292	15,587	2	.839	12,363	3,798	2,976	822†	Ashton-under-Lyne
12	1	2	12,021	22,892	10,729	17,807	2	138	1,010	2,835	3,211	2.0 376	Barnsley volumes
51	10	13	75,659	100,227	66,670	90,382	13	2,039	22,098	13,313	14,837	1,524	Bath. Han
17	1	4	17,832	25,183	17,395	20,784	4	365	4,859	2,922	3,332	410	Bedford. brothest
32	3	7	20,907	51,549	15,553	33,914	7	1,685	14,500	1,369	3,026	1,657	Birkenhead.
7 8	11	24	180,264	258,792	260,631	422,331	31	22,535	475,043	31,681	22,936	8,745+	Birmingham.
11	4	4	27,378	47,182	13,487	27,776	5	647	5,534	4,937	4,782	205+	Blackburn.
17	3	6	8,150	13,802	5,269	9,268	6	205	1,685	2,073	2,270	197	Blandford.
13	1	- 5	30,058	44,480	18,169	33,798	8	1,918	15,573	6,101	6,994	893	Bolton. notical
- 3	3	4	22,399	33,201	17,229	28,619	4	397	3,850	3,572	3,944	372	Boston. postoH
43	1	5	45,116	77,736	35,851	55,833	5	566	2,952	9,334	10,634	1,300	Bradford, Yorkshire
33	* 2	6	15,108	24,289	13,839	21,662	7	492	3,381	2,450	2,842	392	Bridgewater.
S &	1	7	85,459	129,057	69,380	116,043	5	3,143	45,880	9,299	11,284	1,985	Brighton, goldala
61	13	22	115,928	164,035	176,968	255,833	18	2,932	89,271	15,102	17,063	1,961	Bristol. ,
. 3	3	6	12,171	20,685	12,028	17,261		85 8	5,581	1,814	2,369	555	Bromsgrove.
ŧ	2	8	14,858	23,717	6,687	13,295	8	597	8,052	2,118	2,158	60	Burnley.
28	4	6	16,890	82,750	19,968	43,833		473	6,570	2,401	2,668	265	Burten-on-Trent.
ŧ	1	1	14,700	19,004	8,417	13,374	1	324	2,458	8,512	3,181	881†	Bury, Lancashire.
31	2	4	17,489	22,395	12,149	16,068	5	505	5,867	4,183	4,648	465	Bury St. Edmunds.
34	2	6	34,263	48,728	88,871	47,236	6	1,859	21,007	6,185	7,178	1,087	Cambridge.
1	8	4	80,185	42,103	20,593	31,583	4	827	10,177	5,443	6,025	580	Ganterbury.
34	2	6	85,611	76,654	16,197	40,883	6	690	6,286	8,345	4,023	673	Cardiff.
81	8	13	87,586	55,076	32,169	50,039	12	804	7,682	6,116	6,791	675	Carlisle.
ŧ	2	4	84,117	56,820	24,499	34,768	5	1,968	27,039	3,863	5,611	1,748	Chatham and Rochester
42	3	8	47,446	69,284	88,262	53,160	3	1,663	15,428	6,009	7,076	1,067	Cheltenham.
84	4	8	89,632	62,474	39,846	65,567	8	978	7,826	5,111	6,032	921	Chester.
13	8	8	17,123	83,148	12,284	21,983	8	417	4,536	8,984	3,274	290	Chesterfield.
22	. 6	10	24,820	88,597	20,027	37,854	8	910	8,849	8,471	4,183	712	Colchester.
1	. 1	2	28,727	34,151	19,854	37,605	. 8	. 553	6,161	7,033	7,147	114	Coventry.
53	8	14	41,526	81,806	21,281	46,887	16	1,254	10,502	4,528	5,861	1,133	Darlington.
4	7	.,11	56,222	78,598	43,030	67,545	11	1,419	12,759	9,359	10,148	982	Derby.
		4	28,080	44,694	28,819	41,596		232	9,292	16,931		Doorcas	Devonport.

distributes letters.
sioners, the houses and population of all the places contained in each Postal District in 1851 or 1863 having been taken into account.

A. Postal Districts.	Nu	B. mber of abited ouses.	PA PA	B.	Rece	mber of vac ptacles etters.	Deli	mber of veries	Letters	Number of delivered e Year	ed Number of Local s, i.e. of Letters I in the District for rry in the District in ear 1863.	Popula	ers to ation, or ber of to each
	1854.	1863.	1854.	1863.	1854	1863.	1854	. 1863.	1854.	.: 1863.	Estimated I Letters, i posted in Delivery i the Year 1	1854.	1868.
Dewsbury yn siewol.	8,040	8,985	40,390	43,946	10	14	2	0,02	30 348,348	780,338	01 86,704	8	17
Dover - 10-7570CL	4,996	5,279	29,300	32,225	14	21	2	3	755,521	1,137,128	40,611	25	35
Dudley - valle C	21,596	25,447	114,636	131,673	15	21	2	2	594,906	910,832	62,400	5	17
Durham	10,574	12,173	59,730	67,516	16	22	3	4.03	571,649	691,028	46,800	9	10
Exeter - missil	31,798	38,592	167,857	196,297	91	143	3	3	1,912,521	4,479,254	1,092,000	11	22
Folkstone	2,095	3,559	13,449	25,791	2	16	2	3	323,323	836,576	34,857	24	22
Gateshead based and a	10,289	11,605	64,267	77,358	39	38	2	2	811,887	1,141,075	165,464	12	14
Gloucester	9,293	14,191	49,755	72,645	24	47	2	0.02	1,207,115	1,519,089	159,004	24	20
Gosport Progenia	3,025	3,552	18,633	23,808	4	7	2	1.12	415,883	552,192	11,042	22	23
Grantham and and	7,927	8,583	40,702	40,990	32	38	3	3	483,522	739,076	105,582	11	18
Gravesend	4,612	5,153	26,850	29,739	16	22	3	3	770,588	908,635	45,430	28	50
Guildford Jackhar	3,749	3,974	19,933	19,925	18	26	2	3	516,438	755,891	60,424	25	37
Halifax	17,832	19,539	89,764	90,839	17	30	2	3	953,966	1,654,731	206,841	9	18
Hereford January	9,087	11,261	43,951	54,667	26	49	3	3	634,361	1,097,005	336,752	14	20
Huddersfield	26,627	27,066	136,855	131,730	30	56	3	3	1,626,976	2,138,344	534,586	11	16
Hull	26,306	30,362	130,641	147,669	51	68	4	4	3,030,000	3,992,000	665,333	23	27
Ipswich - 101wa -	13,908	15,419	65,846	70,416	30	46	3	8	1,046,656	1,783,743	284,804	15	25
Kendal - John L	4,515	5,288	22,512	25,760	6	13	2	7-2	343,603	639,249	39,000	15	25
Lancaster	7,195	10,034	35,678	35,831	23	27	2	2	634,816	864,695	115,440	17	24
Leamington -	3,586	4,119	19,511	21,569	7	13	2	-3	810,654	1,245,712	86,684	41	57
Leeds - she I	66,199	84,884	316,931	394,659	61	131	3	3	4,802,142	7,300,000	1,825,000	13	18
Leicester	20,899	25,651	97,887	118,675	26	29	2	2	1,499,589	2,894,593	413,513	15	24
Lincoln	9,025	9,835	45,245	47,987	11	21	3	2	902,395	1,302,639	144,737	19	27
Liverpool	65,972	78,930	443,926	521,578	59	93	3	4	14,000,000	16,566,500	3,313,300	31	31
Macclesfield -	12,335	12,656	58,916	56,477	4	13	2	2	424,658	648,011	38,118	7	11
Maidstone	9,674	8,795	41,305	50,875	40	45	2	3	1,074,450	1,317,300	188,185	26	95
Malvern	1,013	1,426	5,860	8,581	8	18	2	2	337,168		83,800	57	193
	138,359	170,165	759,883	888,262	120	224	4	3	14,268,500	18,743,000		18	21
Margate	2,888	3,048	14,240	14,504	6	10	2	2	387,868	648,050	31 (31)	27	84
Middlesboro' 1	2,752	5,403	15,967	32,671	4	11	2	2	240,435	7	22,464	15	16
Newark	8,771	9,234	41,723	41,593	33	38	2	3	693,147	876,343		16	21
Newcastle (Tyne)	21,432	27,310	146,615	179,991	46	69	3	0.3	3,359,000	4,369,000	200	22	24
Northampton	13,416	15,325	66,492	75,032	37	71	2	3	892,606		219,284	13	19
Norwich	35,106	37,059	161,307	163,255	73	116	3	3	2,379,598	3,099,688	821,496	14	22
Nottingham	36,321	48,857	179.036	208,997	52	89	2	2	1,958,498	2000	565,890	10	16
Oldham -	18,087	22,902	94,132	116,172	4	15	11	3		789,999		3	6
Oxford - Landa-							- 11		4			25	30
	8,772	10,810	45,838	53,386	18		2 1		1,178,718 p	1,950,668	200'ber	20	- 44

A. Postal Districts. The Postal District of any town is the whole area within which the Head Post Office of that town collects in Invabited Houses and Population. The numbers in these columns have been compiled from the Reports of the Census Compiled Houses and Population.

