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THIRTY-EIGHTH REPORT

OF

THE POSTMASTER GENERAL

ON

1891/92

THE POST OFFICE.

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



LONDON:

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THIRTY-EIGHTH ANNUAL REPORT.

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

MY LORDS,

I HAVE the honour to submit to your Lordships the Thirty-eighth Annual Report on the Post Office, being the Report for the year ended the 31st of March 1892.

The following table shows the estimated number of letters, &c. delivered in the United Kingdom during the twelve months ended the 31st of March:—

—	Number estimated.	Increase per cent.	Average Number to each Person.
Letters - - -	1,767,500,000	3·6	46·5
Post Cards - - -	241,600,000	5·2	6·3
Book Packets, Circulars, } and Samples - - }	495,300,000	2·9	13
Newspapers - - -	162,800,000	1·1	4·3
Total - - -	2,667,200,000	3·5	70·1
Parcels - - -	49,378,365	6·6	1·3
Grand Total -	2,716,578,365	3·5	71·4

The number of letters registered was 12,077,368, an increase of 720,171, or at the rate of 6·3 per cent.

Of the 2,667,200,000 letters, &c. delivered, about 85·2 per cent. were delivered in England and Wales, 29·3 per cent. being delivered in the London Postal District alone, 8·9 per cent. in Scotland, and 5·9 per cent. in Ireland.

The number of Post Offices has been increased during the year by 295, and the number of public letter boxes has been increased by 1,464. The total number of Post Offices has thus been raised to 19,101, and the number of letter boxes to 23,301.

About 700 additional licenses to sell postage stamps have been issued to private individuals and firms.

Returned
Letters.

The numbers of letters, &c. dealt with in the various Returned Letter Offices throughout the country were as follows :—

—	Number.	Increase.
Letters	6,790,845	222,575
Post cards	914,234	22,146
Patterns and Samples	41,618	11,376
Parcels	118,068	7,156
Book Packets and Circulars	7,016,460	92,725
Newspapers	556,731	Decrease. 41,716

Of the 6,790,845 letters dealt with 135,914 were re-issued to corrected addresses, 6,000,601 were returned to the senders, 234,252 were returned unopened to the Post Offices of foreign countries, and only 430,078 remained which could not be disposed of. The number of registered letters dealt with was 207,212, or 5,945 more than in 1890-91, and included 30,179 letters containing articles which rendered compulsory registration necessary. About 32,000 letters were posted without any addresses, and of these 1,724 contained cash, bank-notes, and cheques, &c., of the value of over 15,700*l*. Of the parcels dealt with 89,598 were re-issued to corrected addresses or returned to the senders. The decrease in the number of newspapers is due to a change, on the 1st January last, in the regulations governing the transmission of newspapers to places abroad. Before that date newspapers for abroad, on which the postage was not fully prepaid, were detained and sent to the Returned Letter Office. They are now forwarded to their destination, and the necessary charge is collected on delivery.

Staff.

The total number of officers on the permanent establishment of the Department, together with Sub-Postmasters, is 68,231. The number added in the year was 4,363. In this total are included 9,660 women of whom 1,115 are employed as clerks in the Chief Offices in London, Edinburgh, and Dublin, and 4,119 as counterwomen and telegraphists throughout the United Kingdom, besides others employed as Sub-Postmistresses. Besides the foregoing there are throughout the United Kingdom about 57,000 other persons employed more or less in Post Office work. Of these about 16,000 are women. The total number of persons employed of all ranks is 125,762.

Pensioners and
Army Re-
servists as
Postmen.

An important change was introduced in November 1891 in the method of recruiting the Staff of Postmen, with the object of encouraging Military Service and of providing situations for

those who, after having served their country in the Army or Navy, are sometimes left without employment at a comparatively early age. In making appointments to the situation of Postman preference is now given to Army, Navy, and Royal Marine pensioners, and men of the Army Reserve. This system has necessarily to be carried out by degrees and with due regard to the legitimate claims of persons who have had prospects of succeeding to the situations in question, but it is satisfactory to note that by 31st March 1892 no fewer than 1,379 soldiers and sailors were serving in this capacity.

The health of the staff has been fairly good, notwithstanding a recurrence of the epidemic of influenza in the early part of 1891. Although the cases were more serious, the number of persons affected was not so great as in the preceding year.

In August 1891 a very important revision of the wages of certificated Postmen throughout the United Kingdom, a subject to which my predecessor had devoted much attention, came into effect. Not only were wages raised, but such advantages as a yearly allowance for boots and additional payment for Sunday work, and an extension of the number of good conduct stripes, were granted on this occasion. It may be added that in most of the large towns the period during which attendance is given has been considerably restricted, in order to make the conditions of service less onerous. The payment to Rural Postmen was altered from a fixed amount to a rising scale with annual increments, arranged according to the circumstances and requirements of each locality. It is estimated that no less than 135,000*l.* a year, in addition to the previous charge, represents the cost of this revision. In order to carry on the service of this vast department, it is necessary to employ, in addition to the certificated staff, auxiliary Postmen, who are selected from persons having other trades and occupations, and who only give a portion of their time to the delivery of letters. It will be understood that the remuneration given to a certificated Postman performing a full day's duty must necessarily be considerably in excess of the amount paid to an auxiliary.

Revision of
Postmen's
Wages.

In the course of last year a laborious examination into the position and classification of the supervising staff of the Postal and Telegraph Service, forming the complement to the scheme of my predecessor relating to Sorting Clerks and Telegraphists, was completed, and such re-adjustments were made as were warranted by the circumstances of each case. The position of over 1,000 officers was reviewed, and important improvements were carried into effect.

The attendance of Telegraph Messengers in all the large towns has been reduced by an hour a day, and boys are no longer employed during the night.

I regret to state that, owing to the operation of a recent Order in Council, which prescribes that civil servants should retire from the public service on attaining the age of 65, the Depart-

Retirements.

ment has lost the services of a large number of tried and valued officers, amongst whom may be mentioned :—

Mr. Edward Hugh Rea, C.M.G., Assistant Secretary ;
 Mr. Freeling J. Lawrence, Principal Clerk, Secretary's Office ;
 Mr. G. C. Steet, F.R.C.S., Chief Medical Officer ;
 Mr. W. H. Mulock, Director of the Confidential Enquiry Branch ;
 Mr. J. Y. Messum, R.N., Controller of Packet Services ;
 Sir Thomas Bruce, R.N., Superintendent of Packets, Dover ;
 Mr. G. R. Smith, Controller of the Returned Letter Office ;
 Mr. John Marrable, Accountant, Edinburgh ;
 Mr. R. O. Anderson, Controller of the Sorting Office, Dublin ;
 Mr. T. W. Angell, Postmaster, S.W. District ;
 Mr. Halton, Principal Clerk, Receiver and Accountant General's Office.

New buildings. During the year new Crown Post Offices have been completed at Keighley, Normanton, Stratford-on-Avon, Liverpool (Southern District Office), Coleraine, and Ennis, whilst others have been in course of erection at Abingdon, Blackpool, Brighton, Lancaster, Leeds, Manchester (South-western District Office), Hawick, and Paisley. A new Parcel Office has been provided at Manchester, and the Crown Post Offices at Newcastle-on-Tyne, Newport (Mon.), Twickenham, and the Northern District Post Office (London) have been enlarged. In many other towns new or improved Post Offices have been provided.

Good progress has been made with the building of the new General Post Office (North), and both the new Parcel Office and the Telegraph Factory at Mount Pleasant will be opened shortly.

The expenditure out of the Post Office Vote on the acquisition of sites and buildings during the year amounted to 218,368*l.*, which includes a sum of 173,000*l.* spent in the purchase of a site for a new Head Post Office at Liverpool.

The expenditure out of the Office of Works Vote on the erection of new Post Offices, and on the maintenance and enlargement of existing Post Office buildings in Great Britain, amounted to 284,226*l.*, of which 57,622*l.* was spent on the new General Post Office (North). The expenditure in Ireland amounted to 8,243*l.*

Inland Mail Service.

The following are the chief improvements in Mail Service which have been effected during the year.

The action of the Great Western and London and North-Western Railway Companies in establishing, after the completion of the Severn Tunnel, a service of Express Trains between the West of England, South Wales, and the North, via Hereford, Shrewsbury, and Crewe, afforded the Department an opportunity for securing a much desired improvement in the Night Mail Service between these districts, and, on the 1st April 1891, under an agreement between the Railway Companies and the Post Office, Mail Trains commenced running between Plymouth, Cardiff, and Swansea and Hereford and Crewe in

connexion with the Night Mail Trains travelling North and South on the main London and North-Western line. The new Service, which is in addition to the previously existing North Mail *viâ* Gloucester, has given to a very large district an extension of the time for posting letters for Ireland and the North by Night Mail, which is greatly appreciated, the gain amounting to as much as an hour and a half at Plymouth, Cardiff, Newport, and Hereford, and about three-quarters of an hour at Bristol and Exeter. In connexion with the new Mail a Travelling Post Office is run between Shrewsbury and Crewe.

On the 1st May 1891, arrangements were carried out for improving the Mail Service to and from the Islands on the West coast of Scotland, in accordance with the recommendations of the Western Highlands and Islands Commission. These arrangements were carried out in consultation with the Office of the Secretary for Scotland, which bears a considerable portion of the additional cost involved. The Mail Service from Aberdeen to the Shetland Islands was increased in frequency at an additional cost of 3,800*l.* a year, of which 3,000*l.* is charged to the vote for the Office of the Secretary for Scotland.

On the 1st September 1891, the Mail Service to and from the North of Ireland was materially improved by the acceleration of the Day Mail train between Dublin, and Belfast and Londonderry in both directions, and by the establishment of a direct Mail Packet Service *viâ* Larne and Stranraer. The Night Mail letters from London, which used to reach Belfast at 10.25 a.m., are now received *viâ* Larne at 9.10 a.m., and *viâ* Holyhead and Dublin at 9.30 a.m., while at Londonderry the hour of arrival is 11.10 a.m. *viâ* Holyhead and Dublin, and 11.30 a.m. *viâ* Larne and Stranraer, as compared with an arrival at 12.15 p.m. formerly. In the opposite direction, a considerable extension of time for posting has been effected by both routes. The new service *viâ* Larne has benefited a large amount of correspondence passing between the north of England and the north of Ireland. The additional cost of this arrangement is not less than 18,500*l.* a year.

Additional deliveries of letters have been established in London, Liverpool, Nottingham, Swansea, Paisley, and other large towns.

It will be remembered that in the year 1882 the Department made arrangements for the posting of letters at the principal railway stations in London with an extra $\frac{1}{2}$ *d.* stamp on Sunday nights. I have thought it advisable to extend this arrangement to the Chief Office at St. Martins-le-Grand and to the West Strand Office, Charing Cross; and to reduce from 4*d.* to 1*d.* the extra fee for letters posted on Sundays at the West Strand Post Office and the General Post Office before 6 p.m., and at the Cannon Street and Charing Cross and other Railway Stations before 8 p.m. for despatch to the Continent. About 1,300 letters a week are posted on Sundays at the West

Strand Office and the General Post Office, and about 700 per week at the railway stations.

Parcel Post.

The Parcel Post business continues to increase in volume, as will be seen from the following table :—

Year.	—	Number of Parcels.	Postage.			Average Postage per Parcel.	
			Gross Amount.	55 per cent. on Railway-borne Parcels paid to Railway Companies.	Post Office Share.	Gross.	Post Office Share.
			£	£	£	d.	d.
1884-5	Railway-borne and Road-borne.	22,910,040	508,247	256,572	251,675	5'32	2'63
1885-6	" " "	26,417,397	591,945	298,948	292,997	5'38	2'66
1886-7	" " "	32,860,154	719,112	358,254	360,858	5'25	2'64
1887-8	" " "	36,731,786	811,764	401,205	410,469	5'30	2'68
1888-9	" " "	39,589,313	878,547	433,307	445,240	5'32	2'69
1889-90	" " "	42,852,600	952,113	463,807	488,306	5'33	2'70
1890-91	" " "	46,287,966	1,035,773	499,913	535,860	5'37	2'77
1891-92	" " "	49,378,365	1,109,654	530,076	579,578	5'39	2'82

Railway Letters.

During the 12 months ended the 31st January last, *i.e.*, the first complete year since the commencement of the system by which post letters may be forwarded singly by ordinary passenger trains, 145,000 such letters were dealt with in Great Britain, and 12,000 in Ireland.

"Express Delivery" Service.

The arrangements for the "express delivery" of letters, &c., instituted in March 1891, showed in the 12 months ended the 31st March last a total of 108,000 services, and considerable impetus has been given to the system by a reduction on the 1st January 1892 of the scale of charges. In the case of letters, &c., brought to a Post Office to be delivered locally by an express messenger throughout, the ordinary charge for postage has been got rid of as a separate item of payment and a uniform mileage fee of 3*d.* per mile, with a charge of 1½*d.* per pound, or part of a pound, after the first pound has been substituted. Thus :—

A packet weighing 1 lb. is delivered within 1 mile for	-	3	<i>d.</i>
" " " " " 2 miles for	-	6	
" " " " " 3 " "	-	9	
and so on.			
A packet weighing 2 lbs. is delivered within 1 mile for	-	4½	
" " " " " 2 miles for	-	7½	
" " " " " 3 " "	-	10½	
and so on.			

Express Letters and Parcels put into the Post in the ordinary way to be ultimately delivered by special messenger remain subject to postage, and are also chargeable with an express fee of 3*d.* per mile. Thus:—

A person sending a 1 oz. letter from London to Birmingham to be specially delivered within a mile of the Birmingham Post Office would have to pay 1*d.* plus 3*d.* = 4*d.*, and would be sure that his letter would be sent out immediately on arrival at Birmingham.

Under the above arrangements a further facility is offered to the public. A letter may now be sent to a Railway Booking Office to be forwarded by any passenger train, and it may be treated at the station of arrival as an express letter, and handed to an express messenger to be taken out at once for delivery, provided the necessary fees have been paid.

On the 1st June 1891, new regulations were introduced with regard to the Inland Registered Post. The separate system of insurance was abolished, and registration for the first time was extended to Inland Parcels. The limit of compensation for loss or damage of Inland Registered packets was also increased from 10*l.* to 25*l.*, according to the subjoined scale:—

Inland Registered Post.

	Fee.	Limit of Compensation.
	2 <i>d.</i>	5 <i>l.</i>
	3 <i>d.</i>	10 <i>l.</i>
	4 <i>d.</i>	15 <i>l.</i>
	5 <i>d.</i>	20 <i>l.</i>
	6 <i>d.</i>	25 <i>l.</i>

The following statement shows the estimated number of Registered Letters and Parcels for the first year of this new service ;

Fee paid on Registration.	2 <i>d.</i>	3 <i>d.</i>	4 <i>d.</i>	5 <i>d.</i>	6 <i>d.</i>	Total Number registered during the Year.
Limit of compensation granted in case of loss or damage.	£ 5	£ 10	£ 15	£ 20	£ 25	
Number of Letters registered -	11,936,100	75,200	25,300	13,200	27,700	12,077,400
Number of Parcels registered -	345,000	21,500	4,200	2,500	7,700	380,900

At the same time a system was introduced, on the plan of the Universal Postal Union, of furnishing the sender of a registered article with an acknowledgment of its delivery upon the payment of a special fee of twopence, but the public have not

availed themselves largely of this facility, and it is estimated that for the whole year only 3,882 acknowledgments have been issued for Registered Letters and 497 acknowledgments for Registered Parcels.

Abolition of
Redirection
Charges on
Letters.

On acceding to office in September last, I found that my predecessor had prepared the way to abolish, under certain conditions, the charges for redirection on letters, a matter of much interest to the public. This change, which involved a sacrifice on the part of the Treasury could not be carried out, as was intended, in the last financial year, but was brought into operation on the 1st instant, together with a new classification of Book Post matter giving effect to the provisions of the Post Office Act, 1891. By this classification a more liberal interpretation was given to the expression "book packet," and concessions were made as to the character of circulars, invoices, and other documents which are permitted to pass at the cheaper rate of postage.

New Book
Post Rules.

Letter Cards.

Letter-cards similar to those in use abroad were issued for sale in Post Offices in this country on the 12th February last. The price, which was at first 1s. for ten, has now been reduced to 9d. for eight. This charge covers the cost of stationery. The demand for them is considerable.

On the same date embossed envelopes, suitable for foreign letters, bearing a stamp of the value of $2\frac{1}{2}d.$ were also issued for sale.

Foreign Mail
Service—
Vienna Postal
Congress.

The Fourth Congress of the Delegates of the Powers associated in the Universal Postal Union took place at Vienna in May and June 1891, for the purpose of discussing a variety of proposals and improvements in the postal communications of the civilised nations of the world. The principles of the Union, as laid down at Berne and Paris in 1874 and 1878, with the modifications introduced at Lisbon in 1885, were maintained, and the great aim of the Powers to secure uniformity of rates and postal customs was kept steadily in view. The unit of 25 centimes (or $2\frac{1}{2}d.$) so convenient to the majority of nations was retained as the letter rate, and the necessity of adhering to a common basis has been confirmed by the experience gained in the interval between each succeeding Congress.

I desire to draw special attention to a most important result which has just been achieved, and which gives effect to these views. The objections of those Governments which hesitated to adopt a uniform $2\frac{1}{2}d.$ rate have at length been overcome, and at the present moment the postage to be prepaid on all letters addressed to any part of the globe outside the United Kingdom is fixed at $2\frac{1}{2}d.$ per half ounce.

I do not think that too much importance can be attached to the maintenance of the principle of uniformity, and, in dealing with any further question as to reductions of postage, I am

strongly impressed with the desirability of proceeding *pari passu* with the Postal Administrations of other countries, including the British Colonies.

The adhesion of the Australasian Colonies to the Union, announced at the Congress and subsequently carried into effect, gave great satisfaction, and it can now be said that, with the exception of the Cape Colony, British Bechuanaland, and the Island of St. Helena, there is no important part of the British Empire remaining outside the sphere of the Universal Postal Union.

On the 22nd April last, the first despatch of Mails from London to Japan and China by the Contract Service of the Canadian Pacific Railway Company took place. This Contract received the sanction of the House of Commons on the 16th August 1889, and arrangements were made by which the subsidy payable under the Contract was to be provided partly by the Imperial Government and partly by the Canadian Government. The total amount of the subsidy is 60,000*l.* a year, of which the Imperial Government pays 45,000*l.* and Canada 15,000*l.* Out of the sum paid by the Imperial Government, 8,000*l.* is charged to the Vote for the Navy, and the remaining 37,000*l.* to the Post Office Vote. The main object of the new service was to bring about direct communication between the United Kingdom and the far East, a distance of between twelve and thirteen thousand miles, without the necessity of passing through the territory of any foreign Power. The service is performed once in every four weeks in each direction, the average course of post being about 28 days between London and Japan, as compared with 43 days by the Suez route.