Proportion of Local Letters to Population.	Money	e l	Amo O Meney issu	f Orders	Amo o Money pa	Orders	Sa	Post Off vings B on t March	anks	er of Depositors ings Banks prior shment of Post ks.	Total Number of Depositors in old Sayings Banks and Post Office Banks combined on 31st March 1864.	Increase in Kumber of Savings Banks Depositors since the establishment of Post Office Banks.	Postal Districts.
1863.	185 <u>4</u> .	1863.	1854.	1863.	1854.	1863.	No. of Banks.	No. of Depo- sitors.	Balance due to Depo- sitors.	Total Number of De in old Savings Ban to establishment Office Banks.	Total Numb in old Sav Post Office on 31st Max	Increase it Savings Ba since the g	
11	1	2	£ 10,166	£ 24,064	£ 6, 166	£ 10,991	1	289	£ 1,567	•	239	239	Dewsbury.
13	1	8	25,188	3 8,714	19,613	24,902	2	596	6,040	2,840	2,780	440	Dover.
ŧ	2	7	19,103	28,579	11,009	20,377	7	1,309	15,204	2,734	3,687	906	Dudley.
ŧ	1	2	21,786	29,753	11,876	19,441	2	451	5,082;	1,167	1,479	312	Durham.
54	16	25	73,382	99,641	84,775	122,492	26	1,418	10,615	40,776	41,888	- 607	Exeter.
12	8	5	14,139	28,232	9,872	18,126	5	782	6,485	486	1,126	690	Folkstone.
2}	4	8	15,937	34,409	13,65 0	22,707	9	520	4,015	•	529	529	Gateshead.
21	8	2	32,141	88,426	27,507	41,615	3	841	7,876	8,654	4,266	612	Gloucester.
•	1	2	11,781	16,721	8,748	11,932	2	506	6,906	685	1,100	415	Gosport.
24	2	3	17,752	2 3,611	8,701	15,012	8	382	8,789	8,746	4,072	826	Grantham.
18	8	2	18,809	24,193	16, 118	23,161	1	927	18,097	2,286	2,613	377	Gravesend.
8	8	8	14,221	19,923	8,053	14,161	8	597	8,888	2,853	8,198	845	Guildford.
27	1	4	28,653	43,804	19,529	83,843	4	278	2,416	2,381	2,411	80	Halifax.
68	5	5	26,048	41,047	16,865	27,797	4	640	5,511	7,484	8,865	901	Hereford.
4	5	11	33,943	60,739	28,964	44,027	13	878	6,826	6,969	8,185	2,226	Huddersfield.
48	7	13	87,607	128,794	108,032	155,471	14	1,415	14,656	17,396	19,322	1,927	Hull.
4	8	6	32,402	44,616	26, 870	46,864	.5	749	6,854	6,681	6,721	40	Ipswich.
18	2	8	12,686	20,765	19,678	18,770	4	157	1,217	*	167	157	Kendal.
31	2	4	19,893	29,777	18,025	28,632	4	247	2,160	6,148	5,651	503	Lancaster.
ă.	1	1	28,940	40,180	17,2 35	27,8 9 5	1	968	18,756		968	- 968	Leamington.
44	14	25	99,004	190,403	115,862	28 0,8 0 5	80	2,895	21,198	14,814	17,751	2,987	Leeds.
84	3	10	43,515	74,800	40,894	72,427	11	1,276	11,562	6,209	7,899	1,600	Leicester.
8	1	1	30,834	42,065	14,257	24,990	1	456	4,100	6,028	6,509	481	Lincoln.
01	7	18	845,011	489,481	340,159	499,573	22	3,686	28,163	29,123	36,696	6,775	Liverpool.
•	2	8	16,497	22,218	9,465	15,871	4	248	1,910	5,928	6,061	188	Macclesfield.
3 1	3	4	23,938	86,541	20,536	80,025	5.	768	10,254	5,840	6,893	1,044	Maidstone.
31	1	8	9,559	20,048	4,999	11,435	3	389	4,267	1	889	889	Malvera.
58	19	54	279,938	460,806	329,665	585,946	58	8,127	78,419	59,778	62,120	2,347	Manchester.
- 1	1	1	12,168	19,633	18,517	26,212	1	386	5,538	1,061	1,899	888	Margate.
3	8	8	14,749 20,244	81,991	5,234	12,760 18,572	2 5	505 336	2,607 2,866	2,870	1,026 8,287	549 367	Middlesboro'.
51	,	7	85,927	30,479 187,534	11,931 65,737	110,942	7	1,734	16,555	16,805	18,557	2,252	Newcastle (Tyne).
21		5	85,927 81,088	47,215	21,625	\$6,550	5	1,754	8,840	8,459	9,291	882	Northampton.
2-1 5		9	46,440	65,732	56,197	83,978	10	1,386	14,116	18,605	15,195	1,590	Norwich.
21	8	15	71,318	103,137	57,950	98,057	-14	1,947	15,417	16,299	18,886	2,087	Nottingham.
-1	1	8	11,909	22,148	6,127	16,603	3	662	6,765	2,099	8,066	83+	
44	E	7	40,240		40,630	54,458	ı	1,026	1	7,468	i	785	Oxford.
	,	•	, mujero			avings B	•	, _,,,,,,		Decrease		, ,	1
listribut	es tett	OTE.											

listributes letters.
sioners, the houses and population of all the places contained in each Postel District in 1854 or 1863 having been taken into account.

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A. Postal District	Samtes.	Nun Inha	W 100 June 1	P DES	solo anks noital	Recei	mber of otacles etters.	Deli	mber of veries ily.	Letters	Number of delivered Year.	the District for the District in 169.	Popul Nur Letter	ortion of iters to ation, or nber of s to each ividual.
	Post Office	1854.	1863.	1854.	pure sit at each -1863.	1854.	1863.	1854.	1863.	1854.	1863.	Estimated Ni Letters, 4, posted in 1 Delivery in the Year 18	1854.	1863
Peterborough 1-1	-13	8,244	9,169	40,092	43,151	16	24	2	3	693,147	933,101	133,300	17	€ 21
Plymouth work!	4)	8,750	9,732	71,986	83,796	17	41	3	8	1,642,680	2,484,664	259,116	E 22	29
Portsmouth at -	21	13,726	16,421	78,936	99,368	10	18	2	8 2	1,647,113	2,492,022	226,547	20	25
Preston moteral	12	23,523	30,453	135,696	164,933	25	59	2	3	1,841,527	2,692,235	448,705	13	16
Ramsgate and I	-5	3,626	3,896	20,047	20,279	100	13	2	2	560,482	861,939	37,475	2 27	42
Reading ahibeaff	-8	10,763	13,878	54,924	69,616	42	57	2	3	1,101,945	2,164,227	256,973	9 20	31
Rhyl - Jy4H	-01	5,882	7,120	27,488	32,653	19	27	10	2 2	608,842	709,930	26,780	22	21
Rochdale	2	15,472	19,292	78,284	95,600	14	22	2	3	684,047	1,011,231	144,461	1 8	10
Rotherham	-7	9,612	11,237	46,604	54,128	27	34	2	2	590,681	983,177	163,862	B 12	18
St. Helen's	-3	5,618	8,188	33,850	47,362	10.5	10	2	2	378,287	615,394	47,338	111	12
Salisbury	-6	16,498	16,933	81,142	80,153	44	82	3	3	974,649	1,614,223	399,204	7 12	20
Scarborough -		4,499	4,641	21,279	22,075	12	10	2	2	497,614	935,246	54,600	23	42
Sheffield	-0	38,747	52,031	192,363	253,527	33	77	2	812	2,985,500	4,257,000	709,500	15	16
Southampton		14,290	19,969	78,829	108,079	47	77	3	3	2,220,000	4,154,500	572,000	28	38
Southport		1,892	2,783	10,482	15,853	2	7	2	2	386,165	830,843	6,294	36	53
Stafford Art Tate		8,686	14,683	45,271	73,754	11	41	2	2	660,946	1,230,307	148,200	9 14	16
Stamford Toler - 2		4,074	4,137	21,410	19,987	9	16	2	3	455,715	892,125	111,515	21	44
Stockport	40	17,437	18,746	88,538	91,655	17	32	2	3	648,492	1,171,066	167,295	7	12
Stockton			4,893	20,195	25,263	11	12	2	1 2	449,709	697,190	32,760	22	27
		4,032		30,209	33,474	10	15	2	2	100	719,784	. 114	215	2 91
Stourbridge -	-	6,015	6,858			23	40		2	493,262		81,328	17	1000
Stroud, Gloucester	-	7,267	7,226	32,180	31,298			2	1	557,960	120,120	88,892		23
Sunderland	-	10,269	13,398	78,897	99,341	13	24	3	3	1,102,959	1,808,594	132,600	13	19
Swansea AMERICA	-0	11,624	14,519	59,997	75,306	12	29	2	3	625,014	1,871,359	. 178,724	10	18
Truro	- 5	14,220	19,101	70,826	92,705	15	49	2	2	669,864	1,352,156	193,165	3 9	14
Wakefield	-/	12,962	12,722	63,729	62,221	21	32	2	2	854,984	1,385,852	173,231	13	의
Walsall - Maste W	-1	7,396	9,862	37,923	49,178	6	13	2	3	532,662	1,040,767	51,168	14	21
Warwick	-1	4,307	4,641	20,200	21,280	14	17	2	2	423,098	596,674	44,720	29	25
Warrington -	-	12,117	14,547	65,776	76,663	28	37	3	2	651,768	1,280,240	160,030	9	16
Watford . Free W. II	40	3,454	5,228	17,364	25,525	9	25	2	3	277,784	696,176	59,592	15	27
West Bromwich	- (3	7,066	8,407	36,751	43,235	4	8	2	2	333,931	535,587	24,596	9	11
Wigan	- 1	13,930	16,836	76,699	91,221	12	21	2	2	478,868	831,831	103,978	6	1
Windsor	- 3	3,876	4,424	23,202	24,766	8	17	2	3	670,072	1,002,898	33,491	228	4
Wolverhampton	-1	16,816	21,556	88,124	109,775	26	40	2	3	1,401,361	2,494,808	820,164	E 15	21
Worcester - //	-	14,325	14,532	68,991	70,022	- 36	57	2	2	1,221,935	1,957,618	312,936	₺17	27
Yarmouth		8,760	9,656	39,461	42,959	9	16	3	8 3	683,839	995,358	50,180	717	25
York		22,865	28,164		138,221	84	133	300	2	2,461,953	3,500,666	868,764	1 21	25

A. Postal Districts. The Postal District of any town is the whole area within which the Head Post Office of that town collects.

E. Inhabited Houses and Population. The numbers in these columns have been compiled from the Reports of the Census Compiled by Tool 18

Proportion of Local Letters to Population.		f Order	Money	ount of Orders ued.	Money	ount. of Orders	Sa	Post Off vings B on t March	anks	r of Depositors gs Barks prior hment of Post	r of Depositors ngs Banks and Sanks combined ch 1864.	in Number of Banks Depositors Establishment of the Banks.	POSTAR DISTRIOTS.
1863.	1854.	1863.	1854.	1863.	1854.	1863.	No. of Banks.	No. of Depo- sitors.	Balance due to Depo- sitors.	Total Number of Depo- in old Savings Barks to Establishment of Office Banks.	Total Number of Deposite in old Savings Banks a: Post Office Banks combin on 31st March 1864.	Increase in Savings Ba since the E Post Office	
8	4	4	£ 22,158	£ 30,014	£ 11,257	£ 19,036	4	814	£ 8,681	1,856	2,517	661	Peterborough.
8	8	4	57,515	83,024	60,396	95,154	5	627	6,472	8,091	8,971	880	Plymouth.
24	4	5	67,730	105,229	55,812	82,441	8	1,565	17,966	7,849	8,664	1,315	Portsmouth.
2	7	10	54,589	82,130	45,617	85,491	12	1,879	23,438	12,676	18,168	5691	Preston.
1	2	2	28,479	32,067	22,501	81,485	2	651	7,124	1,607	2,084	877	Ramsgate.
84	8	8	84,660	52,628	81,818	54,177	7	768	7,923	6,493	7,512	1.019	Beading.
	4		16,297	25,959	11,835	24,678		254	2,198	1,558	1,797	239	Rhyl.
1	1	1	16,998	29,618	10,966	20,115	8	452	3,149	_ •	452	452	Rochdale.
8	8	6	15,842	26,825	10,851	19,748	6	666	5,128	1,212	1,769	557	Rotherham.
ŧ	1	1	13,156	20,982	6,315	18,374	1	506	4,859	641	1,167	528	St. Helen's.
4	7	9	25,723	89,276	20,092	82,029	9	985	10,861	6,175	6,971	796	Salisbury.
24	1	12	22,284	40,723	28,923	83,568	1	297	2,560	1,940	2,271	331	Scarborough.
24	5	Æ	83,561	129,159	85,148	184,367	12	1,850	10,542	15,538	18,074	2,536	Sheffield, /2/
51	10	18	75,524	105,229	61,969	98,004	16	2,653	86,606	8,880	5,963	2,123	Southampton.
•	1	1	8,145	24,628	8,182	19,504	1	866	2,892	649	971	322	Southport.
2	4	8	15,124	87,238	13,288	22,935	8	575	4,569	8,770	4,173	403	Stafford.
54	1	1	14,557	18,987	11,220	15,910	1	811	8,083	2,668	8,046	878	Stamford.
1	8	6	18,900	27,826	13,650	23,852	6	544	6,063	6,643	6,170	473†	Stockport.
13	1	2	14,463	26,720	11,809	18,478	2	445	8,608	1,892	2,227	335	Stockton.
24	2	5	12,370	19,810	9,640	15,789	5	● 666	7,456		668	668	Stourbridge.
21	4	5	15,272	19,837	13,947	19,826	5	529	4,499		529	529	Stroud, Gloucester.
1	2	2	64,770	87,430	84,815	52,854	2	1,629	26,914	4,830	5,503	1,178	Sunderland.
21	•	6	88,889	62,516	27,897	38,638	7	628	5,675	4,199	5,095	896	Swansea.
2	5	8	23,495	88,193	18,240	89,217	11	485	3,843	5,525	6,157	632	Truro.
24	1	2	24,296	35,884	20,666	30,680	2	827	8,248	2,028	2,319	291	Wakefield.
1	1	8	16,985	25,980	18,109	24,125	8	945	10,287	1,976	2,504	528	Walsall.
2	. 8	8	18,444	48,276	16,112	29,498	8	269	8,672	8,059	5,193	134	Warwick.
2	2	8	12,374	17,168	7,618	10,418	9	759	6,558	4,673	5,745	1,072	Warrington.
21	8	8	8,028	14,590	6,076	9,604	4	1,943	21,845	1,407	1,048	364†	Watford.
ŧ	. 1	1	7,497	9,729	5,641	18,007	1	789	14,227	2,173	2,732	559	West Bromwich.
1	1	2	17,128	26,736	8,588	18,220	2	614	5,558	8,438	8,559	121	Wigan.
1	3	2	20,772	26,750	13,859	20,726	2	704	6,471	8,588	4,312	724	Windsor.
21	8	4	45,946	66,897	29,695	53,668	•	3,187	42,856	2,944	5,058	8,114	Wolverhampton.
4	8	8	89,515	51,460	3 1,491	49,372	6	608	4,635	11,687	11,699	12	Worcester.
1	7	12	65,888	96,084	50,846	86,058	2	487	5,754	8,643	4,176	588	Yarmouth.
62	1	2	21,096	32,2 51	89,809	46,968	12	1,422	18,087	8,672	9,688	1,111	York.
			,	•	No old Se	vings Ba	nk.		+	Decrease.	<u> </u>		

^{*} No old Savings Bank.

[†] Decrease.

		nber of d Houses.	Popu	lation.	Recep	nber of ptacles etters.	Letters	Number of delivered o Year.	Popula Num Lettera	rtion of ters to ation, or ther of to entit
	1854.	1863.	1854.	1863.	1854.	.1863.	1854.	1863.	1854.	1863.
London • • •	382,949	445,787	2,631,950	8,816,932	471	1,048	103,000,000	161,000,000	36	46
Increase in London in 1863 over 1854 - }	-	62,838	-	484,982	-	574	-,	\$8,000,000		12_
certain Postal Districts in England and Wales (106 in number), the particulars of which are contained in the previous Table	1,60 0,775	1,006,298	8,517,926	9,910,986	2,698	4,466	145,140,389	206,590,872	, 17	n
Increase in the said Districts in 1863 over 1864	_	305,518	_	1,393,060	-	1,768		61,450,591	+ ,	4.
The remainder of Eng- land and Wales -}	1,456,718	1,510,101	7,861,140	7,404,580	4,412	6,256	110,160,814	161,784,819	15	22
Increase in the re- mainder of Eng- land and Wales in 1803 over 1854 -	-	5 3,383	_	48,440		1,844	- ,	. \$1,574,198 _	-	7
The whole of England and Wales }	8,440,448	3,962,181	18,711,016	20,632,498	7,581	11,767	858,800,696	529,825,485	19	*
Increase in the whole of England and Wales in 1863 over 1854	-	421,789	-	1,921,482	-	4,186	-	171,024,789_	-	7
The whole of Scotland *-	377,208	397,909	2,940,516	3,095,845	1,075	1,523	44,114,009	61,401,678	15	20
in 1808 over 1854 -		20,701	-	155,329	-	448	- ;	17,287,669_	187	
The whole of Ireland • -	1,030,383	982,633	6,316,033	5,606,975	1,317	1,012	41,234,596	51,007,455,	7103	A
Increase in Ireland } in 1868 over 1854 - }	Decrease	47,700	Decrease	709,038	 ,	595	-	,10,3 62,859	-201	2
The United Kingdom -	4,847,983	5,242,723	27,967,565	29,885,318	9,978	15,202	443,640,301	entratus.	4,07 000	. Re
Increase in the United Kingdom in 1863 over 1854 -	_	394,740	-	1,367,753	- - :	5,229		1000000	-	1

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Money	mber of yOrder fices.	Money	of Orders	Money	ount on a control of or orders or order or orders or orders or order	Sa	Post Offi avings B on ot March	ice anks 1864.	Total Number of Depositors in old Savings Banks prior to establishment of Post Office Banks.	Total Number of Depositors in old Savings Banks and Post Office Banks combined on 31st March 1864.	ncraase in Number of Savings Bank Depositors since the establishment of Post Office Banks.	izzoui en
1854.	1863.	1854.	1863.	1854.	1863.	No. of Banks.	No. of Depositors.	Balance due to Depo- sitors.	Total Number in old Savir to establish Office Bank	Total Numbe in old Savi Post Office! on 31st Mar	Increase in Savings Ba since the es Post Office	
96	373	£ 1,798,955	£ 3,181,874	£ 2,980,985	£ 4,688,301	374	117,955	£ 1,143,337	332,79	8 422,672	89,874	London nohmod
4	277	290,0	1,382,919		1,707,316	-48	8,42 <u>2</u>	-	222.9	5 -		Increase in London in 1863 over 1854.
375	689	3,984,088	6,139,818	3,653,274	5,897,718	724	124,897	1,543,682	657,416	728,461	71,051	Certain Postal Districts in England and Wales (106 in number), the particulars of which are contained in the previous Table.
4	314	_125,0	2,155,730		2,244,444	100	((02.)	-	100 S	_ sd		Increase in the said Districts in 1863 over 1854.
750	1,088	3,174,098	4,766,191	2,173,645	3,833,556	1,062	96,781	1,141,785	404,778	481,105	76,330	The remainder of Eng-
1	338	2016	1,592,098		1,159,911	104	- 48.	-	228,8	-		Increase in the remainder of English and and Wales in 1863 over 1854.
1,221	2,150	8,957,136	14,087,883	8,807,904	13,919,575	2,160	339,633	3,828,804	1,394,983	3 1,632,238	287,255	The whole of England
I	929		5,130,747	/	5,111,671		Inc.	=	±197. (24 -		Increase in the whole of England and Wales in 1863
273	352	814,466	1,305,871	855,754	1,394,178	354	18,683	107,932	143,906	173,981		
4	79	<u>- 1</u> 36,78	491,405	3	538,424	-02	150,0	-	407,01	-		Increase in Scotland in 1868 over 1854.
378	503	690,809	1,100,039	789,022	1,324,518	510	14,639	160,756	70.914	21 291	31.077	The whole of Ireland.
4	125	22.27	409,230	3	535,496	_38	0.005_	088_27.04		08	Deers	{ Increase in Ireland } - 2021 in 1863 over 1854.
1,872	3,005	10,462,411	16,493,793	10,452,680	16,638,271	3,024	372,955	4,097,492	1,609,103	1,887,510	278,407	The United Kingdom.
-3	1,133	15,332	6,031,382		6,185,591	- J6d	1,704.1	-	6,740	35 -		Increase in the United Kingdom in 1863 over 1854.

Increase of Houses and Population, and consequent growth of demand for Postal Accommodation.

Those columns of the foregoing table which exhibit the increase in the numbers of inhabited houses and population, and especially the columns which exhibit the increase in the number of inhabited houses, will show that if the Post Office had been content to keep pace merely with the growth of houses and population, and to give no greater proportion of accommodation in 1863 than in 1854, it would still have been required to meet a

largely increased demand for postal facilities.

In the London district, which, it may here be observed, contains a larger number of houses and a larger population than are to be found in the whole of Scotland,—in the London district the increase in the number of inhabited houses has been at the rate of 16 per cent.; and in the 106 postal districts for which particulars are given in the tables, the rate of increase (taking them altogether) has been somewhat higher, whilst in many districts it has been much higher than it has been in the London district. In the postal districts of Birmingham, Bolton, Leeds, Newcastle, Preston, and Sheffield, for instance, the increase in the number of inhabited houses has been at the rate of 28 per cent. or upwards. But though the proportionate increase has been greater in some provincial districts than in the London district, the actual increase in the London district amounted to no less than 62,800 additional inhabited houses,—a number which exceeds the whole number of inhabited houses at present contained in any one of several counties in England and Wales.

Whilst those columns in the foregoing table to which I have just referred show that in order merely to keep pace with the growth of houses and population the Post Office must have been prepared to meet a greatly increased demand for postal facilities, other columns will show that it has endeavoured to do much more, and to give a continually increasing proportion of accommo-

dation.

Receptacles for Letters

First in order of the facilities, which a Post Office must be expected to afford, are facilities for the posting of letters within a convenient distance from the homes or places of business of the writers. The foregoing tables will show that the rate of increase in the number of receptacles for letters has been much higher than the rate of increase in the number of inhabited houses, since the receptacles for letters throughout the kingdom have been increased at the rate of 52 per cent., whilst the inhabited houses throughout the kingdom have increased at the rate of only 8 per cent.

In the year 1854 the London district had only one receptacle for letters to every 813 houses, but in 1863 it had one receptacle for letters to every 426 houses. In the year 1854 there was in the 106 postal districts described in the foregoing tables, taking

them altogether, one receptacle for letters to every 630 houses; but in the year 1863 there was in the same districts one receptacle; for letters to every 426 houses. In the remainder of England and Wales, that is to say, in the smaller towns and the districts of least population, there was, in 1854, one receptacle for letters to every 331 houses, but in 1863 there was one to every 241 houses. Scotland had one to every 350 houses in 1854, and one to every 261 houses in 1863: Ireland, one to every 782 houses in 1854, and one to every 513 houses in 1863.