Canadian
Pacific route
to the East.

Further negotiations with the French and Italian Postal Administrations upon the subject of the rate for the conveyance through those countries of correspondence to and from the East by means of the Special Train Service have resulted in an additional reduction of over 7,000*l.* a year. It may be mentioned that savings of 20,000*l.* a year and 6,000*l.* a year were effected in 1887 and 1889 respectively.

Transit of
Indian Mails.

The Colonial Parcel Post has now been completed by the adhesion of Queensland to the system. The Parcel Post has also been extended to the New Hebrides and to the German possessions and other places on the East coast of Africa. Foreign and Colonial Parcels show an increase of nearly 10 per cent.

Foreign and
Colonial Parcel
Post.

Amongst other minor changes, a system of insurance has been introduced into the Parcel Post with a number of Colonies. The postage on parcels for Canada, Cyprus, Labuan, and Newfoundland has been reduced, and the limit of weight allowed in the case of parcels for Canada has been raised from 5 lbs. to 7 lbs.

Amongst the many curious incidents which occurred in connexion with the correspondence of the public, two instances

Curious
incidents.

may be specially noticed, both of which testify to the confidence felt in the power of the Department to overcome difficulties. In one case, a letter was found at Dumbarton addressed as follows :—

“To the Manager of the public House with Walker’s Sign up Corner of the Fair grounds and the stables are at the back of the house and last Christmas Mr. Davis’ Switchback stood close to the house Wolverhampton.”

The letter was delivered to the person for whom it was intended.

In another instance, a correspondent addressed the following communication to a Provincial Postmaster :—

“DEAR SIR,

“MAY I ask you to be good enough to let one of your carriers take the enclosed postcard to my nephew. He is a young man, I believe, well known in your town, but whose address I forget (if I ever knew it). He walks lame owing to a cork leg, has also a bright projecting set of teeth. I think he is assistant or manager at one of your best jewellers

“ Hoping this will not trouble you too much,

“ I am, Dear Sir,

“ Yours, &c.’

The town to which the missive was sent contains a population of about 72,000 persons, but notwithstanding this slight difficulty the nephew was discovered, and the postcard delivered.

The usual eccentricities have not been wanting. On the 4th September a small cardboard box containing a live kitten was brought into the Parcel Post Office at Preston Station. The packet, which was addressed to Garstang, had been shot from the mail bag apparatus near Penrith into the express train. The kitten, although seriously alarmed, escaped with comparatively slight injury, but did not recover from the shock for a day or two. The sender, with a singular mixture of thoughtfulness and indifference, had provided a bottle of milk, with a tube through the cork, for the sustenance of the animal on the journey. The beverage was untouched, and it is to be hoped that such experiments will not be repeated.

Amongst the contents of parcels which reached the Returned Letter Office there were, as usual, a variety which were sent contrary to the well known regulations of the Department; for example, 550 leeches from abroad, live snakes, frogs, tame rats, and a live locust from the Cape of Good Hope.

In an Indian mail bag, sealed before departure and not opened until its arrival in London some three weeks subsequently, was discovered a specimen of the Indian mouse, which arrived alive and unhurt after its lengthened journey without any indication of having suffered from want of food.

A letter, posted by a lady in the neighbourhood of Leamington without any address, and without any clue to the sender, was found to contain two 100*l.* Bank of England notes, which, after inquiry, were traced to her and duly returned. The lady, in gratitude for the safe return of her property, sent a contribution of 20*l.* to the Rowland Hill Benevolent Fund, which was founded for the relief of Post Office servants, who, through no fault of their own, have fallen into necessitous circumstances.

The number of Money Order Offices open on the 31st March Money Orders. last was 10,182, showing an increase of 409 in the year.

The number and amount of Orders dealt with in the United Kingdom were as follows :—

Orders issued in United Kingdom.	Number.			Amount.		
	1891-92.	1890-91.	Increase.	1891-92.	1890-91.	Difference.
Inland - -	8,906,576	8,864,463	42,093	£ 24,383,500	£ 23,897,767	Increase. £ 485,802
Colonial - -	92,554	86,191	6,363	332,411	315,316	17,095
Foreign - -	298,021	288,331	9,690	746,139	720,380	25,759
	9,297,151	9,239,005	58,146	25,462,119	24,933,463	528,656
Orders issued abroad and paid in United Kingdom :—						
Colonial - -	337,072	383,527	4,545	1,323,670	1,342,786	Decrease. 19,116
Foreign - -	682,407	559,320	23,087	1,643,845	1,591,638	Increase. 52,207
	10,346,630	10,260,852	85,778	28,429,634	27,867,887	561,747

The most noticeable feature of the Money Order business is that the decrease in the number of Inland Money Orders, which, although very slight in recent years, has continued ever since the introduction of Postal Orders in 1881, has this year given place to an increase of 42,093. At the same time, the remarkable growth in the *value* of Inland Orders, to which allusion has been made in previous reports, has made further progress; the total value of Orders issued last year having been 485,802*l.* in excess of the value of those issued in the previous year. The total value of Inland Orders for 1891-92 exceeds the value of the Orders issued in 1880-81 by nearly 155,000*l.*, although the number of the Orders is less by nearly one half. The average value of the Orders issued in 1891-92 was 2*l.* 14*s.* 9*d.*, as against 1*l.* 9*s.* 8*d.* in 1880-81.

The Foreign and Colonial Money Order business continues to show a steady increase. The total number of Foreign and Colonial Money Orders.

Colonial Orders issued and paid was 1,440,054, as compared with 1,396,369 in 1890-91, and the amount was 4,046,065*l.* as against 3,970,120*l.* The greatest increase is shown in the transactions with Cape Colony, the total number of Orders exchanged with that Colony having been 57,102, amounting to 204,009*l.*, as compared with 49,933 and 181,844*l.* in 1890-91. India, on the other hand, shows a decrease as regards homeward remittances of 7,293 in number and 38,323*l.* in amount.

The Money Order System has been extended to the Colony of Labuan.

**Government
Orders.**

The total number of Money Orders issued for other Departments of the Government was 1,443,897, amounting to 5,272,591*l.*, being an increase of 63,044 in number and 187,435*l.* in amount as compared with 1890-91.

**Telegraph
Money Orders.**

The new Telegraph Money Order business, although restricted until the last month of the financial year to Head and Branch Post Offices only, showed a considerable expansion, there having been 42,055 such Orders issued in 1891-92, as against 30,196 in 1890-91, while the amount remitted was 157,428*l.* as compared with 112,570*l.* On the 1st March last the system was extended generally to all Money Order Offices in the United Kingdom which are Telegraph Offices, and this extension has naturally given an increased impetus to the use of the system by the public. In the three months following the introduction of the extended system, the total number of Telegraph Money Orders was 15,845, and the amount was 57,155*l.*, as compared with 8,670 Orders amounting to 31,665*l.* for the corresponding period of 1891, an increase of over 80 per cent. The system appears to be used by tradesmen who require orders to be executed immediately, by tourists, and the travelling public generally.

Postal Orders.

The number of Postal Orders issued in the United Kingdom was 52,659,545 or 3,817,780 more than in the previous year. The value represented by the Orders was 20,563,750*l.*, or 1,385,382*l.* more than the value of those issued in 1890-91. The total amount transmitted by Money Orders and Postal Orders in the year was about 49 millions sterling, or 2 millions more than in 1890-91. The frequent thefts of Postal Orders, both in the post and out of it, rendered it necessary to find means of checking the practice of fraudulently negotiating them. Regulations prescribed by Parliament were virtually ignored by the public, and Postal Orders were rapidly coming to be regarded as a sort of paper money, contrary to the desire and intention of the Legislature. I therefore felt it my duty to issue a notice, with a view to enforce the decision of Parliament, to the effect that in each order a name should be inserted, which will prevent the frequent passing of the Order from hand to hand

and will assist the Department in tracing those who have dishonestly possessed themselves of the property of other people.

I would here draw attention to a new regulation which is to come into force on the 1st September next, enabling persons, by writing across the face of a Postal Order, to postpone its payment for a period not exceeding ten days.

The business of the Post Office Savings Bank, as will be seen from the following figures, shows a steady advance :—

Year ended	Deposits.		Withdrawals.	
	Number.	Amount.	Number.	Amount.
31 December 1890	- 8,776,566	£ 20,990,692	2,892,006	£ 17,908,860
„ 1891	- 8,941,481	21,384,903	3,126,281	19,019,856

The sum credited to depositors for interest during the year 1891 was 1,658,148*l.*, or 104,793*l.* more than in the previous year. The amount, including interest, which remained to the credit of depositors on the 31st December 1891, was 71,608,002*l.*, being 3,973,195*l.* more than at the close of the previous year. Moreover, the total sum invested in Government Stock through the medium of the Post Office Savings Bank amounted to 5,087,766*l.*, showing a satisfactory increase of over 400,000*l.*

The greatest number of deposits on any one day was 72,689 on the 31st January, being 11,000 more than on any single day previously. The amount was 158,024*l.*, but the deposits on the 31st December amounted to the larger sum of 178,294*l.*, although they numbered only 53,498. The daily average number of deposits throughout the year was 29,412 and the amount 70,180*l.*, as against 28,588 and 68,373*l.* respectively, in 1890. The greatest number of warrants issued on any one day was 25,825 for 77,508*l.* on the 22nd December, but on the 15th December 17,696 warrants were issued for 106,953*l.*, which was the largest amount issued on a single day. The daily average number of warrants issued was 10,283 and the amount 62,565*l.*, as against 9,413 and 58,333*l.* respectively, in 1890. The average amount of each deposit last year was 2*l.* 7*s.* 9*d.*, being just one penny less than in 1890. The average amount of each withdrawal, which for some years has shown a tendency to increase, and in 1890 was 6*l.* 3*s.* 10*d.*, fell last year to 6*l.* 1*s.* 8*d.*

There were 992,155 accounts opened and 701,074 accounts closed during 1891, resulting in an increase of 291,081 in the

number of depositors, and raising the total number of depositors in the United Kingdom to 5,118,395, distributed as follows :—

—			Number.	Proportion to Population.	Average Balance due to each Depositor.		
England and Wales	..	-	4,723,929	1 to 6	£	s.	d.
Scotland -	-	-	182,390	1 to 22	8	17	1
Ireland -	-	-	212,076	1 to 22	18	14	10
United Kingdom -	-	-	5,118,395	1 to 7	13	19	10

In 1890 the proportion to population and the average balance were, in England and Wales, 1 in 7 and 14*l.* 0*s.* 2*d.*; in Scotland, 1 in 24 and 8*l.* 13*s.* 10*d.*; in Ireland, 1 in 24 and 18*l.* 13*s.* 8*d.*, and in the United Kingdom 1 in 8 and 14*l.* 0*s.* 3*d.*

There are now more than 10,000 Post Offices at which Savings Bank business is transacted, the exact number on the 31st December last being 10,063. The increase during the year was 382, as compared with an increase of 328 in the previous year. Of the offices opened last year 315 were in England and Wales, 30 in Scotland, and 37 in Ireland. On the 31st March 1892 the number of Post Office Savings Banks was 10,182.

Savings Banks Act, 1891.

The Savings Banks Act, 1891, which was passed in July, although principally relating to Trustee Savings Banks, contained several provisions affecting Post Office Savings Bank depositors, the most important being an alteration as regards the total amount allowed to be deposited. Such amount (irrespective of investments in Government Stock and for the purchase of Annuities and Insurances), instead of being fixed at 150*l.*, was raised to 200*l.*, inclusive of interest; and, in the event of principal and interest exceeding 200*l.*, interest ceases only on the amount in excess of 200*l.* Previously, if a depositor's balance reached 200*l.* by the accumulation of interest, interest ceased altogether until a portion was withdrawn. The Act also empowers depositors to replace, irrespective of the annual limit of 30*l.*, the amount of any one withdrawal made in the same year, a concession which, when it becomes generally known, will doubtless be largely made use of.

Free Education Act.

It will be remembered that on the 1st September last, an Act came into operation which relieved parents from the obligation of paying fees for the education of their children in Elementary Schools, and that the deficiency thereby caused in the income of the various Schools is now made good by grants from the Public Exchequer representing in the aggregate over two millions sterling

per annum. It was desired by the Government that strenuous efforts should be made to divert into the Savings Bank some portion at least of this large sum, and that parents should be induced to train their children at the earliest age to take advantage of the various opportunities for thrift offered by the Post Office. Accordingly steps were taken in concert with the Education Department to urge School Managers to press this matter on the attention of the scholars and their parents. A circular was issued to every School Manager indicating the methods by which this object could be attained and offering all the assistance in the power of the Department. The new scheme was based upon the use of stamp slips specially prepared, and it was arranged that a credit stock of postage stamps should be supplied to the Manager upon certain conditions. On the day on which school pence used formerly to be paid, the Manager receives the pence brought by the children and gives in exchange the corresponding amount of stamps affixed to the slips, which the children take home to their parents as evidence of the transaction. At certain intervals, these slips are collected, and a clerk from the nearest Post Office attends at the School for the purpose of opening accounts and receiving further deposits in the individual names of the children. About 1,400 schools adopted the scheme, and others are added daily. It is estimated that the School children had within three months deposited a sum of about 14,000*l.*, and it is anticipated that savings of over 60,000*l.* will have been received by the end of the year.

The publicity given to the School stamp deposit scheme has had the effect of stimulating the formation of School Penny Banks in connexion with the Post Office Savings Bank. A comparison between the number of such banks applying in the first three months of the present year for permission to deposit their funds with the Post Office and the number in the corresponding period of 1891 is very striking, the numbers being 876 and 115 respectively.

For the benefit of a large number of workmen employed in the construction of the West Highland Railway, it was recently arranged to send a clerk from the Post Office at Fort William to Loch Treig on Saturdays for the purpose of transacting Savings Bank, Postal Order, and Money Order business. The clerk accompanied the Contractor's clerks as they proceeded along the line paying the men at work. The experiment has been so far successful that, as the result of eight visits, 272 Savings Bank deposits, amounting to 194*l.*, have been made (about 70 new accounts being opened), and 45 Postal Orders of the total value of 20*l.* have been sold, giving an average of 34 deposits of 24*l.* 6*s.* and six Postal Orders at each visit.

As regards Societies' accounts, there was some falling off last year in the number of fresh applications, only 582 Registered

Friendly Societies.

Friendly Societies and 2,380 Provident, and Charitable Societies having applied to invest their funds, as against 734 and 2,412 respectively, in 1890. The numbers of Societies of each class, to which authority has been given to open accounts during the last five years, are as follows :—

—	1867.	1888.	1889.	1890.	1891.
Friendly Societies -	591	824	800	734	582
Provident, and Charitable Societies.	1,462	2,033	2,197	2,412	2,380

Nominations.

It was pointed out in the last Annual Report that comparatively few persons avail themselves of the provision, whereby a depositor may nominate one or more persons to receive his deposits at once at his decease, on production of evidence of death and of the identity of the nominee. For the past year the number of such nominations executed was 7,572, an increase at the rate of 22 per cent. over the number in 1890, but the total number of nominations in force at the end of the year, 30,134, is still almost insignificant in comparison with the total number of depositors, which exceeds five millions.

Trustee

Savings Banks.

Twenty-one Trustee Savings Banks were closed during 1891, the accounts transferred therefrom and from other Trustee Banks in process of closing, representing 376,234*l.* in deposits and 34,649*l.* in Stock. Further sums, amounting to 40,293*l.* in deposits and 2,342*l.* in Stock, were transferred from open Trustee Banks, making a total of 416,527*l.* in deposits and 36,991*l.* in Stock, as against 579,949*l.* deposits and 6,819*l.* Stock in 1890. Transfers from the Post Office Savings Bank to Trustee Savings Banks were made during the year to the extent of 9,242*l.* deposits and 438*l.* Stock.

Government

Stock business.

The amount of Government Stock purchased during 1891 was 1,025,310*l.*, the number of investments being 20,841. Compared with the previous year, there is a decrease of exactly 100,000*l.* in the amount and of 1,544 in the number of investments, but it is to be observed that the investments in 1890 were unusually numerous, owing, no doubt, to the low prices prevailing in the autumn of that year. The same circumstance, by restricting the number of sales in 1890, would also explain to some extent an increase in the sales last year, which numbered 12,500, representing 607,637*l.*, against 12,096 of 590,907*l.* in 1890.

The amount of Stock standing to the credit of depositors increased during the year by 407,598*l.*, the total on the 31st December 1891 being 5,087,766*l.*, which comprised 55,085 Stock accounts. The number of Stock certificates, with coupons annexed, obtained for stockholders was precisely the same as in the

previous year, viz., 28. Of transfers of Stock to depositors' own names at the Bank of England, there were last year 258, amounting to 42,778*l.*, as compared with 204 of 37,490*l.* in the previous year, showing an increasing appreciation of the facility. The largest amount of Stock business was done in 2½ per cent. Consolidated Stock, in which 16,143 investments and 10,773 sales were effected. Local Loans 3 per cent. Stock, however, seems to be increasing in favour, notwithstanding its high price, 2,874 investments in this description of Stock having taken place during the year, as compared with 2,167 in 1890. There were 725 investments and 1,549 sales of amounts under 10*l.*, of which 28 investments and 22 sales were amounts of less than 1*l.* Some persons do not appear to realise that it is not worth while to pay 9*d.* commission on an investment of a few shillings, and, in one case, it has been observed that frequent investments of four shillings and five shillings are made, and, as soon as the amount of Stock reaches about 1*l.*, it is sold out and the same method of investment recommenced.

During the year 968 Immediate Annuities of 23,673*l.* were purchased through this Department, as compared with 948 Immediate Annuities of 21,956*l.* purchased during 1890, being an increase of 20 in number and 1,717*l.* in amount. The Deferred Annuities granted numbered 142 of the value of 2,183*l.*, as against 116 of the value of 2,527*l.* granted in 1890, being an increase of 26 in number and a decrease of 344*l.* in amount. There were 529 Life Insurances of 28,930*l.* granted, as compared with 468 of 25,466*l.* granted in the previous year, being an increase of 61 in number and 3,464*l.* in amount. A large proportion of the Immediate Annuities bought through the Post Office are purchased by elderly persons, who having a few hundred pounds capital, elect to purchase an assured income with Government security for the remainder of their lives. As regards Deferred Annuities, a large per-centage of the persons who purchase these are engaged in tuition, the majority of them being females.

Annuity and
Insurance
business.

An attempt has lately been made to induce officers in the service of the Post Office to insure their lives through the Department, the premiums being paid, if desired, by deductions from the salary or wages of the officer, and nearly 900 insurances have already been effected as a consequence of this special effort. It is much to be desired that other Government Departments and large employers of labour generally should follow this example, and they are invited to apply to this Department for information and assistance.