Thus throughout the kingdom there has been a marked proportionate increase of the facilities for posting letters within a convenient distance from the homes or places of business of the writers. This great extension of accommodation has been effected mainly by the introduction of pillar and wall letter boxes, which first came into use in 1855, and now form nearly one third of the whole number of receptacles for letters. By the erection of these boxes the Post Office has not only given the public extended facilities for the posting of letters, but, as the boxes can be cleared at hours when sub-postmasters or receivers could not be expected to be on duty, has in many cases been enabled to give the letters posted in them an earlier despatch than they could otherwise have obtained.

Extensions of Free Deliveries.

It will be obvious that the large and constant increase in the number of inhabited houses must have brought with it not merely a growing demand for extended facilities for posting letters, but also a necessity for frequent re-arrangements of letter carriers' walks within the limits of existing free deliveries and a growing demand for extensions of free deliveries, that is, for extensions of the limits within which letters are delivered from house to house for the ordinary postage.

In this respect also the Post Office has endeavoured to outrun the demands of the public, and to bring within the free delivery not merely the houses newly erected on the borders of existing deliveries, but also many more remote houses, villages, and hamlets which had long been unprovided with such accommodation.

This work of extending the secondary distribution of letters, at the charge which was originally designed to cover the primary distribution only, has been carried on so vigorously during the last ten years that nearly 10,000 places have during that period been for the first time provided with a free delivery. There are indeed but few places not so provided at the present time, and those few are thinly populated, isolated, and remote. To this let me add, that in extensions of this kind the cost of the extension is in almost all cases equal to, whilst in many cases it has exceeded, the revenue derivable from the correspondence

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at the time of the extension, and that there is rarely any reason to expect that the extension will produce an appreciable increase of correspondence. Under a system of uniform charge, however, the charge, if it be not excessive in some, must be unremumerative in other cases, and it has been my practice and that of my predecessors to consider the business of the Post Office as a whole, and to extend the full advantages of Penny Postage gradually and cautiously throughout even very thinly populated parts of the kingdom.

Day Mails.

The increase in the facilities for communication by railway between the metropolis and other parts of the kingdom has at once increased the demand for additional mails to and from the metropolis, and enabled the Post Office to comply with that demand. The following table will show how many of the principal towns in England and Wales have thus, since the year 1854, been provided with additional means of communicating by post with the metropolis, and at the same time with additional means of communicating with many other towns.

YEARS.		Towns having a Night and Day Mail to London.	Towns having three Mails daily from London.	Towns having three Mails daily to London.	Towns having four Mails daily from London.	Towns having four Mails daily to London.	Towns having five Mails daily from London.	Towns having five Mails daily to London.
1854	353	220	8	3 1			1	1
1863	393	264	50	78	7	15	3	6
Increase in 1863 over 1854	40	35	48	42	7	15	2	5

Accelerations of Mails.

It will also be obvious that the extensions and improvements of the Railway system throughout the kingdom must in ordinary course have led to an increased demand for Accelerations of Mails,—the demand being made sometimes with a view to obtain an earlier arrival and later despatch of letters, with, as a consequence, a longer interval for reply, and sometimes with a view to reduce the period required for the transmission of a letter and the receipt of a reply;—nor can there be a doubt that both kinds of acceleration,—the acceleration which increases the facilities for replying to a letter by return of post, and the acceleration which shortens the period within which a letter can be sent and the reply thereto received,—tend powerfully to promote an increase of correspondence.

A statement of all the accelerations of both kinds which have been effected within the last 10 years, or even a list of all the places in the United Kingdom which have now an earlier arrival and a later despatch of letters than were afforded to them in 1854, would show, conclusively, that the Post Office has daring that period laboured strenuously and successfully to meet the demands of the public. But such statements would be confusing from the multiplicity of their details; and I propose merely to state the effect of three highly important accelerations, which have been productive of great benefit to the public. I allude to the acceleration of the Scotch Mails, which took place in 1859, to that of the Irish Mails, which took place in 1860, and to that of the French Mails, which also took place in the year 1860.

The following brief illustrations will enable your Lordships rightly to understand the effect and value of these accelerations.

First, with regard to the Scotch Mails.

In 1854, a letter despatched from London to Edinburgh or Glasgow by the Night Mail of Monday would not have been delivered until about noon on Tuesday. There would then have been an interval of only two hours between the delivery of the letter and the despatch of the next Mail to London; and as this interval would have been too short to admit of the reply being prepared in it, except in very peculiar or special cases, the reply would not, in ordinary course, have been despatched from Edinburgh or Glasgow until about 8 p.m. on Tuesday, and would not have been delivered in London until the afternoon of Wednesday. Now, however, a letter despatched from London to Edinburgh or Glasgow by the Night Mail of Monday is delivered in Edinburgh or Glasgow early on Tuesday morning. The interval for reply extends over the ordinary hours of business, and the reply, if it be despatched from Edinburgh or Glasgow by the Night Mail, that is, after the close of business, on Tuesday, is delivered in London before the commencement of business on Wednesday morning.

Thus the time required for the transmission of a letter from London to Edinburgh or Glasgow, and for the receipt of a reply, has been shortened by upwards of four hours, whilst the interval allowed for the reply has been lengthened from 6 to 8 hours; the time gained by the public being in either case gained

in the most valuable part of the day.

But the effect of the acceleration on the correspondence of places lying north of Edinburgh is still more remarkable. In 1854, a letter despatched from London to Aberdeen by the Night Mail of Monday would not have arrived in Aberdeen until 5 p.m. on Tuesday. A reply might have been despatched from Aberdeen at 8.40 on Wednesday morning; but it will be obvious that the interval between 5 p.m. and 8 a.m. could not conveniently be employed for business purposes. If, however, the reply had been despatched from Aberdeen on Wednesday morning, it would not have been delivered in London until Thursday

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morning. Now, if a letter be despatched from London to Aberdeen on Monday night, it is delivered in Aberdeen soon after noon on Tuesday, and the reply may be written during the hours of business, and despatched on Tuesday, so as to reach London in time for delivery before noon on Wednesday. Thus the time required for the transmission of a letter from London to Aberdeen, and for the receipt of a reply, has since the beginning of the year 1859 been shortened, for all practical purposes, to the extent of one day.

I may here observe, that an incidental but very considerable advantage has accrued to the inhabitants of Liverpool and Manchester from the acceleration of the Up-Day Mail from Scotland. In connexion with this measure there is also an additional Mail from Liverpool and Manchester, at about noon daily, for London, and if letters for the Continent be despatched to London by this additional Mail they fall into the outgoing Night Mail from London to the Continent. I shall have again to refer to the advantage which has accrued incidentally to the people of Liverpool and Manchester from the acceleration of the Up-Day Mail from Scotland, when I come to treat of the acceleration of the French Mails.

Next with regard to the Irish Mails.

The effect of the acceleration of the Irish Mails upon the correspondence of London and Dublin is merely that, whereas in 1854 a letter must have been posted early in the day in either city if it were intended to obtain an early delivery in the other city on the following morning, it will now obtain an early delivery on the following morning if it be posted in time for the ordinary Night Mails.

But the effect of the acceleration on the correspondence of other cities in Ireland has been still more remarkable. 1854 a letter despatched from London to Cork or Belfast by the Night Mail of Monday would not have been delivered until Wednesday morning. A reply might have been sent by the Day Mail of Wednesday; but the interval between the delivery of the letter and the despatch of the Day Mail was so short, especially at Cork, as practically to throw the despatch of the reply on to the Night Mail of Wednesday. If the reply were despatched by Day Mail it could not have reached London until the afternoon of Thursday, but if it were withheld until the Night Mail it could not have reached London until the morning of Friday. Now, if a letter be despatched from London to Cork by the Night Mail of Monday, it will reach Cork early in the afternoon of Tuesday, and the reply, which may be written in the ordinary hours of business, (the interval being ample,) may be despatched from Cork on the evening of Tuesday and delivered in London on the evening of Wednesday.

Thus the period required for the transmission of a letter from London to Cork and for the receipt of a reply has been shortened in all cases by half a day, and in the great majority of cases by more than a day.

Next as to the French Mails.

In 1854 the following arrangements prevailed with regard to French Mails. A first Mail was despatched from each capital early in the afternoon, and arrived at the other capital in time for the first delivery and for the outgoing Day Mails of the following morning. A second Mail was despatched at night, contemporaneously with the Inland Night Mails, from each capital, and reached the other capital in time for a delivery at noon, but not as a rule in time for the outgoing Day Mails. Now, the first Mail leaves each capital at an early hour in the morning, carrying with it the forward letters which have arrived by Night Mails, and reaches the other capital in time for a late evening delivery of the letters belonging to the capital, and for the despatch of forward letters by the outgoing Night Mails. The second Mail leaves each capital contemporaneously with the ordinary Night Mails, and reaches the other capital in time for an early morning delivery, and for the despatch of its forward letters by the outgoing Day Mails. The effect of the acceleration on the correspondence of London and Paris is, briefly, that whereas, in 1854, a letter intended for an early morning delivery in either capital should have been posted in the other capital early on the previous day, it need not at present be posted (in order to secure such a delivery) until the ordinary time of posting for Night Mails. But the effect of the acceleration on the correspondence of places beyond Paris, or on the correspondence of places beyond London, has been much more marked. In 1854, a letter despatched from Edinburgh to Paris by the Mail at 2.30 p.m., or by the Mail at 8.25 p.m. on Monday, would have reached Paris early on Wednesday morning and a reply might have been despatched from Paris at an early period of Wednesday, and, if so despatched, would have been delivered in Edinburgh on Friday morning. Now, a letter despatched from Edinburgh to Paris at 6 p.m. on Monday is delivered on Tuesday evening, and a reply may be despatched from Paris so as to be delivered in Edinburgh early on Thursday morning. Thus the period required for the transmission of a letter from Edinburgh to Paris and for the receipt of a reply has been shortened by one day. Again, in 1854, a letter despatched from Manchester to Paris by Night Mail of Monday reached Paris early on Wednesday morning, and a reply might be so despatched as to reach Manchester by Thursday afternoon. Now, however, if a letter be posted in Manchester for Paris on Monday, and in time for the Mid-day Mail to London (the Mail referred to in my remarks on the acceleration of the Up-Day Mail from Scotland), it will reach Paris early on Tuesday morning, and a reply to such a letter can be received in Manchester on Wednesday afternoon. Thus the period required for

the transmission of a letter from Manchester to Paris, and for the receipt of the reply, has also been shortened to the extent of

one day for purposes of business.

The cost of these three accelerations, which, as I have stated, were carried out in the years 1859 and 1860, has been and is very great, but the advantages which the country derives from them, are, in my opinion, a full compensation for the outlay.