In the course of the year 317 additional Telegraph Offices were opened at Post Offices, and 32 at Railway Stations. On the 31st March, the total number of Telegraph Offices at Post Offices was 6,229, and at Railway Stations 1,747.

Telegraph
business.

The following table shows the number of telegrams and the receipts thereon for the year ended 31st March last, and also for the preceding year :—

Class of Telegrams.	Year.	Number.	Increase.	Receipts.	Increase.
Ordinary Inland - - -	1891-92	57,085,939	2,939,526	£ 1,848,974	£ 74,352
" " - - -	1890-91	54,116,413	—	1,774,622	—
Press (Inland) - - -	1891-92	5,180,278	176,869	116,247	3,098
" " - - -	1890-91	5,003,409	—	113,149	—
Foreign - - -	1891-92	5,553,659	73,131	261,251*	470
" " - - -	1890-91	5,480,528	—	260,781	—
Railway - - -	1891-92	1,606,685	71,598	} Nil.	—
" " - - -	1890-91	1,535,087	—		
Government - - -	1891-92	258,939	Decrease. 14,855		
" " - - -	1890-91	273,794	—		
Totals - - -	1891-92	69,695,480	3,276,269	2,226,473	77,920
" " - - -	1890-91	66,409,211	4,006,812	2,148,552	106,799

* Of this sum 4,616*l.* was received in fees for conversations on the Paris telephone.

It will be seen that the increase in the number of messages of all kinds over that of the previous year is 3,276,269, or 4·9 per cent. The number of ordinary Inland Telegrams was 57,085,939, and their total value 1,848,974*l.*, making the average value 7·77*d.*, as compared with 7·87*d.* for last year.

The London local Telegrams show an increase of 335,152, or 6 per cent., the number being 6,081,276 as compared with 5,746,124 in 1890-91. There has been a decrease in the number of telegrams sent on behalf of other Government Departments, and also, I am pleased to say, in the rate of the growth of free messages sent on behalf of Railway Companies over the Post Office wires. As regards the latter class of telegrams, your Lordships are aware that my officers are in negotiation with the representatives of the Railway Companies.

The results of the working of the London-Paris Telephone which was opened on 1st April, 1891, have been satisfactory. The number of conversations has increased from 1,221 during the month of April 1891 to 2,157 in April 1892, and it has been necessary in consequence to allocate a second circuit for the purpose. The charge is 8*s.* for a conversation of three minutes, and the receipts for the year amounted to 4,616*l.* The Public Call Offices are in the General Post Office (West), Bath Street, E.C. (always open), Threadneedle Street Branch Post Office, near the Royal Exchange (open from 8.0 a.m. to 8.0 p.m.), and the Telegraph Office, West Strand (always open).

Telegraph
Revenue and
Expenditure.

The following table gives the Revenue and the total cost of the Telegraph Service, taking into account the interest on

Capital Expenditure, in each of the last seven years. From this it will be seen that the deficiency to be met by Parliament amounted to 384,662*l.* for the past year.

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Year.	Receipts.	EXPENDITURE.			Annual Interest on Capital.	Deficit.
		Charged to Telegraph Vote.	Charged to Votes of other Departments.	Total.		
	<i>£</i>	<i>£</i>	<i>£</i>	<i>£</i>	<i>£</i>	<i>£</i>
1885-86	1,787,264	1,753,105	99,297	1,852,402	328,417	371,555
1886-87	1,887,150	1,039,764	92,868	2,032,632	328,417	471,890
1887-88	1,992,940	1,928,345	70,688	1,999,033	328,417	332,501
1888-89	2,129,965	1,909,324	72,037	2,041,361	353,787	265,183
1889-90	2,364,090	2,179,921	99,065	2,278,986	299,216	197,600
1890-91	2,456,764	2,265,338	123,243	2,388,591	299,215	231,032
1891-92	2,545,757	2,506,980	124,378	2,631,357	299,052	384,662

On the 1st of July last the reductions in the charge for telegrams to Foreign Countries, agreed upon at the International Telegraph Conference, held in Paris in 1890, were brought into operation. Reduction of charges.

The rates for foreign telegrams were reduced as follows :—

Country.	Reduction per Word.	Equivalent on a Message of 12 words to a Reduction of
		<i>s.</i> <i>d.</i>
Austria - - -	From 4½ <i>d.</i> to 3 <i>d.</i>	1 6
Hungary - - -	„ 4½ <i>d.</i> „ 3 <i>d.</i>	1 6
Italy - - -	„ 4½ <i>d.</i> „ 3 <i>d.</i>	1 6
Russia - - -	„ 6½ <i>d.</i> „ 5½ <i>d.</i>	1 0
Portugal - - -	„ 5½ <i>d.</i> „ 4½ <i>d.</i>	1 0
Sweden - - -	„ 5 <i>d.</i> „ 4 <i>d.</i>	1 0
Spain - - -	„ 4½ <i>d.</i> „ 4 <i>d.</i>	0 6
Canary Islands - -	„ 1 <i>s.</i> 7½ <i>d.</i> „ 10 <i>d.</i>	9 6

Reductions were also effected to other countries.

A minimum charge of 10*d.* per telegram has been fixed in respect of telegrams to any place in Europe.

The fee for signalling ships from Foreign Semaphore Stations was reduced from 1*s.* 8*d.* to 10*d.*

The charges for private wires supplied by the Department were reduced on the 1st April, 1891, by 1*l.* per mile. At the same time the rates of subscription for the Telephone Exchanges

of the Department (which in all cases are made as efficient as possible by the use of double wires) were reduced as follows:—

For subscribers at a distance not exceeding—

A quarter mile	-	-	-	from 12l. to 8l. a year.
Half a mile	-	-	-	„ 14l. to 10l. „
Three quarters of a mile	-	-	-	„ 16l. to 12l. „
A mile	-	-	-	„ 18l. to 14l. „

An important alteration has been made in connexion with the delivery of Telegrams at night in the outlying portions of large provincial towns after the hour for closing the local Branch Office. Formerly portage used to be charged from the Head Office on such Telegrams, but now they are, like other Telegrams, delivered free within the area of the ordinary free delivery of the local office.

With the sanction of the Treasury, since August last the Department has ceased to require the repayment of the capital outlay on telegraphic extensions made under guarantee, and the guarantee is now required to cover only the expenses of working and maintenance. Also, by the Post Office Act, 54 & 55 Vict. c. 46, Rural Sanitary Authorities are empowered to undertake guarantees for Telegraph Offices at places within their districts, and to defray the cost out of the rates. As the result of these concessions there has been a considerable extension of the Telegraph system in rural districts.

New Cable to
Germany.

An additional cable was laid in August 1891 from Bacton in Norfolk to Borkum in Germany at the joint expense of the English and German Governments. The new cable has increased the facilities for the transmission of telegrams between the two countries, and by its means it has been practicable to establish direct Telegraphic communication between London and Vienna.

Telephones.

As regards the important subject of Telephones, it may be convenient to review briefly the position in which this question stood, when I acceded to office in September last. Some eight years have passed since the late Mr. Fawcett announced in Parliament the decision to avoid bringing about the creation of a monopoly, and to invite competition from various quarters by granting licenses to numerous private companies.

The result of this policy has not been what was expected, one of the largest companies concerned having bought up most of its rivals, and gone a long way towards constituting the monopoly which Parliament desired to prevent. The expiration of the patents and the dissatisfaction evinced by the public at the want of development of the Telephone system necessarily obliged Her Majesty's Government to examine the whole subject.

Serious difficulties presented themselves, and your Lordships decided that the Post Office alone should possess the Trunk wires between towns and co-operate with the Companies in



rendering additional services to the public. The object aimed at is to develop and cheapen the telephone service, as explained in the Treasury Minute which was laid before Parliament in May last. A copy of that Minute will be found in the Appendix, p. 79. I need only add at the present time that a Bill founded upon the Minute is under the consideration of Parliament.

On the 26th April the House of Commons adopted a resolution in favour of providing telegraphic or telephonic communication between Coastguard Stations for the better prevention of loss of life and property by shipwreck. Steps were immediately taken to ascertain the cases in which telegraphic or telephonic facilities were most urgently required, surveys were made, and in many parts of the coast the work is now being carried out. Among the cases specially selected for immediate attention may be mentioned the coasts of Cornwall, Devon, and Glamorgan, Beachy Head, Dungeness, the coast between Deal and Margate, the coast between Lowestoft and Happisburgh, the Humber, the mouth of the Wash, Kilmorie in the island of Arran, and the village of Courtmacsherry (Ireland). The sum of 20,000*l.* has been voted by Parliament for works of this kind to be carried out during the financial year 1892-93, and a Royal Commission has been appointed to consider the best means of connecting lighthouses and lightships with the telegraphic system.

Coast communications.

I cannot conclude this Report without giving expression to the widespread regret which was felt at the untimely death, on the 24th August, 1891, of my predecessor, the Right Honourable Henry Cecil Raikes, who for a period of five years discharged with acknowledged ability the very anxious and responsible duties which were entrusted to his care.

I have the honour to be,

My Lords,

Your Lordships' obedient humble servant,

JAMES FERGUSSON.

General Post Office,
21 June 1892.

24 Aug. 1891

1886

APPENDIX A.

Letters delivered.

ESTIMATED NUMBER OF Letters delivered in the United Kingdom in each of the last Ten Years, and the increase per cent. per annum. Also the average number to each person.

Financial Year ending March 31st.	Delivered in England and Wales.				Total in England and Wales.	Increase per cent. per annum.	Average number to each person.	Total in Scotland.	Increase per cent. per annum.	Average number to each person.	Total in Ireland.	Increase per cent. per annum.	Average number to each person.	Total in United Kingdom.	Increase per cent. per annum.	Average number to each person.		
	By Country Offices.	In- crease per cent. per annum.	In London District.	In- crease per cent. per annum.														
Year 1882-83	-	-	713,100,000	4.1	384,600,000	3.5	1,077,700,000	3.9	41	116,500,000	6.1	31	86,500,000	5.2	17	1,280,600,000	4.2	36
" 1883-84	-	-	787,000,000	3.3	375,900,000	2.9	1,112,200,000	3.2	41	122,200,000	4.6	32	87,700,000	1.4	17	1,392,100,000	3.2	37
" 1884-85	-	-	757,200,000	2.7	391,100,000	4.1	1,148,300,000	3.2	42	122,900,000	.6	32	89,100,000	1.6	18	1,360,200,000	2.9	38
" 1885-86	-	-	778,000,000	2.8	409,400,000	4.7	1,187,400,000	3.4	43	123,400,000	2.8	32	89,700,000	.7	18	1,403,500,000	3.2	39
" 1886-87	-	-	800,800,000	2.9	439,100,000	7.3	1,239,900,000	4.4	44	129,100,000	2.1	33	90,900,000	1.3	19	1,459,900,000	4.0	40
" 1887-88	-	-	838,000,000	4.6	448,900,000	2.2	1,286,900,000	3.8	46	132,100,000	2.3	33	93,200,000	2.5	20	1,512,200,000	3.6	41
" 1888-89	-	-	846,000,000	1.0	460,500,000	7.0	1,326,500,000	3.1	46	136,000,000	3.0	34	95,500,000	2.5	20	1,558,100,000	3.0	42
" 1889-90	-	-	895,000,000	5.8	518,100,000	7.8	1,413,100,000	6.5	48	140,300,000	3.2	34	96,900,000	1.4	21	1,650,100,000	5.9	43
" 1890-91	-	-	924,400,000	3.3	538,400,000	4.0	1,462,800,000	3.5	50	143,200,000	2.1	36	99,900,000	3.1	21	1,705,900,000	3.4	45
" 1891-92	-	-	985,000,000	4.4	551,000,000	2.4	1,516,100,000	3.7	52	146,400,000	2.1	36	105,000,000	5.2	23	1,767,500,000	3.6	46

APPENDIX A.—*continued.***Post Cards, Book Packets, Samples, and Newspapers.**

ESTIMATED NUMBER of POST CARDS delivered in the UNITED KINGDOM in each of the last Ten Years, and the increase per cent. per annum.

Year.	England and Wales.		Scotland.		Ireland.		United Kingdom.	
	Number.	Increase per cent. per annum.	Number.	Increase per cent. per annum.	Number.	Increase per cent. per annum.	Number.	Increase per cent. per annum.
1882-83	121,200,000	6·1	15,500,000	6·1	7,200,000	12·5	143,900,000	6·4
1883-84	128,600,000	6·0	17,400,000	9·3	7,600,000	5·4	153,600,000	6·6
1884-85	134,100,000	4·3	18,400,000	5·5	7,900,000	3·1	160,400,000	4·4
1885-86	143,700,000	7·2	19,500,000	6·4	8,100,000	2·9	171,300,000	6·9
1886-87	151,300,000	5·3	20,400,000	4·6	8,400,000	3·3	180,100,000	5·1
1887-88	158,900,000	5·0	21,200,000	3·9	8,700,000	3·6	188,800,000	4·8
1888-89	170,100,000	7·0	21,800,000	2·8	9,300,000	6·9	201,400,000	6·7
1889-90	184,400,000	8·4	23,900,000	5·0	9,800,000	5·4	217,100,000	7·8
1890-91	196,000,000	5·7	24,000,000	4·8	10,700,000	9·2	229,700,000	5·8
1891-92	205,200,000	5·2	25,400,000	5·8	11,000,000	2·8	241,600,000	5·2

ESTIMATED NUMBER of BOOK PACKETS, CIRCULARS, and SAMPLES delivered in the UNITED KINGDOM in each of the last Ten Years, and the increase per cent. per annum.

Year.	England and Wales.		Scotland.		Ireland.		United Kingdom.	
	Number.	Increase per cent. per annum.	Number.	Increase per cent. per annum.	Number.	Increase per cent. per annum.	Number.	Increase per cent. per annum.
1882-83	244,700,000	6·9	28,900,000	3·7	14,600,000	5·1 dec.	288,200,000	6·3
1883-84	246,300,000	1·9	31,400,000	7·8	13,900,000	4·9 inc.	294,600,000	2·2
1884-85	266,400,000	8·1	34,500,000	10·0	16,500,000	18·9	330,400,000	8·8
1885-86	288,500,000	7·1	35,900,000	4·2	17,800,000	7·7	342,200,000	6·8
1886-87	312,000,000	8·1	38,700,000	7·7	18,200,000	2·3	368,900,000	7·8
1887-88	331,600,000	6·3	38,900,000	·5	19,000,000	4·4	389,500,000	5·6
1888-89	351,700,000	6·1	40,600,000	4·4	19,700,000	3·7	412,000,000	5·8
1889-90	378,200,000	7·5	42,100,000	3·7	21,600,000	9·6	441,900,000	7·3
1890-91	411,900,000	8·9	44,600,000	5·9	24,700,000	14·3	481,200,000	8·9
1891-92	425,000,000	3·2	45,300,000	1·6	25,000,000	1·2	495,300,000	2·9

ESTIMATED NUMBER of NEWSPAPERS delivered in the UNITED KINGDOM in each of the last Ten Years, and the increase per cent. per annum.

Year.	England and Wales.		Scotland.		Ireland.		United Kingdom.	
	Number.	Increase per cent. per annum.	Number.	Increase per cent. per annum.	Number.	Increase per cent. per annum.	Number.	Increase per cent. per annum.
1882-83	108,600,000	—	15,800,000	2·0	16,200,000	dec. 3·0	140,600,000	—
1883-84	109,900,000	1·2	16,700,000	5·6	16,000,000	1·1	142,600,000	1·5
1884-85	110,700,000	·7	16,900,000	·9	16,100,000	·5	143,700,000	·7
1885-86	113,700,000	2·3	17,600,000	4·2	16,400,000	1·7	147,700,000	2·8
1886-87	117,900,000	3·6	17,000,000	3·3	16,400,000	—	151,200,000	2·4
1887-88	119,800,000	1·7	16,700,000	1·8	15,800,000	dec. 3·7	152,300,000	·8
1888-89	119,300,000	dec. 4	16,600,000	·6	16,000,000	inc. 1·3	151,900,000	dec. 3
1889-90	121,600,000	inc. 6·1	16,700,000	inc. 6	16,000,000	—	153,300,000	inc. 4·9
1890-91	127,900,000	·9	16,800,000	dec. 6	16,600,000	3·7	161,000,000	1·1
1891-92	128,800,000	·8	17,000,000	inc. 2·4	17,000,000	2·4	163,800,000	1·1

APPENDIX A.—*continued.*

TABLE showing the NUMBER of PARCELS delivered in the United Kingdom during each of the Twelve Months from the 1st April 1891 to the 31st March 1892.

Month.	England and Wales.			Scotland.	Ireland.	United Kingdom.
	Provinces.	London.	Total.			
April 1891 -	2,490,821	731,643	3,222,464	369,373	260,761	3,852,598
May " -	2,520,235	753,201	3,273,436	391,781	275,201	3,940,418
June " -	2,465,618	753,112	3,218,725	410,686	264,560	3,893,971
July " -	2,583,239	760,071	3,343,310	437,825	270,586	4,051,171
August " -	2,362,246	593,439	2,955,685	440,442	252,526	3,648,653
September " -	2,532,046	682,639	3,194,685	452,494	265,731	3,912,910
October " -	2,912,612	785,088	3,697,700	472,839	298,696	4,469,235
November " -	2,658,720	751,019	3,409,739	410,199	274,563	4,094,501
December " -	3,921,458	1,024,642	4,946,095	675,215	426,083	6,047,343
January 1892 -	2,607,581	696,505	3,304,086	408,172	270,096	3,982,354
February " -	2,351,226	639,206	2,990,432	364,682	248,657	3,603,771
March " -	2,528,178	698,053	3,226,226	392,296	262,918	3,881,440
Totals	31,983,965	8,848,618	40,782,583	5,235,504	3,370,278	49,378,365
No. during year ended 31st March 1891 -	29,818,950	8,405,780	38,224,730	4,878,957	3,184,269	46,267,956
Increase in Numbers	2,115,015	442,838	2,557,853	346,547	186,009	3,090,409
Increase per cent. -	7.1	5.2	6.7	7.1	5.8	6.6

APPENDIX A.—*continued.*

**STATEMENT of the NUMBER of FOREIGN and COLONIAL PARCELS
Despatched and Received during the Years ended the 31st March
1891 and the 31st March 1892.**

APPENDIX A.—continued.