Accelerations of Foreign and Colonial Mails; Establishment of additional Mails between United Kingdom and Foreign Countries and Colonies; and Reductions in the Rates of Postage on Foreign Letters.

The improvements which have been effected during the past 10 years in postal communication with Foreign Countries and Colonies, by the establishment of more frequent or more rapid Mails, and by reductions in the rates of Foreign Postage, have been so numerous as to amount in the aggregate to a re-organization of the entire Foreign Mail Service.

Thus, by the establishment of more frequent or more rapid Mails, the time required for the transmission of a letter and the receipt of a reply has been reduced since 1854, in the case of

correspondence between-

The United Kingdom and the Brazils - - by 7 days,

and the West Indies and Pacific - - by 5 days, and Calcutta - - by 19 days,

and Sydney by not less than 40 days

in any case, but by a much longer period in the majority of cases.

The arrangements under which the American and Canadian Mail Packets now call at Queenstown or Londonderry on their outward and homeward voyages have enabled the Post Office to effect a later despatch of American and Canadian letters from, and an earlier arrival of such letters at all parts of the United Kingdom, the gain to the public being greatest, as a matter of course, in Ireland. And the arrangements for sorting the homeward American, Canadian, Indian, China, and Australian Mails on board the Mail Packets have also tended greatly to accelerate the delivery of those mails throughout the United Kingdom.

The effect of the acceleration of the French Mail on the correspondence between the United Kingdom and France has already been described; but it must be added that by this acceleration, and by the establishment of additional mails between this country and Germany, the whole of the correspondence between the United Kingdom and the continent of

Europe (which correspondence passes either through France or through Belgium) has been largely benefited.

The following Tables will show the principal reductions in the

rates of Foreign Postage.

		is very goet, ku from "Bernī oc. ontlay
The Postage on letters between the United Kingdom and France has been reduced from	8d. or 10d. per 1 oz. letter according to the country in which the pestage was paid.	To 4d. per 1 os. letter irrespective, of the country in which the postage is paid.
The Postage on letters between the United Kingdom and Belgium has been reduced from -	6d. per ½ oz. letter	To se per ; os.letter.
The Postage on letters between the United Kingdom and countries, comprised in the German Postal Union, and Hamburg and Bremen has been reduced from	8d. per 🛊 oz. letter	To 6d. per 1 ox. letter.
The Postage on letters between the United Kingdom and the kingdom of Italy has been reduced from	A varying rate, the minimum of which was 1s. 1d. per 1 oz. letter	To an uniform rate of 6d. per 1 oz. letter,
And the Postage on letters between the United Kingdom and Spain has been reduced from -	10d. per ‡ oz. letter	To 6d. per \ ds. letter.

The London Postal Districts.

It will be seen from the Table at page 12 of this Report that the correspondence of the London district, which in 1854 amounted to not quite one fourth of the whole correspondence of the kingdom, is now more than one fourth of that correspondence, the proportionate increase of correspondence having been greater in the London district than in any other of the great divisions into which, in the Table before referred to, the correspondence of the kingdom has been separated.

It was, of course, to be desired that correspondence so vast and so important as that of the London district should have, at least, an equal share of the advantages conferred on the correspondence of the whole kingdom by the improvements which have been described in the foregoing pages; but in order that the correspondence of the London district should obtain its fair proportion of these common advantages, a further and more important improvement had to be effected.

So long as the Post Office continued to treat the whole of the London district as one town, and to serve it from one central." office, it could not have greatly increased the number of receptacles for letters, since the cost of collecting from them to a central office would have been too great; nor, for the same reason, could it have materially increased the frequency of the collections; whilst so long as the majority of the letter carriers worked to and from a central office, the cost of adding to the number of deliveries or of expediting them by re-arrangements of walks and extensions of force, would have been too great to admit of any considerable improvements of this kind being effected. Lastly, so long as the Provincial Mails, coming into London, continued to be collected into one Central Office, and distributed thence throughout the vast area of the London District, it is quite certain that much of the time which might have been gained by accelerating the transmission of such Mails to London would have been lost, after their arrival, by unavoidable delays of distribution. During the 30 years which have elapsed since Sir Rowland Hill first proposed to divide the London district into 10 Postal districts, and to treat each: district as a distinct town, the numbers of the inhabited houses and of the population contained within the whole area have been doubled, and the disadvantages which he then discerned in the practice of treating the whole area as one town, would, if no division had taken place, have by this time been greatly increased. Sir Rowland Hill's scheme possesses the striking merit of satisfying not merely the requirements of the London for which it was devised, but the far greater requirements of the London of our own time.

The chief effect of the division of London into districts, and of some concurrent alterations of practice, on the correspondence of the London District since 1854, may thus be briefly described.

First, as to the Town Service.

Within the town limits, which in 1854 did not include Islington, Pentonville, Balls Pond, the Kent Road, Newington. Butts, Kennington, Vauxhall, Camden Town, Kentish Town, and Somers Town, the principal Morning Delivery, by which the bulk of the correspondence from the provinces was distributed, was rarely completed until 10 a.m. Now, within limits which include the districts above named, a similar delivery is completed by 9 a.m. In 1854, the transmission of a local letter (i.e., letter posted in the district for delivery in the district) from one part to another of the town limits occupied from three to four hours, under the most favourable circumstances. Now the transmission of a letter from one place in a town district to another place in the same town district occupies less than two hours; whilst the period required for the transmission of a letter from one town district to another town district has been reduced by three quarters of an hour.

In 1854, local letters intended for the first Morning Delivery within the town limits, and letters intended to be despatched by the Morning Mails to the provinces, must, to obtain such delivery and despatch, have been posted by 10 p.m. Now such letters may be posted in one or other of a largely increased number of receptacles for letters up to 5 a.m.

Next as to the Suburban Service.

In 1854, the Principal Delivery, that which comprised the provincial letters, did not commence in the nearest suburbs much before 9 a.m., and was not completed in the most distant, suburbs until noon, or even until 1 p.m.. Now, it is completed; throughout the nearest suburbs by 9.30 a.m., and has been accelerated to a minimum extent of 45 minutes, and a maximum extent of 1½ hours throughout the most distant suburbs.

In 1854, the local letters collected in the suburbs were, as a general rule, taken to the Chief Office in St. Martin's-le-Grand, and thence distributed, and, as the arrival of the carts with the collections was not then, as now, fitted to the departure of the carts with the despatches, communication on the same day; between any suburban places lying at a distance from each other could hardly be effected. Under the present arrangements communication between suburbs lying widely apartifrom each other is very rapid. In the case of Hampstead and Blackheath, for instance, which are situated on opposite points of the six mile circle, a letter may be posted in either place in the morning, and the reply thereto may be received on the same day and in sufficient time to admit of a third letter being despatched for early delivery on the following morning.

Lastly, in 1854, local letters intended for a Morning Delivery, and letters intended for despatch to the provinces by the Morning Mails, must to attain such delivery and despatch have been posted by 8, and in many cases by 7 p.m. Now, throughout the whole of the suburbs, the posting of such letters in one or other of a largely increased number of receptacles for letters may be deferred until 9 p.m., whilst within the five mile nircle it may take place up to 6.80 a.m.

When it is considered that London is not so much a city as a province of towns, that the inhabitants of the towns, thus; closely compressed within its vast area, keep up a constant; inter-communication for purposes of trade and commerce, and for purposes of social intercourse, and that the purely local correspondence arising out of those inter-communications amounted in 1854 to 44 per cent of the whole correspondence of London, and was in fact as large as the whole correspondence of either Ireland or Scotland, the value of the changes which have so greatly benefited this correspondence will be fully underestood.

In concluding this portion of my Report, I may add that an experimental division of Liverpool into Postal districts: has

recently been made, but the arrangements are not yet complete, and I shall therefore postpone my remarks on the results of the experiment until another occasion.

Increase of Correspondence.

Having now stated the general result of the measures adopted by the Post Office since 1854 with a view to facilitate the posting, accelerate the transmission, and expedite the delivery of letters, I proceed to show how far those measures have had the effect of increasing the correspondence of the kingdom. tables printed at pages 6 to 13 of this Report give a good general view of the increase of correspondence in 1863 over 1854, in the London district, in each of 106 Principal Postal districts in England and Wales, in the remainder of England and Wales, in Scotland and in Ireland; but some few further remarks seem here to be required. The correspondence of the kingdom has risen from about 70,000,000 of letters in 1839 (the last year preceding the introduction of Penny Postage) to upwards of 640,000,000 of letters in 1863. Several causes have combined to bring about this increase of correspondence. The reduction of postage, the growth of population, the increase of trade, the spread of education, and the improvements (over and above the reduction of postage) which the Post Office has effected with regard to the transmission of letters, have all contributed to produce this result.

The table on the opposite page, however, will show the increase in the number of letters delivered in each of certain principal divisions of the United Kingdom, and in each of two periods of equal duration, (both of which periods are subsequent to the establishment of the Penny Postage system,) and the excess of the increase in the last over the increase in the first of the two periods. The proportionate increase of population has been smaller during the later than during the earlier of the two periods, but the actual increase in the one has not differed widely from the actual increase in the other. On the whole, in considering the causes which have led to the excess of increase in 1863 on 1854, over the increase in 1853 on 1844, we need not take into account "Reduction of Postage" or "Increase of Population."

Locality.	Number of Letters delivered in 1844	Number of of Letters delivered in 1863.	Increase in 1\$53 over 1844.	Number Number of Letters delivered in 1864.	Number of Letters delivered in 1868.	Increase in 1863 over 1864.	Excess of Increase in 1865 on 1864 or 1864 over Increase in 1865 on 1844.
London District.	27,000,000	48,000,000	16,006,000	46,000,000	76,000,000	30,000,000	14,000,000
Provincial and Foreign	63,000,000	24,000,000	21,000,000	67,000,000	85,000,000	28,000,000	7,000,000
Total of London District	99,000,000	97,000,000	37,000,000	108,000,000	161,000,000	58,000,000	21,000,000
Best of England and Wales	189,000,000	322,000,000	103,006,000	288,000,000	368,000,600	118,000,000	10,000,000
Whole of England and Wales	189,060,000	\$39,000,000	140,000,000	358,000,000	000'000'089	171,000,000	31,000,000
Scotland	27,000,000	41,000,000	14,000,000	44,000,000	61,000,000	17,000,000	8,000,000
Ireland	26,000,000	40,080,800	14,000,000	41,000,000	62,060,000	11,000,000	Falling off 3,006,000
The United Kingdom	242,000,000	410,000,000	168,000,000	448,090,000	000'000'899	199,000,000	81,000,000

The foregoing table shows that the actual increase of correspondence in 1863 over 1854 (the period during which the improvements described in the foregoing pages were effected) exceeded the actual increase in 1853 over 1844 by 31 millions of letters; that this excess of increase in the later of the two periods extended to all parts of the United Kingdom except Ireland, the deficiency of increase in that country being attributable probably to the rapid diminution of the population; that out of the gross excess of increase (which amounted to 34 millions) 21 millions accrued in the London district, and that of these 21 millions 14 millions were London district local letters.

In many of the smaller Postal districts, the particulars of which are contained in the table printed at pages 6 to 11, the proportionate increase of correspondence in 1863 on 1854 has been very great. The correspondence of the whole kingdom has increased in that period at the rate of 44 per cent., but the local correspondence of London has increased at the rate of 55 per cent., and the whole correspondence of London at the rate of 56 per cent.; whilst that of Birmingham has increased at the rate of 54, that of Birkenhead at 71, that of Blackburn at 59, that of Bolton at 90, that of Bradford at 62, that of Chester at 76, that of Darlington at 70, that of Derby at 88, that of Leicester at 93, that of Halifax at 73, that of Leeds at 69, that of Warrington at 96, that of Wigan at 73, and that of Wolverhampton at 78 per cent.

The extraordinary growth, during the period, of Folkstone and Malvern as places of resort for visitors is well shown by the fact that the correspondence of Folkstone has increased at the rate of 158 per cent., and that of Malvern at the rate of 162 per cent.

Those columns of the tables printed at pages 6 to 13, which give the proportion of letters to population, or the number of letters per head, go to prove that the habit of letter writing had become much more generally diffused in 1863 than in 1854.

The proportion of letters to population would appear to be exceptionally high at Brighton, Folkstone, Margate, Ramsgate, Malvern, Leamington, and Southport and some other places of like kind; but this is attributable to the fact that the numbers of the resident populations only are given in the tables, and that the letters are the letters of the resident and non-resident populations.

It is probable that in the case of London the constant influx and efflux of a large non-resident population tends somewhat to raise the number of letters per head in London above what it would seem to be if the letters of the resident population alone could be taken into account. But looking to the proportion of local letters (which must be mainly those of the resident population) to the population of the London district, there appears reason for believing that the number of letters per head is higher in the London district than in any other part of the kingdom.

The Foreign and Colonial letters coming into the United Kingdom for delivery are about one fiftieth of the whole number of letters delivered, and the letters despatched to Foreign Countries and Colonies are nearly equal in number to those which are received. The following Table will give a general view of the increase which has taken place in the most important classes of Foreign and Colonial letters since the year 1857, the first year for which an account of the numbers of such letters can be given.

Number of Letters passing between the Unite Kingdom, and	d	1857. 1857.	e Logora dis the smaller	Increase. 1
Africa, West Coast -		51,000	103,000	52,000
Australia (Outwards only)	-	913,000	1,392,000	479,000
Belgium	40	576,000	847,000	271,000
Brazil	70	146,000	242,000	96,000
Bremen	-	106,000	112,000	6,000
Ceylon	200	66,000	115,000	49,000
East Indies	1-4101	1,258,000	1,624,000	18 366,000 A
France*		4,206,000	6,373,000	2,167,000
Hamburgh	-	643,000	1,038,000	395,000
Holland -	201	413,000	524,000	111,000
China -	0-1	150,000	309,000	mod o 159,000 ac
West Indies and Pacific	-	604,000	704,000	100,000

^{*} In 1854, i.e. before the reduction of postage to France, the correspondence with France amounted to only 3,000,000 letters.

It would be hard to determine what proportion of the marked increase of correspondence which is exhibited in the foregoing pages is attributable to the improvements effected by the Post Office, and what to the growth of trade and commerce, and the Some increase would more general diffusion of education. doubtless have taken place if the improvements had been less marked, or if there had been no improvement at all. In some cases the Post Office has, no doubt, conferred a benefit on the correspondence without thereby increasing it. It seems highly probable, for instance, that no greater increase of correspondence has followed the reduction of postage on letters to British North America and Australia than would have been brought about by the gradual increase of trade, and the growth in the number of correspondents, if no reduction of postage had taken place. In other cases, again, the Post Office may fairly believe that it has stimulated correspondence. Thus the division of London into districts, and the arrangements consequent on that division, would appear to have given a most powerful stimulus to the local correspondence of London; and the correspondence between the United Kingdom and France would certainly appear to have been increased by the direct action of the Post Office on two occasions; first when the postage was reduced, and next when the period required for the transmission of a letter and the receipt of a reply was shortened in the manner which I have described.

One class of letters, the letters containing advertisements, has certainly been increased enormously, if indeed it has not been

altogether created by the Post Office. The following Table, which is compiled from Returns taken in London only, will give some information, though very imperfect information, as to the number of circulars, of the nature of advertisements, which pass through the post at the letter rates of postage. During the year 1863 an account was taken in London of 3,957,000 letters which were obviously circulars, and of which 3,485,000 could be assigned to various trades and societies in the proportions shown by the following Table. The number of letters recorded as circulars, however, is much below the actual number posted in London, as circulars which are posted in small quantities escape notice. It is believed that 15 per cent. of the total number of letters posted in London contain printed enclosures. The following is the Table referred to:

By whom posted.	Number.	By whom posted.	Number.
Agricultural Hall Company	5,451	Hotel Companies	6,478
Art Societies	25,174	Insurance Companies	291,904
Auctioneers	1,764	Iron Merchants	4,500
Austrian Lottery Office	141,117	Ironmongers	2,382
Banking Companies •	26,965	Kamptulicon and Rubber Companies	6,528
Botanical Societies	1,400	Land Companies	29,144
Candle Makers	10,802	Loan Companies	19,150
Carpet Manufacturers	19,056	•	5.4I£
City Election Committee (no) Opposition)	15,765	Oil and Colour Men	8,900
Coal Merchants and Companies -	36,527	Printers and Librarians	63,225
Chocolate Makers	12,237	Provision Merchants	20,512
Colonial Brokers	8,500	Publishers and Booksellers -	58,583
Commission Agents	7,550	Purveyors	2,138
Confectioners	12,464	Railway Companies	846,159
Corn Merchants and Factors -	4,344	Religious and Charitable Institu-	807,615
*Crystal Palace Company	28,291		18,388
Distillers and Brewers	21,237		4,136
Drapers	1,690,052		18,103
Earthenware Manufacturers	5,300		10.536
Flour Company	17,100		12,791
Food for Cattle Company	2,856		4.668
Gas Company	12,768		6.021
Glass Dealers	9,160		15.090
Grocers	11,780	-	2.000
Hatters	1,840		4,600
Carpet Manufacturers - 19,056 City Election Committee (no Opposition) 15,765 Coal Merchants and Companies - 36,527 Chocolate Makers - 12,237 Chocolate Makers - 12,237 Commission Agents - 7,550 Comfectioners - 12,464 Corn Merchants and Factors - 4,344 Corn Merchants and Factors - 23,237 Distillers and Brewers - 21,237 Drapers - 1,690,052 Earthenware Manufacturers - 5,300 Flour Company - 17,100 Food for Cattle Company - 2,856 Gas Company - 12,768 Glass Dealers - 9,160 Grocers - 11,780 Mining Companies - Printers and Librarians - Printers and Librarians - Printers and Librarians - Printers and Librarians - Printers and Electrans - Printers and Electrans - Railway Companies - Railway Companie		101,500	
Horticultural Society	1,275	With Welconstree	TAT MADE

^{*} In March 1859 the Sacred Harmonic Society, in conjunction with the Crystal Palace Cospany, posted on one day upwards of 400,000 circulars with regard to the then projected Handel Festival. These circulars were despatched to the Post Office in two vans, which they filled.

Book Post and Pattern Post.

In addition to the circulars (of the nature of advertisements) which pass through the Post Office at the letter rate of postage, an immense number (all in fact which consist of printed matter and exceed half an ounce in weight) pass under the regulations of the Book Post. By the establishment of the Book Post and Pattern Post the Post Office has created for itself two new branches of business, and given new, and I think, marked facilities to the whole trading community for the extension of trade and commerce. The effect of the establishment of the Book Post is too well known to need farther comment here, but the existence and the regulations of the Pattern Post are not as yet thoroughly known or understood, and demand some words of explanation.

The Foreign Pattern Post was first established by me, under your Lordships sanction, in the year 1862, and was then applied to France only, but since the commencement of the present year it has been extended to the under-mentioned countries and places: Canada (by Canadian packet), Italy, Constantinople, Malta, Gibraltar, Alexandria, Suez, Cairo, India, Penang, Singapore, Ceylon, Hong Kong, Mauritius, and Liberia, and many

other extensions are in progress.

The Inland Pattern Post was established in the autumn of 1863. In the course of the present year I received a memorial from the associated Chambers of Commerce, praying for a reduction of the rates of postage for Inland Patterns, and for an extension of the advantages of the Pattern Post to the staple manufactures of Birmingham and Sheffield. After careful consideration of the question, I had much satisfaction in recommending to your Lordships a full compliance with the latter part of the memorialists' request, and a reduction in the rates of postage to the extent of one third at each step in the scale of charge.

The following are now the principal regulations of the Inland Pattern Post. The regulations of the Foreign Pattern Post, with the exception of the regulations as to charge, will shortly be

assimilated to those of the Inland Post.

The rates of postage are—

For a packet of patterns or samples—

Not exceeding 4 oz. in weight - - 0 2

Exceeding 4 oz. but not exceeding 8 oz. in weight 0 4

,, 8 oz. ,, 16 oz. ,, - 0 8

,, 16 oz. ,, 24 oz. ,, - 1 0

No packet of patterns or samples must exceed 24 oz. in weight. The patterns or samples must not be of intrinsic value. This rule excludes all articles of a saleable nature, and, indeed, whatever may have a value of its own, apart from its mere use as a pattern or sample; and the quantity of any material, sent ostensibly as a pattern or sample must not be so great that it can fairly be considered as having, on this ground, an intrinsic value. There must be no writing or printing in addition to the

address of the person for whom the packet is intended, except the address of the sender, a trade mark and numbers, and the prices of the articles. The patterns or samples must be sent in covers open at the ends, so as to admit of being examined easily. Samples of seeds, &c. may be enclosed in boxes made of cardboard, or in bags of linen, or other material, fastened in

such a manner that they may be readily opened.

It will be seen that the extensions of the Pattern Post have been effected gradually, and with caution. It has, indeed, been necessary so to proceed. The organization of the Post Office is so vast, and the means which it possesses for rapid and constant communication, even with the most distant and the least populous parts of the kingdom, are so complete, that the public have a constantly growing motive for requesting that the distribution of other articles than letters may be added to the primary duties of the department. And the department also may be said to lie under a constantly increasing temptation to extend its operations, and to undertake, at the request of the public, new duties, for the performance of which it is fully qualified, but which no private organization could so satisfactorily accomplish. are, however, many serious obstacles to such extensions. can be no doubt that the Book Post has entailed a very large increase of expense on the Post Office, and that it has made the primary duty of the department—the duty of distributing letters—more difficult of performance than it might otherwise have been. By the establishment of the Book Post the gross weight of the mails, and the weight to be carried by each letter carrier, have been increased, and by it the operations of sorting have been much complicated. It did not appear to me, however, that the objections which might have been raised in the first instance against the establishment of the Book Post would, when that Post had been fully established, tell with equal weight against the establishment of a Pattern Post. It appeared to me, that I might so regulate the Pattern Post as to guard against undue addition to the gross weight of the mails, or to the burdens of individual letter carriers, that the special arrangements which had been made for the sortation and examination of book packets would to a great extent suffice for the sortation and examination of pattern packets, and that as the establishment of a Pattern Post would benefit not one trade only, but every trade throughout the country, the Post Office might, with propriety, enter on the experiment. I am happy to say, that hitherto the experiment has been entirely successful. The full account of its results belongs rather to the Report for the year 1864 than to the Report which I now have the honour to submit; but the following Tables, which show the number of patterns or samples of each kind posted in London, and the number posted in the provinces for transmission to London, during one month of 1864, will, I am confident, prove interesting to your Lordships.