STATEMENT of the NUMBER of FOREIGN and COLONIAL PARCELS
31st March 1891 and

Country.	Date of Establishment of Post.	Number of Parcels.		
		Despatched.		
		1890-91.	1891-92.	Increase.
Aden - - - -	July 1885	1,689	1,598	(Dec.) 91
Antigua - - - -	Jan. 1886	1,936	1,963	27
Argentine Republic - - - -	Feb. 1890	1,470	1,789	319
Ascension - - - -	July 1886	429	383	(Dec.) 46
Austria* - - - -	June 1886	10,711	11,479	768
Bahamas - - - -	Sept. 1887	501	569	68
Barbados - - - -	April 1886	4,157	4,578	421
Belgium - - - -	Jan. 1886	31,233	34,108	2,815
Bermuda - - - -	April 1890	2,079	2,233	154
Beyrout - - - -	Jan. 1888	550	563	13
British Guiana - - - -	Jan. 1886	4,843	5,054	211
British Honduras - - - -	March 1887	234	312	78
Canada, Dominion of - - - -	Aug. 1886	27,013	30,858	3,845
Cape of Good Hope - - - -	Dec. 1883	25,373	29,497	4,124
Ceylon - - - -	Nov. 1885	7,702	8,470	768
Colombia, Republic of - - - -	March 1888	2,425	4,269	1,844
Constantinople - - - -	Jan. 1886	2,532	3,010	178
Costa Rica - - - -	Feb. 1888	1,088	1,873	785
Cyprus - - - -	Jan. 1886	955	1,212	257
Dominica - - - -	Jan. 1886	730	578	(Dec.) 152
Egypt - - - -	July 1885	7,548	9,154	1,606
Falkland Islands - - - -	Oct. 1888	451	644	193
Fiji - - - -	June 1890	177	253	81
France† - - - -	Oct. 1887	169,735	170,873	1,138
Germany ‡ - - - -	Jan. 1886	133,103	144,175	11,072
Gibraltar - - - -	July 1885	8,547	9,797	1,250
Grenada - - - -	Oct. 1885	1,051	1,154	103
Holland - - - -	April 1886	26,794	30,072	3,278
Hong Kong§ - - - -	Oct. 1885	9,251	10,728	1,477
India - - - -	July 1885	75,763	80,255	4,492
Italy - - - -	Oct. 1887	39,153	40,951	1,798
Jamaica - - - -	Oct. 1885	7,957	8,028	71
Labuan - - - -	Dec. 1885	41	74	30
Madeira - - - -	July 1891	—	293	293
Malta - - - -	Aug. 1885	11,229	12,573	1,344
Mauritius - - - -	April 1882	1,100	1,303	203
Mexico - - - -	April 1890	1,069	1,752	683
Mombasa - - - -	April 1891	—	200	200
Montserrat - - - -	Jan. 1886	346	370	24
Natal - - - -	June 1887	6,972	9,472	2,500
Nevis - - - -	Jan. 1886	229	221	(Dec.) 8
Carried forward -		628,529	676,743	48,214

* Including parcels for Bulgaria, Roumania, and Servia.

† Including parcels for the French Colonies and Dependencies.

‡ Including parcels for Eastern Europe, Chili, &c.

§ Including parcels for China and the China Fleet.

APPENDIX A.—*continued.*

Despatched and Received during the Years ended the
the 31st March 1892.

Number of Parcels.						Country.
Received.			Totals.			
1890-91.	1891-92.	Increase.	1890-91.	1891-92.	Increase.	
1,036	1,139	103	2,725	2,737	12	Aden. .
309	358	(Dec.) 41	2,335	2,321	(Dec.) 14	Antigua.
230	299	79	1,690	2,068	398	Argentine Republic.
71	46	(Dec.) 23	500	431	(Dec.) 69	Ascension.
3,776	4,838	1,062	14,487	16,317	1,830	Austria.*
113	132	19	614	701	87	Bahamas.
1,144	1,179	35	5,301	5,757	456	Barbados.
12,015	14,156	2,141	43,308	48,264	4,956	Belgium.
367	513	146	2,446	2,746	300	Bermuda.
208	168	(Dec.) 40	758	731	(Dec.) 27	Beirut.
1,180	1,111	(Dec.) 69	6,023	6,165	142	British Guiana.
54	72	18	288	384	96	British Honduras.
9,462	11,535	2,043	36,506	42,393	5,888	Canada, Dominion of
8,146	9,365	1,219	33,519	38,862	5,343	Cape of Good Hope.
3,638	4,030	392	11,340	12,500	1,160	Ceylon.
121	164	43	2,546	4,433	1,887	Colombia, Republic of
344	397	53	3,176	3,407	231	Constantinople.
134	168	34	1,222	2,041	819	Costa Rica.
261	294	33	1,216	1,506	290	Cyprus.
107	88	(Dec.) 19	837	666	(Dec.) 171	Dominica.
5,123	6,084	961	12,671	15,238	2,567	Egypt.
87	111	24	538	755	217	Falkland Islands.
—	19	19	177	277	100	Fiji.
111,930	117,648	5,718	281,665	288,521	6,856	France.†
92,946	104,203	11,257	226,040	248,378	22,339	Germany.‡
3,144	4,089	945	11,691	13,896	2,195	Gibraltar.
301	279	(Dec.) 22	1,353	1,433	81	Grenada.
16,336	18,748	2,412	43,130	48,820	5,690	Holland.
5,112	5,437	325	14,363	16,165	1,802	Hong Kong.§
50,688	52,940	2,252	126,421	138,195	11,774	India.
21,548	23,835	2,287	60,701	64,786	4,085	Italy.
1,558	1,632	74	9,515	9,710	195	Jamaica.
10	23	13	54	102	48	Labuan.
—	47	47	—	340	340	Madeira.
6,118	6,889	771	17,347	19,462	2,115	Malta.
234	251	17	1,334	1,554	220	Mauritius.
11	53	41	1,080	1,304	224	Mexico.
—	48	48	—	248	248	Mombasa.
53	80	27	399	450	51	Montserrat.
2,417	3,373	956	9,389	12,844	3,455	Natal.
53	46	(Dec.) 7	282	267	(Dec.) 15	Nevis.
390,465	395,942	5,477	988,994	1,072,085	83,691	

Postage rates were reduced in 1890-91 on parcels for Cyprus, Egypt, and Natal, and in 1891-92 on parcels for Canada, Cyprus, Labuan, and Newfoundland.

APPENDIX A.—continued.

STATEMENT of the NUMBER of FOREIGN and COLONIAL PARCELS
31st March 1891 and

Country.	Date of Establishment of Post.	Number of Parcels.		
		Despatched.		
		1890-91.	1891-92.	Increase.
	Brought forward -	628,529	676,748	48,214
Newfoundland - - -	Sept. 1898	1,583	1,861	278
New South Wales - - -	July 1898	14,930	19,129	2,199
New Zealand - - -	Nov. 1888	14,593	16,375	1,782
North Borneo - - -	Sept. 1887	195	266	71
Norway - - -	April 1886	6,117	6,791	674
Orange Free State - - -	Dec. 1889	1,146	2,204	1,058
Portugal - - -	Jan. 1888	2,798	2,510	(Dec.) 288
Queensland - - -	Feb. 1892	—	653	653
St. Helena - - -	April 1886	588	804	216
St. Kitts - - -	Jan. 1898	1,045	1,062	7
St. Lucia - - -	Oct. 1885	705	851	146
St. Thomas - - -	Jan. 1888	404	507	103
St. Vincent - - -	Nov. 1885	532	749	217
Sarawak - - -	July 1887	171	185	14
Seychelles - - -	April 1890	190	107	(Dec.) 13
Siam - - -	Aug. 1890	238	418	180
Smyrna - - -	April 1887	1,036	1,229	193
South Australia - - -	July 1886	3,815	4,363	548
Straits Settlements - - -	Oct. 1885	5,273	5,714	441
Sweden - - -	May 1886	6,723	7,452	729
Switzerland - - -	Dec. 1887	31,405	32,506	1,101
Tangier - - -	Jan. 1890	1,137	1,760	623
Tasmania - - -	Jan. 1887	2,768	2,836	68
Tobago - - -	Oct. 1885	192	238	46
Tortola - - -	Oct. 1886	31	38	7
Trinidad - - -	Oct. 1885	3,290	3,474	184
Uruguay - - -	April 1891	—	470	470
Victoria - - -	July 1886	14,957	15,512	555
West Africa - - -	Jan. 1888	4,536	5,216	680
West Australia - - -	Jan. 1887	2,348	2,957	609
Zanzibar - - -	Jan. 1887	390	408	18
Spain - - -	Sept. 1891	5—	11,061	11,061
	Totals -	753,395	826,457	73,062

* Included in figures for Cape of Good Hope.

† Included in figures for Singapore.

‡ Included in figures for Gibraltar.

§ Included in figures for France.

|| Do. do.

APPENDIX A.—*continued.*

Despatched and Received during the Years ended the
the 31st March 1992—*continued.*

Number of Parcels.						Country.
Received.			Totals.			
1890-91.	1891-92.	Increase.	1890-91.	1891-92.	Increase.	
360,465	395,942	35,477	988,994	1,072,685	83,691	
279	371	92	1,862	2,232	370	Newfoundland
5,111	5,759	648	22,041	24,888	2,847	New South Wales.
2,736	3,355	619	17,329	19,730	2,401	New Zealand.
93	95	2	288	361	73	North Borneo.
2,389	2,976	487	8,506	9,667	1,161	Norway.
—	—	—	1,146	2,204	1,058	Orange Free State.
186	228	42	2,984	2,738	(Dec.) 246	Portugal.
—	41	41	—	694	694	Queensland.
155	135	(Dec.) 20	743	939	196	St. Helena,
200	159	(Dec.) 41	1,245	1,211	(Dec.) 34	St. Kitts.
151	174	23	856	1,025	169	St. Lucia.
55	61	6	459	568	109	St. Thomas.
169	169	—	701	918	217	St. Vincent.
†—	†—	—	171	185	14	Sarawak.
38	27	(Dec.) 11	158	134	(Dec.) 24	Seychelles.
†—	†—	—	238	418	180	Siam.
270	372	102	1,306	1,601	295	Smyrna.
1,456	1,519	63	5,271	5,882	611	South Australia.
2,303	2,697	394	7,576	8,411	835	Straits Settlements.
1,856	2,230	374	8,579	9,682	1,103	Sweden.
9,837	10,912	1,075	41,342	43,418	2,176	Switzerland.
†—	†—	—	1,137	1,760	623	Tangier.
293	391	98	8,061	3,227	166	Tasmania.
37	43	6	229	281	52	Tobago
6	4	(Dec.) 2	37	42	5	Tortola.
1,173	1,235	62	4,463	4,709	246	Trinidad.
—	51	51	—	521	521	Uruguay.
3,768	4,579	817	18,719	20,001	1,372	Victoria.
1,389	1,424	35	5,725	6,640	915	West Africa.
340	367	27	2,688	3,324	636	West Australia.
156	87	(Dec.) 69	546	493	(Dec.) 53	Zanzibar.
†—	†—	—	—	11,081	11,081	Spain.
394,905	435,303	40,398	1,148,300	1,261,760	113,460	

Postage rates were reduced in 1890-91 on parcels for Cyprus, Egypt, and Natal, and
1891-92 on parcels for Canada, Cyprus, Labuan, and Newfoundland

APPENDIX A.—*continued.*

STATEMENT of the estimated total NUMBER of LETTERS, POST CARDS, BOOK PACKETS, CIRCULARS, and SAMPLES, NEWSPAPERS, TELEGRAMS, and PARCELS dealt with, and of the Average Number per Head of the Population for the year ended the 31st March 1892.

	Population.	Letters.		Post Cards.		Book Packets, Circulars, and Samples.*		Newspapers.		Telegrams.		Parcels.	
		Total No.	No. per Head of Population.	Total No.	No. per Head of Population.	Total No.	No. per Head of Population.	Total No.	No. per Head of Population.	Total No.	No. per Head of Population.	Total No.	No. per Head of Population.
England and Wales	29,322,484	1,516,100,000	51·7	205,200,000	7·0	425,000,000	14·5	128,800,000	4·4	58,764,105	2·0	40,782,533	1·4
Scotland	4,035,843	146,400,000	36·1	25,400,000	6·3	45,300,000	11·2	17,000,000	4·2	7,155,180	1·8	5,225,504	1·3
Ireland	4,632,163	105,000,000	22·6	11,000,000	2·4	25,000,000	5·4	17,000,000	3·6	3,764,185	·8	3,370,278	·7
Totals	38,080,489	1,767,500,000	46·5	241,600,000	6·3	495,300,000	13·0	162,800,000	4·3	69,683,460	1·8	49,378,315	1·3

Note.—Of the total yearly number of Letters, Book Packets, Circulars, and Samples, Newspapers, Telegrams, and Parcels, the percentage of each is as follows:—
 Letters . . . 63·4 Book Packets, Circulars, and Samples . . . 17·8 Telegrams . . . 3·5
 Post Cards . . . 8·7 Newspapers . . . 5·8 Parcels . . . 1·1

* The total number of samples dealt with amounted to 3,449,590, of which number 1,525,000 were posted in London.

APPENDIX B.

Registered Letters.

STATEMENT showing the Number of Letters Registered by the Public in the United Kingdom in each of the last Ten Years and the increase per cent. per annum.

YEAR.	ENGLAND AND WALES.						SCOTLAND.		IRELAND.		TOTAL for UNITED KINGDOM.	
	Country Offices.		London District.		Total.		Number.	Increase per cent.	Number.	Increase per cent.	Number.	Increase per cent.
	Number.	Increase per cent.	Number.	Increase per cent.	Number.	Increase per cent.						
1882-83	6,827,123	2·3	2,903,632	3·6	9,732,755	2·7	808,554	7·0	725,617	8·3	11,261,926	3·3
1883-84	-	-	2,942,971	1·3	9,928,491	2·0	888,586	10·0	729,995	·6	11,643,072	2·5
1884-85	6,954,520	2·3	2,972,203	1·0	9,740,724	1·9	914,017	3·1	710,410	2·7	11,363,151	1·5
1885-86	6,765,521	3·1	2,962,501	dec.	9,522,570	2·2	909,537	dec.	693,953	1·9	11,120,060	2·1
1886-87	6,460,979	2·9	2,971,166	inc.	9,143,336	4·0	923,976	inc.	709,252	inc.	10,779,555	3·1
1887-88	6,177,160	6·0	3,032,369	·6	9,190,257	inc.	920,035	3·1	698,410	dec.	10,814,732	inc.
1888-89	6,163,888	0·2	3,100,354	2·1	9,352,361	1·4	932,223	1·0	715,501	·5	11,061,085	0·3
1889-90	6,192,027	0·5	3,326,530	4·2	9,668,676	1·2	972,633	inc.	718,423	2·6	11,387,685	1·7
1890-91	6,340,550	2·4	3,238,804	5·3	9,613,318	3·4	1,001,493	4·3	722,396	·3	11,387,197	3·2
1891-92	6,394,514	·9	3,683,639	2·6	10,192,877	dec.	1,088,161	3·0	745,530	·6	12,077,508	dec.
1891-92	6,000,188	3·4	-	13·7	-	6·9	-	3·7	-	3·2	-	6·3

APPENDIX C.

STATEMENT showing the NUMBER of Post TOWNS in ENGLAND and WALES, arranged in CLASSES according to the number of MAILs they receive and despatch from and to LONDON.

Year.	Towns having one Mail only.		Towns having Two Mails.		Towns having Three Mails.		Towns having Four Mails.		Towns having Five Mails.		Towns having Six Mails.		Towns having Seven Mails.		Towns having Eight Mails.		Aggregate Total No. of Mails.		Total No. of Post Towns in England and Wales.	
	To London.		To London.		To London.		To London.		To London.		To London.		To London.		To London.		To London.			
	From London.		From London.		From London.		From London.		From London.		From London.		From London.		From London.		From London.			
1890-91	-	1	32	98	195	246	188	169	135	82	43	35	30	5	14	1	—	2,274	2,019	637
1891-92	-	3	26	93	187	227	183	205	142	73	57	26	27	10	12	1	4	2,289	2,080	638
Increase	-	2	—	—	—	—	—	36	7	—	14	—	—	5	—	—	4	15	61	1
Decrease	-	—	6	5	8	10	5	—	—	9	—	9	3	—	3	—	—	—	—	—

APPENDIX D.

**ABSTRACT of CONTRACTS or AGREEMENTS for the Conveyance of
Home Mails by Sea.**

APPENDIX D.

Abstract of Contracts or Agreements for

Line of Communication.	How often.	Number, Size, and Character of Vessels.	Contractors.	Contract or Agreement.		
				When made.	When commenced.	Terminates.
FLEETWOOD and BELFAST.	Week days -	Steam vessels	North Lancashire Steam Navigation Company (but payment made through Lancashire and Yorkshire Railway Company).	28 Jan. 1891	1 July 1889	On 6 months' notice.
FOULA and WALLS (SHETLAND).	Once a fortnight.	Sailing vessel.	M. Manson and L. Gray.	10 March 1892	10 Mar. 1892	10 March 1894, afterwards on 6 months' notice.
HOLYHEAD and KINGSTOWN.	Twice a day -	Four Mail Packets specially built and maintained for the service.	City of Dublin Steam Packet Company.	20 Aug. 1883	1 Oct. 1883	30 Sept. 1895 (afterwards on 12 months' notice).
KENMORE and KILLIN.	- - -	- - -	The Marquis of Breadalbane, per William J. Fraser.	- - -	- - -	- - -
LIVERPOOL and DOUGLAS (ISLE of MAN.)	Once on week days.	A sufficient number of efficient steam vessels.	Isle of Man Steam Packet Company.	17 Jan. 1883	- - -	On 6 months' notice.
LUNDY ISLAND and INSTOW.	Once a week -	Sailing boat	Captain Dark	- - -	1 May 1883	- - -
PENZANCE and SCILLY	Three times a week in summer. Twice a week in winter.	Steam vessel	West Cornwall Steam Packet Company.	31 July 1874	1 Feb. 1874	On 6 months' notice.
PORTSMOUTH and RYDE.	Once daily, with the Night Mails. See "Remarks."	Steam vessels	London, Brighton, and South Coast, and London and South-Western Railway Companies.	10 Nov. 1891	1 July 1890	1 July 1895 -
SOUTHAMPTON and CHANNEL ISLANDS.	Once on week days.	Steam vessels	London and South-Western Railway Company.	- - -	1 Jan. 1870. No formal Contract.	On 6 months' notice.
SOUTHAMPTON and COWES.	Once on week days, but see "Remarks."	Steam vessels	Southampton, Isle of Wight, and South of England Royal Mail Steam Packet Company.	- - -	1 Jan. 1874. No Contract.	- - -
WYMOUTH and CHANNEL ISLANDS.	6 days a week	Steam vessels	Great Western Railway Company, as successors of the Weymouth and Channel Islands Steam Packet Company.	- - -	Aug. 1881. No Contract.	- - -

APPENDIX D.

the Conveyance of Home Mails by Sea.