Description and Numbers of Patterns and Samples posted in London during one Month of 1864.

Patterns or Samples.	Totals.	Patterns or Samples.	Totals.
Tea	7,151	Blue	30
Sugar	8,804	Belts	1
Coffee -	430	Biscuits	15
Currents	292	Brass	6
Cocoa	. 2	Elastic	1
Sago and Spice -	111	Printed Cottons	7
Ginger	. 8	Tailors Patterns	20
Rice	245	Gum	2
Oilcake	. 19	Wax Candles	1
Hops	1,034	Raisins	30
Seeds	243	Rosin	1
Wool	576	Tobacco	1
Silks	228	Lace	5
Ladies Dresses -	116	Umbrella Handles	1
Muslins and Merinos	7	Damask and Chintz -	22
	63	Feathers -	5
Canvas		Buckles	1
	822	Peas	5
Ribbon	. 11	Licorice	1
Flannel	- 20	Locks	1
Cloth (Woollen) -	689	Flour -	3
Carpet	_ 24	Rings	1
Worsted -	. 1	Bran	2
Trimmings	- 1	Dried Fruits	16
Cotton	49	Nuts	2
Corn	- 113	Shellac	14
Drugs	- 20	Sewing Cotton	1
India Rubber -	4	Hosiery	1
	. 7	Asphalte	1
Buttons	_ 2	Tape	1
Hooks	- 45	Pencils	1
String	- 3	Envelopes	2
Weod	- 1	Flax	1
Wax -	- 1	Cords	1
Felt	- 68	Gloves	4
Wire	- 1	Shirts	25
Arrowroot	- 4	Crape	1
Isinglass	- 7	Herbs	1
Cocoa Fibre -	- 1	Bark	1
Iron	- 3	Sand Paper	1
Screws	- 2	Brushes	i
Glue	- 18	Blacklead	15
Knives	- 1	Tin -	1
Indigo -		Metal	2
Hemp -	- 4	Combs	1
	- 4		1

DESCRIPTION and Numbers of Patterns and Samples posted in the Provinces for transmission to London during one Month of 1864.

Patterns or Samples.	Totals.	Patterns or Samples.	Totals.
	-		-
Tea	136	Sewing Cotton	19
Sugar	178	Glue	5
Coffee -	1 14	Nails -	2
Currants	. 14	Boots and Shoes	8
Oilcake	. 3	Caps	3
Hops	53	Bobbins	2
Seeds	. 18	Keys	1 i
Wool	- 118	Beans -	3
Silks	320	Meal	3
Ladies Dresses -	. 1	Needlework	7
Muslins and Merinoes	15	Shirt Fronts	2
Calico	72	Rice	1
Canvas ·	35	Belts	1
Alpaca and Stuffs	907	Brick	. 1
Velvet	. 6	Cotton Cords	7
Flannel	22	Candles	1
Cloth (Woollen) -	525	Flour	8
Carpet	65	Beads	2
Worsted	. 2	Feathers	3
Hosiery	56	Blue	1
Trimmings	6	Gun Waddings	14
Oilcloth	. 8	Pins]]
Cotton	72	Staple	1
Flax	22	Wooden Moulds	7 2
Corn -	189	Hooks	ī
Hair ·	6 9	Tallow	li
Buttons	10	Gas Fittings	1 4
Leather	10	Carriage Trimmings	3
Pens	3	Slippers	li
Yarn	24	Chains	i
Hemp	3	Frock	l i
Webbing	. 8	Flannel Vests	3
Ore	. 9	China	i
Pipe Clay	. 4	Cigar Case	i
String	14	Nets	1
Soap	. 1	Spice	1
Brass	. 2	Lamp Cottons	1
Wire	. 3	Cribbage Board	1
Buckles	. 1	Pinchers	2
Ribbon	. 3	Cuffs	2
Stays	. 1	Braces	1
Gilt Moulding -	. 1	Corks	2
Coeca	1	Bran	1
Tin Canister	2	Lint -	1
Printed Cottons	1	Watch Works	2
Raisins	1	Spectacle Cases	1
Tobacco	1 1	Potatoes	1
Iron	8	Ivory	1
Salt	3	Lozenges	1
Stocks	6	Files	_
Linseed	3	Hay	1
Rope	1	Taps	2
Drugs -	6	Shawls	.1
Gloves	10	Eardrops	1
	1		<u> </u>

Registration of Letters.

In the year 1861, with your Lordships' sanction, two measures, having for their common object the lessening of the temptations to which the servants of the Post Office had been exposed, by the transmission of valuable property in unregistered letters, were introduced by me. By the first of these measures the fee for the registration of letters was reduced from 6d. to 4d.; by the second, it was arranged that letters which were posted without registration, but which appeared unquestionably to contain coin, should be compulsorily registered by the department, and charged with a double registration fee, to be paid by the addressee. The result of these combined measures has been satisfactory. The number of registered letters has risen from 1,457,000 in 1860 to 1,965,000 in 1863; and the number of applications for missing letters containing coin has fallen from about 6,000 to about 2,000 per annum. On the other hand, the good effect of these measures has to a great extent been neutralized by the growth of the practice of transmitting postage stamps. through the Post; the applications for missing letters containing postage stamps having risen precisely in the proportion in which the applications for missing letters containing coin have fallen. The proportion of missing letters to the whole correspondence of the country is exceedingly small, inasmuch as not more than one letter in every 23,000 goes astray; and of those which go astray many are eventually recovered; but the actual number of missing letters is still far too great. During the present year great efforts have been made within the department to detect and check dishonesty; many dishonest persons. have been brought to justice, and the perpetrators of some conspicuous robberies have been discovered and punished.

That vigilance, however, which can only detect and punish is at the best unsatisfactory in its results; but so long as the public will not co-operate with the department by withholding the temptations to crime, no better results can be expected. long as the public persist in sending large sums of money in unregistered letters, so long will men be found ready, in an establishment so large as is the Post Office, to avail themselves of the opportunities for crime thus culpably afforded to them. The principal officers of the department are actively engaged in considering whether any further inducement to resort to the Registration or Money Order systems can with propriety be offered to the public, and I shall be glad if they find themselves able to recommend the grant of any such additional inducements; but, in the meanwhile, I would remind the public that the securities of either system can at present be purchased very cheaply, and that the letter, which if it be not registered, may offer a strong temptation to any one of many persons, may, by the payment of fourpence, be made to offer hardly any temptation at all, and to offer that very slight temptation only to a few.

The Money Order Office.

It will be seen from the tables printed at pages 6 to 13 of this Report that the number of Money Order Offices has been largely increased (at the rate of 60 per cent.) since the year But the increase of accommodation to the public is not' adequately represented by the increase in the number of Money Order Offices. Up to the year 1859 a large number of the Money Order Offices in the United Kingdom were minor Money Order Offices, were limited to an issue of 50l. per diem, and were required to send the advices of orders issued by them through their Metropolitan Offices, instead of sending them direct to the Paying Offices. The payment of the orders thus issued and advised was considerably retarded, especially in Scotland where the course of post is often unavoidably long. distinction between Minor and Major Order Offices was abolished in England and Wales on the 1st of October 1859, and in Scotland and Ireland on the 1st January 1860. At the period when the abolition of this distinction commenced there were 870 Minor Money Order Offices in the United Kingdom.

In the year 1856 the Offices of Malta and Gibraltar were permitted to issue Money Orders on the United Kingdom. In 1859 the Money Order business for both issue and payment was extended to Canada. In 1860 the United Kingdom began to draw Money Orders on Malta and Gibraltar, and in 1862, 1863, and the present year Money Order business of both kinds has been commenced with various Colonies, so that it is now carried on with Malta, Gibraltar, Canada, British Guiana, the Cape, Newfoundland, Nova Scotia, Prince Edward Island, the West Coast of Africa, the Australian Colonies, and New Zealand, and a large number of the West Indian Colonies. The following Table will show the progress of Colonial Money Order business from its commencement to the close of 1863:—

Money Orders Money Orders
issued in Colonies issued in United Kingdom for payment for payment in Tear. in Colonies. United Kingdom. Number. Amount. Number. Amount £ 12,961 3,965 1856 1857 4,744 14,168 3,724 8,102 1858 10,050 709 2,256 22,943 1859

It will be seen from the tables printed at pages 6 to 11 of this Report that in certain Postal Districts the orders paid are

2,649

4,315

6,234 8,194 7,726

12,259

22,899

81,373

18,605

16,278

28,371

44,720

1860

1861

1862

1868

40,256

47,274

110,437

177,814

largely in excess of the orders issued. Amongst these the London District is the most conspicuous. In it, in the year 1863, the orders issued amounted to 19 per cent of the whole issue of the kingdom, whilst the orders paid in it were 28 per cent of the whole payments of the kingdom.

In Ashton, Birmingham, Bristol, Burton, Chester, Coventry, Exeter, Gloucester, Hull, Ipswich, Leeds, Liverpool, Manchester, Margate, Norwich, Plymouth, Preston, Reading, Slieffield, Truro, West Bromwich, and York, the payments were in excess of the

issues.

The following table, which shows what proportion of the whole issues and payments in 1854 and 1863 pertained to each principal section of the kingdom, shows also that the distribution of Money Order business since 1854 has undergone hardly any alteration, the increase having been rateably divided amongst all the sections.

alta med villere were S70 alta med villeson or some	Issues to T	tion of otal Issues.	Payment	tion of a salt to Total iM
he United Kingsism. In	1854.	loney Or 1863. Te	A sussi o	permitted t 1859.8981 M
London District 106 Postal Districts in England	Per Cent	Per Cent. 19.25	Per Cent.	Per Cent
and Wales Rest of England and Wales Scotland Ireland	38° 30°3 7°8 6°7	37: 29: 7:75	35° 20°8 8°2 7°5	veen .cenni
Treams	100.	100	100	and a • 001 ge

The Money Order Office, which was established in the first instance for the purpose of facilitating the transmission of small sums by poor persons, has gradually become the bank of the whole trading community. It affords an almost absolute security to those who are desirous of remitting money from one part of the country to another. Money Orders are often lost and often stolen, but the departmental check is so complete that not more than one in every hundred thousand of the orders issued is paid to another than the lawful owner. For orders which are lost or stolen, but not thus fraudulently cashed, duplicates are issued on application by the lawful owner.