Payment.	Contract Time.	Deduction for Overtime.	Penalty for General Non-performance.	Remarks.
1,000 <i>l</i> .	- - -	- - -	- - -	The Department has the general use of the Company's vessels.
52 <i>l</i> . (2 <i>l</i> . a trip.)	- - -	- - -	25 <i>l</i> .	
84,000 <i>l</i> .	Outward journey (including transfer on both sides of the Channel), 4 <i>h</i> . 7 <i>m</i> . Inward journey (including transfer), 4 <i>h</i> . 2 <i>m</i> .	1 <i>l</i> . 14 <i>s</i> . per minute	If on any occasion vessel is not ready, penalty of 100 <i>l</i> . and 1 <i>l</i> . per hour for every hour beyond stipulated time before vessel starts.	The payment is subject to reduction when the receipts from passenger traffic in any one year exceed 35,000 <i>l</i> . It includes payment for parcel services.
104 <i>l</i> . (includes 4 <i>l</i> . for parcels).	- - -	- - -	- - -	Payment is made as for ferryage.
4,500 <i>l</i> .	14 nautical miles an hour in summer; 12 in winter.	- - -	If on any occasion vessel is not ready P.M.G. may employ another vessel, and charge cost to the Contractors.	Separate payment at rate of 3 <i>s</i> . a cwt. for parcels.
52 <i>l</i> . 10 <i>s</i> .	—	—	—	
450 <i>l</i> . and 100 <i>l</i> . for parcels.	No time fixed	- - -	If on any occasion vessel is not ready, P.M.G. may employ a pilot boat and special messenger at the expense of the Contractors.	Payment for parcels fixed under separate Contract dated the 31st July 1883. General conditions similar to those under the old Contract.
1,400 <i>l</i> . (including payment for parcels).	25 minutes each trip.	- - -	200 <i>l</i> .	The Department has also the general use of the Companies' vessels which are constantly plying between the two places.
8,500 <i>l</i> .	Between Southampton and Guernsey, 9 hours; between Southampton and Jersey, 12 hours.	- - -	2,000 <i>l</i> .	
150 <i>l</i> .	- - -	- - -	- - -	No Contract. The Post Office has the general use of the Company's vessels.
200 <i>l</i> .	- - -	- - -	- - -	No Contract. The Post Office has the general use of the Company's vessels. This is a supplementary service to the one from Southampton.

APPENDIX D.—*continued.*

Line of Communication.	How often.	Number, Size, and Character of Vessels.	Contractors.	Contract or Agreement.		
				When made.	When commenced.	Terminates.
SCOTLAND.						
ABERDEEN and LERWICK.	Five days a week in summer. Three days a week in winter.	Steam vessels of sufficient number.	North of Scotland and Orkney and Shetland Steam Navigation Company.	- - -	1 June 1891	1 June 1895 -
LERWICK, WHALSAY, and NORTH ISLES.	Thrice a week.	Steam vessel	Do.	- - -	- - -	- - -
ARDROSSAN and ABERN.	Six days a week.	Steam vessel	Glasgow and South-Western Railway Company.	- - -	- - -	- - -
GLASGOW and CAMPBELTOWN.	Once on week days.	Steam vessels	C. A. Murray, for Campbeltown and Glasgow Steam Packet Company, Limited.	- - -	- - -	- - -
GLASGOW, GREENOCK, OBAN, PORTREE, and STORNOWAY.	Twice a week in summer, once in winter.	Steam vessels	David MacBrayne	10, 14, 20 Jan. 1881.	4 Aug. 1880.	On 6 months' notice.
GREENOCK and BELFAST } ARDROSSAN and BELFAST }	Including Parcel Post Service. } Once on week days.	Steam vessels of sufficient number.	Sir John Burns, Baronet.	21, 22, 24, and 25 August 1883.	1 Aug. 1883	On 12 months' notice.
{ GREENOCK ROTHERSAY, and ARDREISHAIG.	Week days -	Steam vessel	David MacBrayne	10, 14, and 20 Jan. 1881.	4 Aug. 1880	On 6 months' notice.
{ GREENOCK, ROTHERSAY, and ARDREISHAIG (Parcels).	Week days -	Steam vessel	David MacBrayne	3 and 30 Dec. 1884.	1 Aug. 1884	On 3 months' notice.
GREENOCK and LOCHGOILHEAD.	Six days a week	Steam vessel	M. T. Clark, for Lockgill Steam Packet Company.	- - -	1 Feb. 1892	On 6 months' notice.
GREENOCK and KILMUN.	Week days -	Steam vessel	Capt. Jas. Williamson, for Caledonian Steam Packet Company.	- - -	1 Jan. 1887 No Contract.	- - -
GREENOCK and TARBERT (HARRIS).	Once a week -	Steam vessel "Dunart Castle."	Martin Orme & Co.	May 1891	1 June 1891	Provisional arrangement to terminate not later than 30 Sept. 1892.
GREENOCK and DUNVEGAN.	Once a week -	Steamer "Hebridean."	John McCallum & Co.	May 1891	1 June 1891	
INVERNESS and FORT AUGUSTUS.	Six day a week	Steam vessels of sufficient number.	David MacBrayne	10, 14, and 20 Jan. 1881.	4 Aug. 1880	On 6 months' notice.

APPENDIX D.—*continued.*

Payment.	Contract Time.	Deduction for Overtime.	Penalty for General Non-performance.	Remarks.
6,000 <i>l.</i> (see Remarks), and 100 <i>l.</i> for parcels.	-	-	200 <i>l.</i> P.M.G. to charter another vessel at Con- tractors' expense.	3,100 <i>l.</i> of this sum is paid by the Post Office, and 3,000 <i>l.</i> by the Scottish Office.
400 <i>l.</i>	-	-	100 <i>l.</i>	
650 <i>l.</i>	-	-	125 <i>l.</i>	The Department has also the general use of these steamers, as run by the Company for their own traffic purposes. The pay- ment includes Parcel Ser- vice.
230 <i>l.</i>	-	-	-	Forms a part of Greenock, Rothesay, and Ardrishaig Contract. The Depart- ment has the general use of the steamers. Parcel Service provided for as noted below.
8,000 <i>l.</i> 1st year. 8,500 <i>l.</i> 2nd year. 9,000 <i>l.</i> 3rd year. 10,000 <i>l.</i> 4th and 5th years, and to continue until notice is given by either side to termi- nate the Contract.	-	-	2,000 <i>l.</i>	
1,800 <i>l.</i>	-	-	1,000 <i>l.</i>	
245 <i>l.</i>	-	-	-	This payment also includes the Parcel Service be- tween Greenock, Portree, and Stornoway, and Inver- ness and Fort Augustus.
270 <i>l.</i>	-	-	100 <i>l.</i>	The Department has general use of all this Company's steamers as run by them for traffic purposes. The payment includes the Parcel Service.
125 <i>l.</i>	-	-	-	Payment includes the Parcel Service.
1,000 <i>l.</i> a year, of which 250 <i>l.</i> are paid by Post Of- fice and 750 <i>l.</i> by Scottish Office.	-	-	-	General use as far as practi- cable of the two steamers, "Dunara Castle" and "Hebridean."
210 <i>l.</i>	-	-	-	Parcel Service provided for as noted above.

APPENDIX D.—continued.

Line of Communication.	How often.	Number, Size, and Character of Vessels.	Contractors.	Contract or Agreement.		
				When made.	When commenced.	Terminates.
KIRK WALL and NORTH ISLES.	Twice a week for 9 months, and three times a week for 3 months.	Steam vessels of sufficient number.	Geo. Robertson	1 Nov. 1891	1 Nov. 1891	1 Nov. 1892 afterwards on 3 months notice.
OBAN and FORT WILLIAM.	Once a day, six days a week.	Steam vessels of sufficient number.	David MacBrayne	10 & 16 Nov. 1891.	1 Apr. 1891	On 6 months' notice.
OBAN and FORT WILLIAM (Parcels).	Once a day, six days a week.	Steam vessels of sufficient number.	David MacBrayne	13 Dec. 1894, 2 Jan. 1895.	1 Aug. 1894	On 3 months' notice.
OBAN and TOBERMORY.	Once a day, six days a week.	Steam vessel				
OBAN and West of MULL, calling at Tobermory, Kilchoan, Coll, Tiree, Pennyghael, and Bunessan.	Out. — On Tuesdays, Thursdays, and Saturdays. In. — On Mondays, Wednesdays, and Fridays.	Steam vessel				
OBAN and DUNVEGAN, calling at Castlebay, Lochboisdale, and Lochmaddy.	Mondays, Wednesdays, and Fridays.	Steam vessel.				
DUNVEGAN and OBAN, calling at Loch Pooltiel, and Loch Bracadale;	Tuesdays, Thursdays, and Saturdays.					
And also at Canna and Rum.	Tuesdays and Thursdays.		David MacBrayne.	4 and 11 June 1891.	1 May 1891	30 Sept. 1892, on 6 months' notice. See Remarks.
OBAN and LOCHMADDY, calling at Loch Bracadale, Loch Pooltiel, and Dunvegan;	Tuesdays, Thursdays, and Saturdays.	Steam vessel.				
And also at Rum and Canna.	Tuesdays and Saturdays.					
LOCHMADDY and OBAN, calling at Loch Boisdale and Castlebay.	Mondays, Wednesdays, and Fridays.					
PORTREE and LOCHMADDY and DUNVEGAN.	Out. — Mondays, Wednesdays, and Fridays. In. — Tuesdays, Thursdays, and Saturdays.	Steam vessel				
STROME FERRY and STORNOWAY.	Once a day, six days a week each way.	Steam vessel				

APPENDIX D.—*continued*

Payment.	Contract Time.	Deduction for Overtime.	Penalty for General Non-performance.	Remarks.
340 <i>l</i> .	—	—	—	
600 <i>l</i> .	Out. 3 hrs. 30 mins. In. 3 hrs. 30 mins.	- - -	300 <i>l</i> .	
65 <i>l</i> .	—	—	—	
555 <i>l</i> .	At rate of 10 sea miles an hour.	- - -		
1,200 <i>l</i> .	At rate of 10 sea miles an hour.	- - -		
6,000 <i>l</i> .	At rate of not less than 11 sea miles an hour.	- - -	6,000 <i>l</i> . To be recovered by way of liquidated damages, and not by way of penalty.	Notice must be given on or before 31st March 1892 to terminate services on the following 30th September. Of the total sum of 12,605 <i>l</i> . a year payable under this contract, and the agreement with Mr. McLean, 5,845 <i>l</i> . is paid by the Post Office, and 6,750 <i>l</i> . by the Scottish Office. Payments include Parcel Services.
1,550 <i>l</i> .	At rate of not less than 10 sea miles an hour.	- - -		
3,000 <i>l</i> .	At rate of 11 sea miles an hour.	20 <i>l</i> . for undue delay or deviation from course.	- - -	In event of accident, storm, &c. preventing despatch in due course of the Strome Ferry and Portree Steamer, Contractor allowed to divert the Strome Ferry-Stornoway Steamer from the direct course and touch at Broadford, Raasay, and Portree. In every such case special report to be furnished within two days to P.M.G. and Secretary for Scotland detailing circumstances.

APPENDIX D.—continued.

Line of Communication.	How often.	Number, Size, and Character of Vessels.	Contractors.	Contract or Agreement.		
				When made.	When commenced.	Terminates.
OBAN and CARSAIG	Mondays, Wednesdays, and Fridays.	Steam vessel	Archibald McLean	- - -	1 July 1891	30 Sept. 1892
ROTHESAY and WEMYSS BAY.	Week days for about 8½ months.	Steam vessel	Per Caledonian Steam Packet Company, Capt. Jas. Williamson.	- - -	1 Apr. 1891	On 3 months' notice.
STROME FERRY and PORTREE.	6 days a week	Steam vessels of sufficient number.	David MacBrayne	1 Dec. 1887	1 Oct. 1888	On 12 months' notice.
SCRABSTER PIER (THURSO) and STROMNESS.	6 days a week	Steam vessels of sufficient number.	North of Scotland and Orkney and Shetland Steam Navigation Company.	- - -	12 Feb. 1889	After 5 years on 6 months' notice.
STROMNESS and LONGHOPE.	3 days a week	Sailing boat	W. Taylor and J. Johnston.	- - -	- - -	- - -
TARBERT and ISLAY.	Week days	Steam vessel	David MacBrayne	30 Sept. 1879	4 Nov. 1878	On 6 months' notice.
GREENOCK and ISLAY, included.		Steam vessel	David MacBrayne	13 Dec. 1884, 5 Jan. 1885.	1 Aug. 1884	On 3 months' notice.
GREENOCK and ISLAY (Parcels).	Week days	Steam vessel	David MacBrayne	13 Dec. 1884, 5 Jan. 1885.	1 Aug. 1884	On 3 months' notice.
VIEKIE (SHETLAND) and FAIR ISLE.	Once a fortnight.	Sailing vessel.	John Bruce, Junr.	- - -	1 Nov. 1883	- - -

In many cases the service commenced in addition to the payments given in detail above. Letters, &c. are conveyed by Private Ships to and from places 1,600*l.* a year, and the principal payments are as follows:—

For Guernsey, Alderney and Sark Service (special rates) - - -
 „ Glasgow, Greenock, and Londonderry Service - - -
 „ Waterford and Milford Haven Service - - -
 „ Manchester and Barrow, to and from Douglas (Isle of Man) season
 „ Belfast and Barrow Service - - -

There are also a number of small miscellaneous fixed payments for conveyance of Home Mails and for *ferryage* in any case 50*l.* a year which have not been included in the above statement.

General Post Office, 31st March 1892.

APPENDIX D.—*continued.*

Payment.	Contract Time.	Deduction for Overtime.	Penalty for General Non-performance.	Remarks.
300 <i>l.</i>	At rate of 10 sea miles an hour.	- - -	- - -	No Contract.
225 <i>l.</i>	- - -	- - -	- - -	Payment includes Parcel Service.
650 <i>l.</i>	- - -	20 <i>l.</i> for undue delay or deviation from course.	100 <i>l.</i>	Payment includes the Parcel Service.
2,000 <i>l.</i>	10 knots an hour	20 <i>l.</i> for undue delay or deviation from course.	200 <i>l.</i> P.M.G. to charter another vessel at Contractor's expense.	Payment includes the Parcel Service.
78 <i>l.</i> (10 <i>s.</i> a trip.)	- - -	- - -	- - -	Payment is made as for ferryage.
900 <i>l.</i>	- - -	- - -	500 <i>l.</i>	
86 <i>l.</i>	—	—	—	
180 <i>l.</i>	- - -	- - -	- - -	No Contract. Payment is made up thus: 80 <i>l.</i> for service from 1 April to 31 October, and 10 <i>l.</i> per trip for the other 5 months.

before the formal contract was executed.

in the United Kingdom for a certain fixed payment of 2*s.* 6*d.* per 100. The total amount paid at present is about

about 641*l.* a year.

" 299*l.* "

" 220*l.* "

services via Fleetwood " 158*l.* "

" 53*l.* "

(including various payments for the conveyance of Mails in the Highlands and Islands of Scotland), not exceeding

APPENDIX E.

Staff of Officers.

Totals 31 Mar. 1891.	Description of Officers.	England and Wales.		Scotland.		Ireland.		Totals.		Totals 31 Mar. 1892.
		Males.	Fe- males.	Males.	Fe- males.	Males.	Fe- males.	Males.	Fe- males.	
	A.									
1	Postmaster General - -	1	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	1
	B.									
8	Secretary, Financial Secretary, Third Secretary, Assistant Secretaries (3), Surveyor General for Scotland, and Secretary for Ireland.	6	—	1	—	1	—	8	—	8
	C.									
42	Superior Officers in Metro- politan Offices.	35	1	3	—	3	—	41	1	42
	D.									
16	Surveyors - - - -	10	—	3	—	3	—	16	—	16
	E.									
929	Head Postmasters : Metropolitan - - -	11	1	1	—	—	—	779	154	933
	Provinces - - -	551	88	121	32	95	33			
17,497	Sub-Postmasters : Metropolitan - - -	741	102	41	6	64	69	13,636	4,263	17,906
	Provinces - - -	9,820	2,909	1,228	524	1,741	603			
	F.									
4,145	Clerks and Superintending Officers : Metropolitan - - -	1,796	1,061	136	30	163	24	3,815	1,168	4,983
	Provinces - - -	1,468	46	186	7	66	—			
	G.									
19,385	Supervisors, Overseers, Counter- men, Sorters, Telegraphists, &c. : Metropolitan - - -	7,811	1,637	404	99	529	86	17,372	4,066	21,438
	Sorting Clerks and Telegra- phists : Provinces - - -	7,070	1,684	957	375	502	135			
42,513	Carried forward - -	29,329	7,539	3,061	1,073	3,287	1,040	35,667	9,662	45,319

APPENDIX E.—*continued.*Staff of Officers—*continued.*

Totals 31 Mar. 1891.	Description of Officers.	England and Wales.		Scotland.		Ireland.		Totals.		Totals 31 Mar. 1892.
		Males.	Fe- males.	Males.	Fe- males.	Males.	Fe- males.	Males.	Fe- males.	
42,513	Brought forward - -	29,329	7,539	3,081	1,073	3,237	1,040	35,667	9,653	45,319
	H.									
21,351	Postmen, Porters, &c. :									
	Metropolitan - - -	6,016	—	286	—	208	—	22,894	8	22,902
	Provinces - - -	13,216	7	1,998	1	1,170	—			
	I.									
54,116	Persons employed in unesta- blished positions, viz., As- sistants to Postmasters, &c., Auxiliary Postmen, Boy Sorters, Boy Messengers, Telegraph Messengers, Tele- graph Construction Hands, Copyists, Female Servants, Commissionaires, &c. :									
	Metropolitan - - -	8,759	1,332	436	103	545	181	41,264	16,268	57,532
	Provinces - - -	24,873	11,270	3,264	1,330	3,387	2,062			
	J.									
4	Postmasters and Clerks abroad (under direction of Post- master General).	—	—	—	—	—	—	4	—	4
5	Agents in Foreign Countries for collection of postage.	—	—	—	—	—	—	5	—	5
117,989	Totals - - -	82,193	20,148	9,065	2,507	8,507	3,273	90,834	25,928	125,762

APPENDIX F.

Returned Letters, Parcels, &c.

A COMPARATIVE STATEMENT showing the Number of LETTERS, POST CARDS, BOOKS, NEWSPAPERS PATTERNS and PARCELS, received and disposed of in the RETURNED LETTER OFFICES of LONDON, MANCHESTER, LIVERPOOL, BIRMINGHAM, LEEDS, BRISTOL, NEWCASTLE-ON-TYNE, NOTTINGHAM, PLYMOUTH, EDINBURGH, GLASGOW, ABERDEEN, INVERNESS, DUBLIN, BELFAST, and CORK respectively; also the Number which, bearing on the outside the Addresses of the Senders, were returned direct from HEAD POST OFFICES (not possessing RETURNED LETTER BRANCHES), in the Year ended 31st March 1891, and in the Year ended 31st March 1892.