Post Office Savings Banks.

The progress and the success of Post Office Savings Banks have been so frequently and so recently described as to render it unnecessary for me here to enter into a further statement of the steps taken in the department under my control to carry into effect the Act for granting "additional facilities for depositing "small sums at interest, with the security of the Government "for due repayment thereof."

The Tables printed at pages 6 to 13 of this Report show that the Post Office Savings Banks have been successful in every part of the country, and that the "additional facilities" which they have afforded have stimulated the growth of prudent and frugal habits throughout the whole population of the kingdom. It is at once matter of surprise and gratification to find that in a period of only two years and a half from the date of their establishment they should have attracted and retained 372,000 depositors, and that the accumulated fund belonging to these depositors should have reached the sum of four millions. But it is a matter of greater gratification to find, what is abundantly proved by the tables above referred to, that by the establishment of Post Office Savings Banks the Legislature has effected, not a mere transfer of depositors from one establishment to another, but a real and considerable increase in the total number of saving persons throughout the kingdom. Those columns of the above cited Tables which show the numbers of depositors in old savings banks prior to the establishment of Post Office Banks, the numbers in old banks and Post Office Banks combined on the 31st March 1864, and the consequent increase in the total numbers of Savings Bank depositors, will furnish many interesting illustrations of my statements.

As, until the Post Office Savings Banks were established, facilities for the safe investment of small sums were given chiefly in wealthy and densely populated places, it need not be matter of surprise that the proportion of Savings Bank depositors to population is highest in such localities. In the London District there is one depositor (taking the depositors in Old banks and those in Post Office Banks together) for every seven persons; in the 106 Postal districts of England and Wales, which are specified in the foregoing Tables, there is one for every thirteen persons; in the rest of England and Wales one for every fifteen persons; in Scotland one for every seventeen persons; and in Ireland one for every sixty-eight persons. I hope that, under the gradual operation of the Post Office Savings Bank system, the proportion of depositors to population will rise greatly even

in thinly populated districts.

Revenue and Expenditure.

The following Tables show in considerable detail the particulars of the Expenditure, Gross Revenue, and Net Revenue, and the total Effective and Non-effective Force of the Post Office, during each of the ten years from 1854 to 1863. It will be seen from them that though a largely increased cost has been incurred by the department in carrying out the improvements described in the foregoing pages, whilst at the same time many additions have been made to the emoluments of Post Office servants, the Net Revenue of the department, after full allowance for all charges, including the cost of Foreign and Colonial Maits, has risen from 389,000*l.* per annum in 1854 to 1,042,000*l.* per annum in 1863. The Tables appear to require no further comment from me.

	es engy	TOTAL COST of Post OPPICE SELVICE.	2,400,400 2,400,400 2,400,400 2,500,470 2,500,470 2,500,470 2,500,470 2,500,470 2,500,470 2,500,470 2,500,470 2,500,470 2,500,470 2,500,470
		Total Cost of Conveyance.	1,435,880 1,539,801 1,439,801 1,439,800 1,439,800 1,439,800 1,439,800 1,547,800 1,547,800 1,547,800 1,547,800 1,547,800
	II.8.	Odnveyande of Mails over Isthmus of Sanethands and Isthmus of Panethes and Salarles of in other Porcign Parts, and Salarles of Admirally Agents and other Odniers in Cabres of Porcign and Colonial Mails.	26,838 26,839 26,531 28,871 28,871 28,739 28,648 38,671 24,700
	YANCE OF MAILS	Conveyance of Mells by private Ships and by Packets under Contract with Admiralty or Post Office.	775,018 775,018 775,037 775,037 995,888 996,988 980,988 980,988 887,665
	COST of CONVEYANCE	Oct Oct Supply and Repair of Mail Bags and Force, Tolls, and Forrage, Cost of Apparate of Bags conveyed by Ballway, and Miscellaneous Expenses.	10,467 13,460 15,503 19,344 18,907 26,280 26,289 20,388 20,189
ire.	۵	Сопчеувлюе бу Выйжана.	440,320 346,383 422,443 422,443 428,647 430,046 538,046 538,046
Expenditure		Conveyance by Coaches, Carts, and Omnibuses.	164,955 150,089 141,835 147,147 147,140 147,806 150,868 152,508 162,280
and Exi	GEMENT,	Total Cost of Collection, Delivery, and Management, and of Money Order Business.	878,861 1,046,688 1,112,466 1,125,848 1,125,816 1,252,670 1,247,316 1,775,126 1,775,136
Force a	, of Mana deinebb.	Buildings and Ropairs, Rents, Rates, Taxes, Fuel, and Light.	26,126 44,898 44,898 106,478 106,478 184,703 184,703
F	of Collection and Delivery, of Management, and of Money Order Order Breiness.	Spectonory	22,461 22,461 22,461 27,744 28,241 28,442 34,223 34,223 34,223 34,233 37,897 25,881
	of Morer	Manufacture of Postage Stamps, i.e., Frincing, Paper, and Miscellaneous Oharges.	8, 17,365 18,467 18,622 18,623 18,635 17,77 17,191 18,113
, 11	COST of COLLEG	Palarles, Wages, Pepsions, Traveiling Al- lowances, Poundage on Bale of Stamps, Commission on Issue of Money Orders, Cost of Uniform Clothing, Medical Expenses, and Oose of Substitutes during Annual Holidays or Sickness of Officers and Men, Official Postage, Law Officers and Men, Official Expenses.	1,035,607 1,035,607 1,035,607 1,075,217 1,140,386 1,146,386 1,246,988
	C. Non-	winαojsædj	
. :	PORCE	Schrier, Postmarkers, Clerks, Stampers, Messengers, Sariors, Lotter Carriers.	8,189 8,189 8,186 8,546 8,186 8,186 8,188 8,198 8,198
* ****		Date.	1854 1856 1856 1857 1858 1869 1860 1861 1863

5 () 3 () 2 ()	Net Bovenue	28 389,181 400,588 688,580 683,580 582,589 541,454 707,978 510,691 510,692	728,001 of 10 L
	Total Cost of Post Office Service.	2,312,681 2,405,062 2,402,094 2,564,938 2,889,166 2,800,470 2,623,196 3,1164,527 2,926,486	1 1
	Total Postal Revenue.	2,701,862 2,809,420 3,035,964 8,185,713 8,241,536 8,461,924 8,531,166 8,665,128 8,704,004 8,999,455	
levenue.	Produce of the on Newspapers on Newspapers collected Inland Revenue Office.	28.000 168,000 168,000 154,000 148,349 141,810 134,671 138,415	
Gross and Wet Revenue.	Gross Revenue collected by the Pest Office.	\$701,862 \$716,420* \$4716,420* \$4055,713 \$607,634. \$7318,875 \$889,385 \$899,687 \$\$89,687	2019
Gross	Money Order Commission.	88,076 105,471 103,346 110,896 111,596 112,698 127,866 136,954	e of first Five Years second ditto
	Gross Revenue from Letters, Books, Packets, &c.	2,619,786 2,610,040 2,704,606 2,925,863 2,975,258 3,207,663 3,402,691 6,496,685 3,7780,073	• Average Not Beyenue of first Five Years Ditto second ditto
	Year.	1855	7.

The following statement of the receipt and disposal of monies on account of Post Office Savings Banks and of the charges of management thereof (which are not included in the charges of management of the Post Office), from the commencement of business to the 31st March 1864, will complete my account of the monetary transactions of the department under my control:

TI LI	ABILITIES.			
Total amount of deposits, from 18th to 31st March 1864, of the interest all to principal on 31st December 1861, 1862, and 31st December 1863, and allowed and paid on closed accouncember 1864	habbe has hown	& _ s. d. 5,955,774 17 9	& e.	d.
Deduct—		·	•	
Repayments to depositors, from 16th S S1st March 1864	eptember 1861 to	1,858,282 16 7		
Total sum due to all depositors in th	n Post Office South	ned Danks in the		:
United Kingdom on the 81st March 1	864 · ·	uka Danka m tuo	4,097,492 1	1
		,-	4	•
				;
Surplus of assets over liabilities -	• ,, •		10,052 1	ė
		· .	4,107,544 2	2
	ASSETS.			
Total amount of the sums paid by the Postmaster General to the National Debt Commissioners for investment, and of the interest received on such investments, from 16th September 1861 to 31st March 1864, exclusive of dividends payable on the 5th April 1864	& s. d.	£ e. d.	£ 8.	, đ,
Deduct— Amount which has been repaid by the Commissioners for the Reduction of the National Debt, on account of 54.885. 2s. 8d., being the amount paid for the expenses of management of the Post Office Savings Banks from 15th September 1861 to 31st March 1884	45,992 6 4	-		
Amount of sums transferred from Post Office Savings Banks to Savings Banks	2,369 9 11	40.001.70		
Balance remaining in the hands of the Postmaster General to be paid over for investment	20,829 9 4	48,361 16 8	4,098,607	2
Less expenses for one Quarter to 31st March 1864, which had not then been recovered from National Debt Com- missioners	8,892 16 4			
			11,936 18	0
		e e	4,107,544 9	3

Conclusion.

I should ill discharge the duty which I owe to your Lordships, and to those who are placed under my control, if, at the close of a Report in which the progress of so many improvements has been described, I failed to express my sense of the conduct of those by whom these improvements have been so ably planned and so diligently carried out. It must not be supposed that these vast changes, in an organization so complex and so delicate as that of the Post Office, could have been effected without the cordial co-operation of many able men, who for the most part could have but little hope of making themselves known beyond the Department, but who nevertheless have laboured long and diligently to promote the success of its several undertakings. Thus much, I am bound to urge, on behalf of many valuable public servants, to whose talent and zeal the country is indebted for the minute arrangements and the rapid and complete development of many of the plans which I have described.

But I am especially bound to express, as I already have expressed in my place in Parliament, my regret that the Post Office should have lost the services of so distinguished a man as Sir Rowland Hill, who, on account of failing health, has been compelled to retire from the office of Secretary, after having held that office throughout the entire period in which the improvements described by me have taken place. It is but fitting that in this Report, the tenth of a series dating from his assumption of the office of Secretary, and in which all those evidences of his zeal and ability which the previous Reports contained are summed up, I should record my sense of the great merits which your Lordships have already recognised, and to which the Legislature has awarded a special mark of its approbation.

I have appointed Mr. Tilley, who was the senior assistant secretary, to succeed Sir Rowland Hill, and the place vacated by him has been filled up by the promotion of Mr. Scudamore, who, amongst other able men whose claims I fully considered, seemed

to me to possess the highest qualifications for the office.

I have the honour to be,

My Lords,

Your Lordships' obedient Servant,

STANLEY OF ALDERLEY.

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