	Letters received.		Letters re-issued to corrected Addresses.		Letters returned to the Senders.		Letters returned unopened to Foreign Countries.		Letters which could neither be delivered nor returned to the Senders.	
	1890-91.	1891-92.	1890-91.	1891-92.	1890-91.	1891-92.	1890-91.	1891-92.	1890-91.	1891-92.
LONDON - -	2,706,357	2,796,005	36,364	34,177	2,294,646	2,414,070	128,583	136,863	246,764	209,906
MANCHESTER -	392,479	417,835	10,447	9,130	338,137	360,902	10,036	10,406	33,859	37,397
LIVERPOOL -	340,223	357,829	15,546	18,573	283,375	295,393	16,151	16,731	25,152	27,132
BIRMINGHAM -	268,710	289,488	4,768	8,446	232,063	240,507	4,898	5,257	16,966	15,278
LEEDS - -	235,642	252,068	4,645	4,915	200,884	216,470	7,047	7,685	23,066	22,968
BRISTOL - -	333,129	353,318	9,190	6,763	290,144	306,628	10,700	11,492	25,096	33,435
NEWCASTLE-ON-TYNE.	175,682	173,661	2,888	3,806	137,646	144,963	6,532	6,717	28,616	18,145
NOTTINGHAM -	180,864	187,139	5,430	5,892	157,458	163,366	4,042	4,061	13,904	13,800
PLYMOUTH -	56,250	56,111	507	542	46,671	47,995	4,133	3,448	4,939	4,126
EDINBURGH -	224,390	219,245	11,378	11,005	198,409	191,211	6,355	6,665	8,158	10,364
GLASGOW - -	200,329	196,979	18,254	18,339	167,622	163,444	5,067	5,605	9,386	9,291
ABERDEEN -	25,703	24,703	984	952	21,904	21,087	751	715	2,064	1,949
INVERNESS -	17,238	16,747	1,082	867	14,834	14,479	381	413	941	968
DUBLIN - -	220,395	218,309	9,024	6,530	198,147	193,070	11,806	12,392	11,416	6,517
BELFAST - -	61,347	66,896	4,724	4,879	46,980	53,235	2,528	2,773	7,115	6,009
CORK - -	44,976	36,607	1,419	1,066	36,931	29,536	3,459	3,019	3,167	2,964
Head Post Offices authorised to return certain letters, &c. direct to senders -	1,094,566	1,144,215	—	—	1,094,566	1,144,215	—	—	—	—
TOTALS -	6,568,270	6,790,845	136,644	135,914	5,750,527	6,000,001	222,491	234,282	458,966	420,978
Increase in 1891-92 over 1890-91. }	222,575	—	—	—	250,074	—	11,761	—	—	—

APPENDIX F.—*continued.*Returned Letters, Parcels, &c.—*continued.*

	Post Cards received.		Books received.		Newspapers received.		Patterns and Samples received.		Parcels received.		Parcels returned to Senders, or re-issued to Addressees.	
	1890-91.	1891-92.	1890-91.	1891-92.	1890-91.	1891-92.	1890-91.	1891-92.	1890-91.	1891-92.	1890-91.	1891-92.
LONDON -	85,608	88,259	2,242,804	2,280,546	891,291	356,904	3,776	3,761	46,023	47,546	30,923	31,107
MANCHESTER -	32,875	35,251	531,131	570,165	13,887	14,130	78	77	4,358	4,460	2,650	2,782
LIVERPOOL -	35,796	36,219	332,468	361,177	18,083	18,437	628	675	3,205	3,259	2,180	2,063
BIRMINGHAM -	29,212	33,521	304,983	305,044	8,730	8,844	1,180	1,563	2,604	2,919	1,908	2,007
LEEDS -	17,628	19,223	290,273	316,998	9,044	10,159	487	432	2,405	2,862	1,710	1,821
BRISTOL -	14,235	15,110	339,183	352,659	13,638	14,106	1,574	1,492	5,066	4,979	3,105	3,008
NEWCASTLE-ON-TYNE.	12,164	12,408	172,193	171,123	5,996	7,186	437	331	1,818	1,992	1,224	1,204
NOTTINGHAM -	3,365	3,443	237,912	234,986	5,933	6,283	184	230	2,441	2,801	1,799	1,760
PLYMOUTH -	3,241	3,307	56,976	54,871	2,539	2,554	241	207	738	735	447	406
EDINBURGH -	25,074	24,702	262,868	238,766	16,207	17,590	727	528	4,324	4,711	3,290	3,841
GLASGOW -	37,112	39,389	162,438	152,753	10,875	8,837	394	643	2,671	2,526	2,164	2,158
ABERDEEN -	717	658	27,450	24,579	1,618	2,053	35	22	283	370	153	210
INVERNESS -	952	846	18,651	16,721	1,394	1,938	53	36	269	292	171	171
DUBLIN -	15,467	16,433	231,008	217,818	34,052	27,082	80	146	4,178	4,191	2,841	3,024
BELFAST -	6,853	6,501	74,415	65,517	4,296	5,592	4	212	577	718	377	468
CORK -	667	650	37,361	35,216	2,973	1,837	24	30	479	555	253	311
Head Post Offices authorised to return certain letters, &c. direct to senders -	571,232	578,312	1,601,533	1,628,521	57,891	53,199	20,335	31,228	29,383	33,142	29,383	33,142
TOTALS -	892,068	914,234	6,923,735	7,016,460	598,447	556,731	30,237	41,613	110,902	113,058	84,578	89,598
Increase in 1891-92 over 1890-91.	22,146		92,725		—		11,376		7,156		5,020	

APPENDIX G.

Foreign and Colonial

Line of Packets.	Contracts.	
	Com- mencement.	Termination.
AUSTRALIA:		
Brindisi or Naples and Adelaide -	1 Feb. 1888 -	31st January 1895 - -
Aden and Brisbane - - - -	- - - -	Colonial Contracts - -
San Francisco and Sydney - -	- - - -	
London and Sydney, and intermediate } Australian Ports - - - - }	1 July 1888 {	On 6 months' notice - - - } For Parcel Post - - - }
BRAZIL, RIVER PLATE, AND CHILI:		
Fortnightly Service from Southampton -	1 Sept. 1876 -	On 6 months' notice - -
Do. do. -	1 Jan. 1888 -	Do. for Parcel Post -
Fortnightly service from Liverpool -	1 July 1878 -	On 6 months' notice - -
CANADA AND CHINA - - - -	7 April 1891 -	8th April 1901 - - -
CAPE OF GOOD HOPE AND NATAL -	Contracts with	Colonial Governments - -
Do. do. for calls - - - }	- - - -	- - - -
at St. Helena and Ascension - - }	- - - -	- - - -
Natal - - - - -	17 June 1887 {	On 6 months' notice - - - } For Parcel Post - - - }
EAST INDIES AND CHINA - - - }	1 Feb. 1888 {	On 31st January 1898 - - - }
EAST COAST OF AFRICA:	1 July 1885 {	On 6 months' notice - - - }
London and Zanzibar - - - }	Service provided under arrangement with } Foreign Office - - - }	- - - }
EUROPE:		
Dover and Calais - - - -	20 June 1878 -	On 12 months' notice - -
Do. - - - - -	1 Oct. 1887 - {	On 6 months' notice - - - }
Dover and Ostend - - - -	Arrangement with Belgian Government -	- - -
Channel Islands and St. Malo and } Granville - - - - }	15 Feb. 1888 - {	On 6 months' notice - - - }
Liverpool, Constantinople, and Smyrna	1 Jan. 1886 - {	On 6 months' notice - - - }
London to Hamburg - - - -	1 Jan. 1886 - {	On 6 months' notice - - - }
United Kingdom and Lisbon - -	1 Jan. 1888 - {	On 6 months' notice - - - }
MAURITIUS AND CEYLON - - - }	Service provided under arrangement with } Colonial Office - - - }	- - - }
NORTH AMERICA:		
Queensdown to New York - -	1 March 1887	On 12 months' notice - -
Do. do. - - - -	31 March 1889	Do. for Parcel Post -
Newfoundland (Colonial Contract) -	1 April 1888 -	On 31st March 1893 -
New York and Bermuda - - -	1 Jan. 1889 -	On 6 months' notice - -
Liverpool to Mexico - - - -	1 March 1890 {	On 6 months' notice - - - }
PANAMA TO VALPARAISO - - -	1 July 1878 -	For Parcel Post - - - }
On 6 months' notice - - -		
WEST INDIES:		
Fortnightly service - - - -	1 July 1890 -	On 30th June 1895 - -
Additional Services:		
Non-Contract Service - - - -	- - - -	- - - -
Turk's Islands (Colonial Contract)	27 Oct. 1888 -	On 6 months' notice - -
British Honduras (direct) - -	1 March 1887 {	On 6 months' notice - - - }
WEST COAST OF AFRICA - - - }	Indefinite -	For Parcel Post - - - }
	1 Jan. 1888 - {	On 6 months' notice - - - }
		For Parcel Post - - - }

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

(b) Including 2,175*l.* for excess of premiums over penalties.

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

APPENDIX G.

Packet Service.

Payment.	Penalties for Overtime.	Contributions towards the Cost of the Service.	Estimated Receipts for Sea Postage.	Estimated British Loss on the Sea Service.
£ 170,000	{ 100l. for every 24 hours.	{ South Australia Victoria New South Wales } 75,000l.	£ 3,000	£ 92,000
-	-	-	-	-
(a) 1,531	-	-	1,531	Nil.
(a) 7,634	-	-	-	-
(a) 124	-	-	17,481	,600
(a) 14,273	-	-	-	-
43,973	100l. for every 12 hours.	{ Canada - 11,250l. Admiralty - 3,750l. }	-	29,000
(d)	-	-	-	-
(a) 612	-	-	612	Nil.
285,000	{ 200l. for every 12 hours late at Brindisi. In other cases 100l.	{ India, 59,900l. Ceylon, 1,400l. Straits Settlements, 6,000l. Hong Kong, 6,000l. }	27,627	167,000
(a) 2,927	-	-	-	-
-	-	-	-	-
(b) 12,588	{ 5l. for 15 minutes or upwards.	-	-	-
(a) 4,236	-	-	4,236	Nil.
4,500	-	-	-	-
(a) 33	-	-	33	Nil.
(a) 54	-	-	54	Nil.
(a) 340	-	-	340	Nil.
(a) 42	-	-	42	Nil.
-	-	-	-	-
(a) 99,024	-	-	99,024	60,000
(a) 45	-	-	45	Nil.
(c) 4,000	-	-	500	3,500
(a) 564	-	-	-	560
(a) 15	-	-	15	Nil.
(a) 4,895	-	-	2,695	2,200
-	-	-	-	-
85,000	{ 25l. for every 24 hours.	{ Antigua - 1,091 Barbados - 2,433 British Guiana - 4,429 Dominica - 248 Grenada - 651 Jamaica - 5,790 Montserrat - 121 Nevis - 132 St. Kitt's - 643 St. Lucia - 411 St. Vincent - 618 Tobago - 403 Tortola - 28 Trinidad - 2,861 }	15,983	49,700
(a) 282	-	-	-	-
(c) 250	-	-	-	-
(a) —	-	-	-	-
(a) 10,437	-	-	4,475	6,200
(a) 238	-	-	-	-

APPENDIX H.

Telegrams.

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

Year.	Number of Telegrams.					
	England and Wales.			Scotland.	Ireland.	TOTAL.
	Provinces.	London.	Total.			
1870-71 -	5,299,882	2,863,821	8,163,703	1,080,189	606,285	9,850,177
1871-72 -	6,594,590	3,612,772	10,207,362	1,388,434	878,000	12,473,796
1872-73 -	8,022,151	4,577,015	12,599,166	1,761,298	1,175,316	15,535,780
1873-74 -	9,233,854	5,254,547	14,488,401	2,009,893	1,323,236	17,821,530
1874-75 -	10,124,661	5,652,033	15,776,694	2,132,787	1,343,639	19,253,120
1875-76 -	10,883,282	6,350,714	17,233,996	2,287,359	1,452,180	20,973,535
1876-77 -	11,232,704	6,551,930	17,794,634	2,402,347	1,529,162	21,726,143
1877-78 -	11,392,098	6,700,504	18,092,602	2,490,776	1,588,489	22,171,867
1878-79 -	11,592,899	8,630,019	20,222,918	2,477,003	1,559,854	24,459,775
1879-80 -	12,392,996	9,854,566	22,247,562	2,704,574	1,595,001	26,547,137
1880-81 -	13,456,555	11,176,459	24,633,014	3,042,291	1,736,677	29,411,982
1881-82 -	14,204,479	12,071,084	26,275,513	3,207,994	1,862,354	31,345,861
1882-83 -	14,554,015	12,374,707	26,928,722	3,244,202	1,919,102	32,092,026
1883-84 -	14,920,413	12,086,433	27,006,846	3,299,428	1,936,846	32,843,120
1884-85 -	15,195,618	12,930,876	28,125,994	3,257,546	1,894,919	33,278,459
1885-86 -	18,029,008	15,081,433	33,110,441	3,812,173	2,223,669	39,146,283
1886-87 -	24,044,077	18,276,108	42,320,185	5,106,774	2,816,680	50,243,639
1887-88 -	26,052,717	18,372,554	44,925,271	5,430,623	3,047,531	53,403,425
1888-89 -	28,269,130	20,263,539	48,532,669	5,991,223	3,241,455	57,765,347
1889-90 -	30,873,953	21,562,826	52,436,779	6,545,654	3,420,966	62,403,399
1890-91 -	32,827,055	22,831,033	55,658,088	7,077,388	3,673,735	66,409,211
1891-92 -	34,854,867	23,911,238	58,766,105	7,155,180	3,764,195	69,685,480

The figures for each year since 1877-78 include the number of certain Press Telegrams not previously included in these Returns.

Prior to 1883-84 the returns were made to the end of the last complete week in the year. Since that time they are in each case to the last day of the year inclusive.

On the 1st October 1885 the minimum charge for an inland telegram was reduced from one shilling to sixpence.

APPENDIX H.--*continued.*

TABLE showing the NUMBER of TELEGRAMS forwarded from TELEGRAPH OFFICES in the UNITED KINGDOM during each of the Years 1890-91 and 1891-92; and the Increase in each Month of the latter Year over the corresponding Month of the former Year.

Month.	Number of Telegrams.		Increase.
	1891-92.	1890-91.	
April - - -	5,725,103	5,240,887	484,266
May - - -	5,939,601	5,887,192	102,409
June - - -	6,039,615	5,620,339	419,276
July - - -	6,587,957	6,359,052	228,905
August - - -	6,248,589	6,124,479	124,060
September - - -	6,267,914	6,004,575	264,339
October - - -	6,212,052	5,944,373	267,679
November - - -	5,575,520	5,243,100	332,420
December - -	5,445,187	5,148,232	296,955
January - - -	5,200,275	4,980,810	219,465
February - - -	4,957,382	4,651,995	305,387
March - - -	5,486,335	5,255,227	231,108
	69,685,480	66,409,211	3,276,269

APPENDIX I.

TABLE showing the VALUE of WORK PERFORMED by the POST OFFICE TELEGRAPH DEPARTMENT for other GOVERNMENT DEPARTMENTS in the last Ten Years.

Period.	Inland. Telegrams.	Wire Rentals, &c.	Salaries.	Work executed.	Total.
Year ended 31st March 1888	£ s. d. 12,978 2 0	£ s. d. 10,069 17 8	£ s. d. 3,080 14 8	£ s. d. 8 15 8	£ s. d. 26,087 10 0
" 1884	11,746 16 5	11,142 10 3	2,880 15 1	5 0 8	25,775 2 5
" 1885	12,666 5 2	11,651 3 2	2,764 12 3	15 7 7	27,097 8 2
" 1886	11,899 15 8	12,143 0 10	2,394 16 0	59 7 6	26,997 0 0
" 1887	12,509 17 9	13,703 2 7	2,955 5 8	38 11 10	29,206 17 10
" 1888	13,140 18 0	14,350 7 11	3,069 14 11	23 5 1	30,584 5 11
" 1889	14,870 7 10	15,118 7 3	3,357 9 10	68 9 8	33,414 14 7
" 1890	15,495 9 6½	16,355 9 7	3,851 2 7	626 17 4½	36,328 19 1
" 1891	15,906 12 10	16,786 7 3	3,610 16 7	76 12 11	36,380 9 7
" 1892	14,595 5 3	17,765 13 8	3,206 14 2	21 5 8	35,588 18 9

APPENDIX J.

Extracts from a Report from the Controller of the Post Office Savings Bank.

(28.) The cost of management in 1891, after deducting 2,622*l.*, the amount received for Commission on Stock transactions and for duplicate Deposit Books, &c., was 343,614*l.*, as compared with 326,394*l.* in the previous year. Calculated on these amounts, the average cost per transaction (*i.e.*, of each deposit or withdrawal) was 6·83*d.* in 1891 and 6·71*d.* in 1890, and the per-centage of expenses to the total Balance of the Post Office Savings Bank 9*s.* 7·16*d.* and 9*s.* 7·82*d.* respectively. It should not be forgotten that the expenses of management include a large and annually increasing sum paid to the Postal Department for postage, such sum in 1891 amounting to upwards of 54,000*l.*

Cost of
management.

(44.) Among the applications from abroad for information respecting the system of the British Post Office Savings Bank, I may refer to those from the Governments of Malta, Cape Colony, Madras, New Zealand, Spain, the United States, and the South African Republic. In the last-mentioned State it is intended to establish Post Office Savings Banks, and it is apparently with a view to their introduction, in some form or other, into Spain and the United States that information as to the experience of this country is sought.

Post Office
Savings Banks
abroad.

(45.) With regard to the progress of Post Office Savings Banks in the Colonies, the statement of the business in Canada for the year ended the 30th June 1891, shows that, notwithstanding that the number of Offices had been increased from 494 to 634, the transactions generally fell off during the year, and at its close both the number of accounts remaining open (112,230), and the amount due (4,347,729*l.*), were less than at its commencement. No doubt a reduction in the rate of interest allowed on deposits, coupled with the depression in trade, checked the expansion of business. On the other hand, it appears that at the Cape of Good Hope, owing to the failure of some local banking institutions, there was an exceptional increase in the business of the Post Office Savings Bank during the year ended the 30th June 1891. The deposits amounted to 934,748*l.*, and the repayments to 676,286*l.*, and at the close of the period the accounts remaining open numbered 27,311, with balances amounting in the aggregate to 723,970*l.* On the 1st January 1890 a scheme for issuing to depositors Savings Bank Certificates of 100*l.* each, repayable at three months' notice, came into force, and from the 1st July 1890 to the 30th June 1891, the total value of Certificates purchased was 272,000*l.* and of repayments 43,800*l.*, but a reduction of interest on such Certificates from 4 per cent. to 3½ per cent. has brought about a considerable increase in the applications for repayment. A scheme for enabling depositors to purchase 3½ per cent. Colonial Stock at par through the medium of the Post Office Savings Bank, which has been tried experimentally, does not find favour among the public, owing to the difficulty of realising the value of the Stock. The scheme includes placing the dividends, as they become due, to the credit of the depositors' Savings Bank Accounts, if desired. In Queensland the depositors in the Government Savings Bank at the end of 1890 numbered 45,885, and the amount due to them was 1,666,855*l.*, a not unsatisfactory advance, looking to the depression in trade, the unsettled state of the labour market, and the serious depreciation in land values, as well as to the reduction in the rate of interest on deposits from 5 to 4 per cent., to arrest the growth of the annual deficit. In South Australia there were, on the 30th June 1891,

Canada.

Cape of Good
Hope.

Queensland.

South
Australia.

New Zealand. 74,686 depositors, with 2,158,227*l.* to their credit, an increase of 5,493 and 234,935*l.* respectively. In New Zealand 97,109 accounts remained open on the 31st December 1890, and the total sum due thereon was 2,441,876*l.*, an increase of 6,361*l.* and 250,421*l.* respectively. From Jamaica I have received the report on the Government Savings Banks for the 18 months ended the 31st March 1891, from which I learn that the depositors at that date numbered 21,747, with a balance due to them of 431,022*l.* From British Guiana the second report on the Post Office Savings Bank there has come to hand. It is stated therein that much interest in the system is still evinced, and that its beneficial influence is admitted. The number of deposits during 1890 was 3,258 of \$39,169 (7,834*l.*), the average amount of each deposit being thus \$12 (2*l.* 8*s.*) At the close of the year there were 929 open accounts with \$27,648 (5,530*l.*) to their credit.

France. In France the business of the Post Office Savings Banks during 1890 shows a remarkable development. The amounts deposited and withdrawn during the year were respectively 10,479,965*l.* and 7,660,840*l.*, and at the close of the year the sum due to 1,504,688 depositors was 16,537,561*l.* The Offices for the transaction of business numbered 6,817. With respect to the deposits made on opening accounts, the average amount is found to be no less than 1*l.* 1*s.* 3*d.* This is probably due to the rule which allows of the total sum that may be deposited in an account, viz., 80*l.*, being paid in at one time. During the year 3,043 investments in Government Stock were carried through for depositors, the capital invested being 161,962*l.* Side by side with the Post Office Savings Banks there is in France another extensive system of Savings Banks. On the 31st December 1889 the number of such Banks was 543, the number of open accounts in them 5,538,638, and the amount due thereon 107,343,832*l.*, the sum deposited during the year being 30,622,096*l.*, and that withdrawn 26,593,095*l.* In

Austria. Austria the Post Office Savings Bank had, at the end of 1890, 783,206 open accounts, an increase of 63,775, and the amount standing to their credit was 2,127,017*l.* In Belgium, at the same date, the private depositors in the General Savings Bank, of which the Post Offices are used as agencies, numbered 725,808, and the amount standing to their credit was 12,618,256*l.* During the year 2,781 purchases of Stock of the nominal value of 399,408*l.*, and 1,608 sales of Stock of the nominal value of 305,000*l.*, were effected, leaving at its close 9,400 inscriptions in the Stock Registers, representing a capital of 2,011,874*l.* It is worthy of notice at the present time that the report on the Old Age Pensions branch of the Bank states it is only by an active propaganda that it is possible to popularise ("vulgariser") the business. One of the innovations adopted recently was the payment of pensions at Post Offices, and, owing to this and the introduction of other facilities and the distribution of pamphlets on the subject, the number of premiums paid (18,466) and the amount received (13,283*l.*) were greatly in excess of former years. The annual payments due to the 1,438 annuitants on the books amounted to 14,152*l.*, or practically 10*l.* apiece. Many large employers of labour have during the last few years inaugurated schemes for procuring, in association with the Savings Bank, old-age pensions for their employes, the employers generally undertaking to contribute a portion of the premiums. In the Netherlands the expansion of the Post Office Savings Bank continues, there being, on the 31st December 1890, 281,870 depositors, with a balance of 1,770,875*l.* standing to their credit, and a similar growth is witnessed in Sweden, where, on the same date, 237,060 depositors had 705,060*l.* to their credit.

The Netherlands.

Sweden.

Post Office Savings Banks.

TABLE showing the BUSINESS done during the last TEN YEARS.

Year.	Number of Post Office Savings Banks.	Number of Deposits.	Amount of Deposits.	Average amount of each Deposit.	Interest credited to Depositors.	Number of Withdrawals.	Amount of Withdrawals.	Average amount of each Withdrawal.	Charges of Management.	Average Cost of each transaction.	Number of accounts opened.	Number of accounts closed.	Number of accounts remaining open at close of the year.	Amount, inclusive of interest, standing to credit of all open accounts at close of the year.	Average amount standing to credit of each open account at close of the year.	Percentage of cost of Management to total funds in possession of the Post Office Savings Banks.	Total sum standing to credit of Post Office Savings Banks on books of National Debt Commissioners at close of the year.	Balance in hands of Postmaster-General after making provision for Outstanding Warrants at close of the year.	Estimated value of the Central Savings Bank premises in Queen Victoria Street.	Total value of Depositors at close of the year.	Number, at close of the year, of Old Savings Banks and Post Office Banks combined.	Number, at close of the year, of Depositors in Old Savings Banks and Post Office Banks combined.
1882	6,990	6,151,405½	12,821,290½	2 0 0½	891,629	1,335,120½	10,890,634½	5 5 3½	221,653	6½	788,858	537,404	2,858,976	39,037,821	13 13 13	11 4½	40,862,640	145,924	120,000	41,128,564	7,429	4,411,968
1883	7,590	6,207,363½	13,575,167½	2 1 3½	955,991	2,075,465½	11,800,171½	5 6 3½	243,180	7½	772,201	525,535	3,105,642	41,768,808	13 9 0	11 10½	43,294,949	282,983	120,000	43,697,832	7,730	4,671,826
1884	7,756	6,458,707½	14,510,411½	2 4 11½	1,025,117	2,198,792½	12,530,563½	5 14 0½	248,618½	6½	774,268	546,295	3,333,675	44,773,773	13 8 7	11 1½	45,940,718	313,473	120,000	46,383,191	8,167	4,916,149
1885	8,103	6,474,484½	15,093,694½	2 6 5½	1,092,112	2,280,062½	13,202,742½	5 12 10½	256,402½	7	750,962	548,897	3,535,650	47,697,838	13 9 10	10 9	48,606,318	286,322	120,000	49,012,640	8,515	5,128,647
1886	8,351	6,562,395½	15,696,824½	2 7 10½	1,169,590	2,390,655½	13,689,943½	5 14 0½	290,555½	7½	758,270	562,400	3,731,421	50,874,338	13 12 8	11 5½	53,074,357	272,283	154,000	53,500,650	8,756	5,629,925
1887	8,720	6,916,327½	16,535,352½	2 7 10½	1,244,074	2,406,294½	14,680,274½	5 17 7½	288,418½	7½	794,592	574,282	3,951,761	53,974,065	13 13 2	10 8½	56,428,599	322,553	174,000	56,745,152	9,120	5,850,371
1888	9,022	7,540,625½	19,052,259½	2 10 6½	1,392,888	2,635,081½	15,802,735½	6 0 0½	326,990½	7½	887,460	618,264	4,220,927	55,556,394	13 17 5	11 2½	60,800,563	266,071	219,000	61,345,734	9,404	5,800,478
1889	9,353	8,101,120½	19,814,368½	2 8 11½	1,443,186	2,757,848½	16,814,368½	6 1 11½	336,934½	7½	924,010	637,128	4,507,809	62,990,620	13 19 6	10 8½	64,786,212	253,615	257,000	65,200,827	9,939	6,050,408
1890	9,681	8,776,556½	20,990,602½	2 7 10½	1,553,355	2,892,064½	17,998,860½	6 3 10½	326,394½	6½	997,283	677,778	4,827,314	67,634,807	14 0 3	9 7½	68,934,754	155,673	263,000	69,376,177	10,005	6,265,096
1891	10,063	8,941,431½	21,334,903½	2 7 9½	1,658,148	3,126,231½	19,019,864½	6 1 8½	343,614½	6½	992,155	701,674	5,118,395	71,698,002	13 19 10	9 7½	72,437,045	173,982	269,000	72,800,027	10,366	6,925,677

+ Including, as well as Ordinary Deposits, (a) Deposits for immediate investment in Stock; (b) amounts realised by sale of Stock, and Stock Certificates obtained, the amount, when Stock is sold or a Stock Certificate obtained, being placed to the credit of the Savings Bank Account so as to be dealt with as a withdrawal; (c) Dividends. Also including, *since June 1881*, (d) Deposits for purchase of Annuities and payment of Insurance premiums, and (e) amounts credited to Accounts in respect of sums payable to Annuity and Insurance and their representatives. For particulars, see statements of Government Stock business and Annuity and Insurance business.

+ Including, as well as Ordinary Withdrawals, (a) Withdrawals for investment in Stock, with commission; (b) Withdrawals consequent on sale of Stock and obtaining Stock Certificates, with commission and fees. Also including, *since June 1881*, (c) Withdrawals for purchase of Annuities and payment of Insurance premiums, and (d) amounts paid to Annuity and Insurance and their representatives. For particulars, see statements of Government Stock business and Annuity and Insurance business.

§ Down to the year 1883 inclusive, the transactions connected with the purchase and sale of Government Stock were excluded in calculating the average amount of each deposit, and withdrawal. From 1884, however, the average amount is calculated on the gross number and amount of Deposits and Withdrawals, including those connected both with the Stock business and the Annuity and Insurance business.

¶ The gross expenses in 1884 were 252,578½, but the sum of 3,960½ received for commission on Stock transactions from 22nd November 1880 to 30th September 1884 was in this year applied towards defraying the expenses of management, in accordance with the Savings Banks Act, 1880. The amount shown for 1885 and for each year subsequently is the net amount after deducting the sum received for commission on Stock transactions.

¶ The charges of management in 1886, 1887, 1888, 1889, 1890, and 1891 include the sums of 28,912½, 19,073½, 40,982½, 20,683½, 752½, and 846½, respectively for purchase of land, while the charges in 1880, 1890, and 1891, also include 17,733½, 7,751½, and 2,274½, respectively for new buildings. Omitting these amounts, but adding interest at the rate of 5 per cent. thereon, the cost, per transaction would be in 1886, 7½d., in 1887, 6½d., in 1888, 6½d., in 1889, 6½d., and in 1890, 6½d., and in 1891, 6½d., and the per-centage of expenses to capital 106.4½d., 108.9½, 104.7½, 98.5½, and 98.6½, respectively. Prior to the passing of the Post Office Savings Bank Act, 1861, it was estimated (see Parliamentary Paper No. 523, 1861) that the average cost of each transaction would be 7d.

APPENDIX J.—continued.

Post Office Savings Banks.

GOVERNMENT STOCK.

TABLE SHOWING THE BUSINESS DONE DURING THE LAST TEN YEARS.

Year.	Number of Stock Accounts opened.	Number of Stock Accounts closed.	Number of Stock Accounts remaining open at close of the Year.	Number of Investments.	Number of Sales.	Number of Stock Certificates obtained.	Number of Transfers to the Bank of England.	Amount of Money Invested.	Amount of Commission.	Amount of Bank of England fees.	Amount of Stock bought.	Average amount of each purchase of Stock.	Amount of Stock sold.	Average amount of each sale of Stock.	Amount realized by sale of Stock.	Amount of Stock Certificates obtained.	Amount of Transfers to the Bank of England.	Amount of Stock transferred from old Savings Banks.	Number of Dividends credited to Stockholders.	Amount of Dividends credited to Stockholders.	Amount of Stock remaining to credit of Stockholders at close of the Year.	Average amount of Stock remaining to credit of the Year.			
1882	7,551	2,754	16,609	12,168	4,355	77	—	599,395	1,105	17	6	588,211	48	8	177,122	40	14	0	190	26,768	26,533	1,143,717	68	17	3
1883	7,376	3,818	20,767	12,892	5,065	58	—	622,927	1,228	4	5	618,338	48	4	236,706	41	12	9	235	33,271	37,648	1,519,983	76	3	10
1884	8,377	4,651	24,968	14,320	6,840	76	—	708,040	1,417	0	8	703,195	49	10	301,446	44	1	5	276	44,230	49,984	1,919,325	75	13	6
1885	9,544	4,240	30,597	17,133	7,443	68	—	846,791	1,635	1	9	839,050	50	2	326,445	43	17	2	315	55,146	63,008	2,432,232	80	2	11
1886	9,533	4,945	35,305	16,568	8,918	59	—	841,121	1,725	17	6	841,121	50	15	839,965	43	14	6	248	65,839	77,908	2,996,941	82	1	1
1887	10,060	5,704	40,270	18,204	10,216	50	—	927,614	1,917	1	5	915,047	50	5	462,768	45	6	0	1,077	74,746	91,199	3,345,106	88	1	4
1888	11,029	6,575	43,321	19,418	11,459	44	56	1,008,164	2,168	2	6	1,008,164	51	13	573,304	50	0	7	912	127,918	110,878	3,785,611	97	7	7
1889	11,611	7,592	46,906	19,766	11,862	27	126	985,332	2,068	8	3	1,003,868	50	15	306,359	50	18	11	780	171,270	114,460	4,175,634	98	17	1
1890	14,000	10,336	51,003	22,885	12,096	28	204	1,098,297	2,332	12	6	1,125,310	50	5	590,207	48	17	0	271	199,109	118,326	4,690,106	91	13	1
1891	11,516	7,464	55,065	20,841	12,500	28	238	939,293	2,332	9	3	1,025,310	49	3	607,637	48	12	2	483	307,970	131,913	5,067,768	92	7	3

* Besides the addition arising from the ordinary business of the year the balance of Stock was further increased during 1884 by the sum of 2,078*l*. Stock in consequence of the conversion by certain holders of 3 per cent. Stock into 2*½* and 24 per cent. Stock under the National Debt (Conversion of Stock) Act, 1884.

† Dividends on 8 per cent. Stock converted paid quarterly instead of half yearly.

in one or other of the new Government Stocks.

¶ In April 1880 the residue of Redemption money, amounting to \$18,582., was re-invested in 2½ per cent. Consolidated Stock at 88, this being the final operation connected with the Conversion Scheme.

The balance of Stock was thus increased by 5.07%.

POST OFFICE SAVINGS BANKS.

Annuities and Life Insurances.

(I.) TABLE showing the BUSINESS done during the last TEN YEARS.

Year.	ANNUITIES.						LIFE INSURANCES.											
	Immediate.			Deferred.			Contracts entered into.	Receipts.	Payments.	Contracts entered into.	Receipts.	Payments.						
	Contracts entered into.	Receipts.	Payments.	Contracts entered into.	Receipts.	Payments.												
													No.	Amount.	No.	Amount.	No.	Amount.
	No.	Amount.	No.	Amount.	No.	Amount.	No.	Amount.	No.	Amount.	No.	Amount.	No.	Amount.	No.	Amount.		
1882	-	13,435	155,528	16,729	122,123	72	1,502	772	6,449	156	2,327	234	18,447	16,039	11,069	141	5,694	
1883	-	770	14,141	159,630	17,302	130,053	104	2,120	830	7,240	163	1,898	256	20,600	16,156	11,533	129	5,431
1884*:-																		
1 Jan. to 2 June	187	2,958	34,597	8,853	67,931	13	327	332	3,140	89	1,156	50	3,469	7,032	5,019	65	2,604	
3 June to 31 Dec.	586	11,786	137,919	7,943	69,868	80	2,063	535	6,744	111	1,876	298	18,236	7,258	6,399	117	4,364	
1885	-	725	15,267	178,128	16,111	146,169	103	1,694	860	9,761	212	2,890	457	34,768	12,492	12,036	140	4,646
1886	-	823	17,388	211,570	16,234	153,878	87	1,773	869	10,510	246	3,122	506	34,188	12,187	12,623	158	5,942
1887	-	912	19,899	234,174	16,556	164,546	90	1,628	869	9,721	264	3,020	595	36,168	12,069	13,492	183	5,976
1888	-	995	23,404	286,762	17,050	178,160	138	2,719	900	10,853	301	3,677	580	34,319	12,016	14,121	190	5,538
1889	-	968	23,561	292,946	17,537	193,140	131	2,853	934	11,464	343	4,097	671	33,532	12,275	15,112	343	7,473
1890	-	948	21,966	273,578	17,976	206,422	116	2,527	914	14,283	412	4,614	468	25,496	11,799	14,423	196	6,841
1891	-	968	22,673	296,583	18,195	217,596	142	2,183	969	12,678	475	6,341	529	29,090	11,687	15,073	233	8,561

*On 3rd June 1884, new system introduced under provisions of Government Annuities Act, 1883; the management of the business being transferred to the Post Office Saving Bank and facilities being afforded for the receipt and payment of Annuity and Insurance moneys through the medium of Post Office Savings Bank Accounts.

APPENDIX J.—*continued.*

(II.) TABLE showing the Number and Amount of CONTRACTS entered into from the Commencement of Business on 17th April 1865 to the 31st December 1891, and the Number and Amount of Contracts in existence on the 31st December 1891.

	CONTRACTS ENTERED INTO						TOTAL.	
	From 17 April 1865 to 31 December 1890.		From 1 Jan. 1891 to 31 December 1891.					
	No.	Amount.	No.	Amount.	No.	Amount.		
		£ s. d.		£ s. d.		£ s. d.		
Contracts for Annuities entered into from the commencement of business on 17th April 1865 to 31st December 1891, viz. :—								
Immediate Annuities - -	19,379	319,630 6 6	968	23,673 6 0	20,347	343,303 12 6		
Deferred Annuities and Monthly Allowances, Money not returnable - -	579	10,213 11 0	46	511 4 0	625	10,724 15 0		
Deferred Annuities and Monthly Allowances, Money returnable - - -	1,144	25,013 12 0	96	1,671 10 0	1,240	26,685 2 0		
Contracts for Sums payable at Death entered into from the commencement of business on the 17th April 1865 to the 31st December 1891 - - -	10,629	774,132 5 0	529	28,929 18 1	11,158	803,062 3 1		
Contracts for Annuities in existence on the 31st December 1891, viz. :—								
Immediate Annuities - -	-	-	-	-	11,388	231,010 4 6		
Deferred Annuities and Monthly Allowances, Money not returnable - -	-	-	-	-	547	9,100 3 0		
Deferred Annuities and Monthly Allowances, Money returnable - - -	-	-	-	-	743	15,236 6 0		
Contracts for Sums payable at Death, in existence on the 31st December 1891 - - -	-	-	-	-	6,935	483,009 4 7		

APPENDIX J.—continued.

Post Office Savings Bank.

RETURN of the BALANCE SHEETS of the POST OFFICE SAVINGS BANKS on the 31st day of December 1891, showing the balance due to Depositors, the estimated amount of expenses remaining unpaid, the value of Securities according to the average price of the day on 31st December 1891, the amount of cash in hand and Dividends accrued but not received at the end of the year, and the surplus or deficiency of Funds to meet Liabilities (so far as relates to the National Debt Office).

Securities standing in the Names of the Commissioners for the Reduction of the National Debt on account of the Post Office Savings Bank Fund.	Value of Securities at price of 31 Dec. 1891.	Dividends accrued but not received at the end of the Year.
	£ s. d.	£ s. d.
2½ per cent. Consols - - -	30,167,876 5 9	28,734,902 0 0
2½ per cents. - - - - -	9,238,770 15 8	8,649,799 0 0
Local Loans 3 per cent. Stock - -	3,706,648 15 11	8,923,290 0 0
Egyptian Guaranteed 3 per cent. Bonds	313,000 0 0	317,304 0 0
Exchequer (Suez) Bonds - - -	213,800 0 0	213,800 0 0
Exchequer Bonds - - - - -	9,900,000 0 0	9,900,000 0 0
Exchequer (March) Bills - - -	58,900 0 0	59,077 0 0
Treasury Bills - - - - -	1,855,000 0 0	1,811,206 0 0
Advances made to Her Majesty's Exchequer on credit of charge created by 52 Vict. c. 4 s. 6, on Consolidated Fund - - - - -	120,278 18 7	120,279 0 0
Advances per 43 Vict. c. 4, 43 & 44 Vict. c. 14., and 45 & 46 Vict. c. 62. repayable by Irish Land Commission per 44 & 45 Vict. c. 71. - - - - -	850,000 0 0	850,000 0 0
Annuity for a term of years in lieu of annuities converted per National Debt Act, 1883, 46 & 47 Vict. c. 54 s. 5, and National Debt Act, 1885, 48 & 49 Vict. c. 43. - - - - -	321,918 0 0	(a) 3,502,569 0 0
Annuities for terms of years in lieu of Stock cancelled per National Debt Act, 1883, 46 & 47 Vict. c. 54., National Debt Act, 1885, 48 & 49 Vict. c. 43., and National Debt and Local Loans Act, 1887, 50 & 51 Vict. c. 16. - - - - -	629,964 0 0	(a & b) 5,281,394 0 0
Annuity for a term of years granted to repay advances per 32 & 33 Vict. c. 42., payable by Irish Land Commission per 44 & 45 Vict. c. 71. - - - - -	138,800 0 0	(a) 1,236,236 0 0
Annuity for a term of years per National Debt Act, 1884, 47 Vict. c. 2 s. 2, expiring 5th October 1903 - - - - -	35,121 0 0	(a) 354,797 0 0
Annuities for terms of years per 46 Vict. c. 1 s. 2 - - - - -	42,899 5 0	(a) 129,275 0 0
Annuity for a term of years per 45 & 46 Vict. c. 72., expiring 8th September 1892 - - - - -	5,423 18 8	(a) 5,346 0 0
Red Sea and India Telegraph Annuity, expiring 4th August 1906 - - - - -	3,100 0 0	39,912 0 0
Annuity for a term of years granted to repay advances under Imperial Defence Act, 1888, 51 & 52 Vict. c. 32. - - - - -	34,911 0 0	(a) 277,926 0 0
Annuity for a term of years granted to repay advance under Russian Dutch Loan Act, 1891, 54 & 55 Vict. c. 26. - - - - -	35,176 18 0	(a) 426,066 0 0
Annuities for terms of years granted to repay advances made under the Pensions Commutation Act, 34 & 35 Vict. c. 36. - - - - -	82,895 2 0	(a) 289,425 0 0
Carried forward - - - - -	71,112,605 0 0	411,288 19 9

(a) Value, inclusive of interest, to 31st December 1891.

(b) Cash value (at the price of Consols on 31st December 1891) of the amount of 2½ per cent. Consols, estimated to have been unreplaced at 31st December 1891, out of the amount of Stock originally cancelled in exchange for these Annuities. Act 54 & 55 Vict. c. 24.

APPENDIX J.—*continued.*Post Office Savings Bank.—*continued.*

Securities standing in the Names of the Commissioners for the Reduction of the National Debt on account of the Post Office Savings Bank Fund.			Value of Securities at price of 31 Dec. 1891.	Dividends accrued but not received at the end of the year.
	£	s. d.	£	s. d.
Brought forward			71,112,605 0 0	411,208 19 9
Advances under Pensions Commutation Act, 34 & 35 Vict., c. 36., during year ended 31st December 1891, in respect of which an Annuity had not been granted	44,517	2 0	44,517 0 0	774 10 7
Advances under Imperial Defence Act, 1888, 51 & 52 Vict. c. 32., during year ended 31st December 1891, in respect of which an Annuity had not been granted	197,779	14 6	197,780 0 0	5,386 8 0
Advance under Naval Defence Act, 1889, 52 & 53 Vict. c. 8. s. 2	396,000	0 0	396,000 0 0	2,574 10 9
			<u>£71,750,902 0 0</u>	420,034 9 1
Add value of Securities	-	-	-	71,750,902 0 0
Cash balance in Bank of England	-	-	-	246,108 15 6
				<u>£ 72,017,045 4 7</u>

National Debt Office,
23rd June 1892.

C. RIVERS WILSON,
Comptroller General.

APPENDIX J.—continued. **Post Office Savings Bank.**

BALANCE SHEET.

RETURN of the BALANCE SHEETS of the POST OFFICE SAVINGS BANKS for the Year 1891, showing the Balance due to Depositors, the Amount of Expenses remaining Unpaid, the Value of Securities according to the average price of the day on 31st December 1891, Amount of Cash in Hand and Dividends accrued but not received at the end of the Year, &c., and the Surplus of Assets over Liabilities.

LIABILITIES.			ASSETS.		
£	s.	d.	£	s.	d.
Balance due to Depositors on the 31st December 1891 (including interest)	71,608,002	4 2	Value of Securities according to the average price of the day on 31 Dec. 1891	72,170,930	9 1
Amount of expenses remaining unpaid (partly estimated)	10,442	14 5	Amount of cash in hands of Commissioners for the Reduction of the National Debt	246,108	15 0
Surplus of assets over Liabilities	1,241,582	5 6	Total Amount in the hands of the Commissioners for the Reduction of the National Debt	-	-
			Amount in the hands of Her Majesty's Postmaster General	251,960	11 11
			Less—Amount required to meet Warrants issued to Depositors but not cashed on 31st December 1891	73,008	12 5
			Value of the Central Savings Bank Premises in Queen Victoria Street, E.C.	-	-
				173,951	19 6
				269,000	0 0
				72,960,027	4 1
				£	£
				327,146,896	8 6
				255,640,824	4 4

Total amount received from Depositors, including interest, to 31st December 1891
 Total amount repaid to Depositors to 31st December 1891

Number of Transactions.			Number of Accounts.		
Deposits.	Withdrawals.		Opened.	Closed.	Remaining Open.
121,928,487	42,398,423		16,104,475	10,996,060	6,118,39

The total number of transactions, i.e., Deposits and Withdrawals, from the commencement of Post Office Savings Bank business to the end of the Year 1891 was 164,314,910.

The sums of 126,976*l.* 1*s.* 11*d.*, 147,116*l.* 1*s.* 0*d.*, 77,767*l.* 12*s.* 11*d.*, 125,540*l.* 4*s.* 11*d.*, 144,879*l.* 3*s.* 11*d.*, 145,799*l.* 10*s.* 1*d.*, 153,189*l.* 0*s.* 1*d.*, 83,794*l.* 10*s.* 2*d.*, 93,040*l.* 11*s.* 5*d.*, 64,003*l.* 15*s.* 11*d.*, 97,001*l.* 13*s.* 3*d.*, 78,803*l.* 8*s.* 9*d.*, 72,463*l.* 1*s.* 8*d.*, 56,050*l.* 9*s.* 4*d.*, and 66,662*l.* 12*s.* 2*d.*, have been paid into the Exchequer out of the funds of the Post Office Savings Banks in the years 1877, 1878, 1879, 1880, 1881, 1882, 1883, 1884, 1885, 1886, 1887, 1888, 1889, 1890, and 1891 respectively under sec. 14 of the Act 40 Vict. c. 13, being the excess of interest which had accrued during the years 1876, 1877, 1878, 1879, 1880, 1881, 1882, 1883, 1884, 1885, 1886, 1887, 1888, 1889, and 1890. The sum of 180,534*l.*, the cost of the site of the new Savings Bank buildings in Queen Victoria Street, and 82,280*l.* towards the cost of the new building, have been paid for out of the funds of the Post Office Savings Banks.

APPENDIX K.

Money Orders.

MONEY ORDER BUSINESS IN THE LAST TEN YEARS.

Year.	INLAND ORDERS.				COLONIAL ORDERS.				FOREIGN ORDERS.				GRAND TOTAL.			
	Number.	Amount.	Increase per cent. on Number.	Increase per cent. on Amount.	Number.	Amount.	Increase per cent. on Number.	Increase per cent. on Amount.	Number.	Amount.	Increase per cent. on Number.	Increase per cent. on Amount.	Number.	Amount.	Increase per cent. on Number.	Increase per cent. on Amount.
1882-83	14,306,267	25,224,703	Decrease. " 2.8	Increase. " 8.7	277,052	£ 1,043,158	13.1	17.1	507,509	£ 1,390,962	14.1	17.1	15,090,868	27,597,883	Decrease. " 2.1	Increase. " 8.7
1883-84	13,790,732	25,012,117	" 3.6	Decrease. " 8.4	313,435	1,184,214	13.1	13.5	559,468	1,483,548	10.2	7.7	14,953,635	27,629,579	" 2.83	" 11
1884-85	11,958,127	23,536,690	" 13.3	" 5.9	337,420	1,263,590	7.7	6.7	569,199	1,430,387	1.7	Decrease. " 2	12,864,738	26,230,676	" 12.3	Decrease. " 5.1
1885-86	10,358,293	21,975,345	" 13.3	" 6.6	368,402	1,372,606	6.2	8.6	601,625	1,481,470	5.7	Increase. " 3.8	11,318,390	24,832,421	" 12.1	" 5.3
1886-87	9,762,562	22,262,708	" 6.1	Increase. " 1.3	363,281	1,328,409	1.4	Decrease. " 3.0	687,191	1,763,464	14.2	20.1	10,813,034	25,354,001	" 4.46	Increase. " 3.0
1887-88	9,552,777	22,891,676	" 2.1	" 2.8	397,970	1,438,338	9.5	Increase. " 8.2	793,746	2,014,112	15.5	14.2	10,744,493	26,384,196	" .63	" 3.8
1888-89	9,228,138	22,957,640	" 3.4	" .33	424,687	1,521,013	7.1	6.1	854,547	2,130,390	7.7	6.2	10,607,717	26,618,052	" 2.2	" 1.06
1889-90	9,027,750	23,335,417	" 2.1	" 1.6	463,102	1,631,616	6.6	7.2	893,292	2,200,872	4.5	3.1	10,374,144	27,168,906	" 1.2	" 2.1
1890-91	8,964,493	23,897,767	" 1.8	" 2.4	468,718	1,668,102	3.4	1.6	927,651	2,312,018	3.8	5.1	10,290,833	27,967,987	" 1.1	" 2.5
1891-92	8,906,576	24,395,596	Increase. " 4	" 2.1	473,626	1,666,081	2.3	Decrease. " 1.1	980,428	2,389,964	3.5	3.3	10,244,630	28,429,694	Increase. " .8	" 2.1

APPENDIX K.—continued. Money Orders.

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Year.	ENGLAND AND WALES.				SCOTLAND.				IRELAND.				UNITED KINGDOM.			
	Increase per cent.		Number of Money Orders issued to each 100 of population.		Increase per cent.		Number of Money Orders issued to each 100 of population.		Increase per cent.		Number of Money Orders issued to each 100 of population.		Increase per cent.		Number of Money Orders issued to each 100 of population.	
	Number. Amount.	£	D'cr. Incr.	£	Decrease. Increase.	£	D'cr. Incr.	£	Decrease. Increase.	£	D'cr. Incr.	£	D'cr. Incr.	Number. Amount.	£	D'cr. Incr.
1882-83	-	12,208,086	21,788,691	46.2	31.1	2,170,807	33.1	850,467	4.1	1,247,744	33.1	1,247,744	46.2	14,306,297	25,233,763	40.5
1883-84	-	11,664,711	21,484,880	43.1	4.4	2,274,316	34.1	822,542	3.2	1,303,479	34.1	822,542	43.1	13,790,732	25,012,117	38.7
1884-85	-	10,023,386	20,108,955	37.1	7.9	2,210,901	31.1	734,819	10.6	1,196,922	31.1	734,819	37.1	11,358,127	23,536,899	33.2
1885-86	-	8,639,082	18,735,048	31.4	9.7	2,103,631	27.6	638,166	13.1	1,081,015	27.6	638,166	31.4	10,358,248	21,975,345	28.5
1886-87	-	8,070,907	18,875,433	30.1	5.1	2,298,782	27.4	611,928	4.2	1,080,427	27.4	611,928	30.1	9,762,562	22,292,708	26.6
1887-88	-	7,851,460	19,280,306	27.2	1.7	2,393,442	27.2	602,176	2.3	1,098,611	27.2	602,176	27.2	9,552,777	22,881,676	25.5
1888-89	-	7,560,195	19,297,308	20.15	1.7	2,423,793	26.5	588,260	2.3	1,075,719	26.5	588,260	20.15	9,228,183	22,957,649	24.5
1889-90	-	7,395,352	19,518,374	25.2	3.2	2,501,572	26.1	563,941	4.1	1,283,471	26.1	563,941	25.2	9,027,750	23,393,417	24.1
1890-91	-	7,268,248	20,044,082	25.06	1.7	2,546,719	25.9	551,137	2.2	1,306,968	25.9	551,137	25.06	8,864,483	23,897,767	23.43
1891-92	-	7,342,260	20,471,068	25.1	2.2	2,573,450	25.1	542,579	1.5	1,339,045	25.1	542,579	25.1	8,906,576	24,383,569	23.3

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

Rates of Commission up to 1871.				Rates of Commission from 1871 to 31st December 1877.				Rates of Commission from 1st Jan. 1878 to 31st Aug. 1886.				Present rates of Commission.			
For sums not exceeding 2 <i>l.</i> , but not exceeding 5 <i>l.</i> .		For sums above 5 <i>l.</i> , but not exceeding 7 <i>l.</i> .		For sums under 10 <i>s.</i> , of 10 <i>s.</i> and under 2 <i>l.</i> .		For sums under 10 <i>s.</i> , of 10 <i>s.</i> and under 2 <i>l.</i> .		For sums under 10 <i>s.</i> , of 10 <i>s.</i> and under 2 <i>l.</i> .		For sums under 10 <i>s.</i> , of 10 <i>s.</i> and under 2 <i>l.</i> .		For sums not exceeding 1 <i>l.</i> , above 1 <i>l.</i> and not exceeding 2 <i>l.</i> .		For sums not exceeding 2 <i>l.</i> , above 2 <i>l.</i> and not exceeding 4 <i>l.</i> .	
1 <i>l.</i> -	0 3	1 <i>l.</i> -	0 6	6 <i>d.</i> -	0 1	6 <i>d.</i> -	0 7	6 <i>d.</i> -	0 7	6 <i>d.</i> -	0 7	1 <i>l.</i> -	0 2	2 <i>l.</i> -	0 3
2 <i>l.</i> -	0 9	2 <i>l.</i> -	0 9	7 <i>d.</i> -	0 3	7 <i>d.</i> -	0 8	7 <i>d.</i> -	0 8	7 <i>d.</i> -	0 8	2 <i>l.</i> -	0 3	4 <i>l.</i> -	0 4
3 <i>l.</i> -	1 0	3 <i>l.</i> -	1 0	8 <i>d.</i> -	0 4	8 <i>d.</i> -	0 9	8 <i>d.</i> -	0 9	8 <i>d.</i> -	0 9	4 <i>l.</i> -	0 4	6 <i>l.</i> -	0 5
4 <i>l.</i> -	1 1	4 <i>l.</i> -	1 1	9 <i>d.</i> -	0 5	9 <i>d.</i> -	0 10	9 <i>d.</i> -	0 10	9 <i>d.</i> -	0 10	6 <i>l.</i> -	0 5	8 <i>l.</i> -	0 6
5 <i>l.</i> -	1 2	5 <i>l.</i> -	1 2	10 <i>d.</i> -	0 6	10 <i>d.</i> -	0 11	10 <i>d.</i> -	0 11	10 <i>d.</i> -	0 11	8 <i>l.</i> -	0 6	10 <i>l.</i> -	0 6

APPENDIX K.—*continued.*
Money Orders.

FOREIGN ORDERS.												
Year.	ISSUED IN THE UNITED KINGDOM.				ISSUED ABROAD.				TOTAL.			
	Number.	Amount.	Increase per cent. on Number.	Increase per cent. on Amount.	Number.	Amount.	Increase per cent. on Number.	Increase per cent. on Amount.	Number.	Amount.	Increase per cent. on Number.	Increase per cent. on Amount.
1882-83	-	103,713	6·	11·2	344,796	£ 380,542	18·3	20·3	507,509	£ 1,330,933	14·	17·4
1883-84	-	194,515	19·	19·2	364,933	969,255	5·84	2·76	559,468	1,433,548	10·3	7·7
1884-85	-	204,775	6·3	6·6	362,414	981,712	Decrease. 7·	Decrease. 3·6	560,189	1,430,387	1·7	Decrease. 2·
1885-86	-	215,844	4·4	4·7	385,781	951,942	Increase. 6·4	Increase. 3·3	601,625	1,484,470	5·7	Increase. 3·8
1886-87	-	224,904	4·2	3·8	463,287	1,210,020	20·	27·1	687,191	1,768,484	14·2	20·
1887-88	-	245,151	9·	8·2	548,596	1,415,374	18·7	17·	793,746	2,014,112	15·1	14·3
1888-89	-	261,487	6·6	7·6	593,090	1,465,561	8·1	6·	854,547	2,139,390	7·7	6·2
1889-90	-	292,108	8·	7·6	611,184	1,508,541	3·	8·	883,293	2,300,372	4·5	3·
1890-91	-	288,331	2·2	4·	638,520	1,591,638	4·6	5·5	927,651	2,312,018	3·8	5·
1891-92	-	298,021	3·3	3·5	693,407	1,643,545	3·6	3·2	960,423	2,389,984	3·5	3·3

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

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

Year.	Africa, South and West.		Australia.		British America.		Cape Colony.		India.		New Zealand.		West Indies.		Other Colonies and Packet Agencies.		Total.	
	Issued in the U.K.	Issued in Africa.	Issued in the U.K.	Issued in Australia.	Issued in the U.K.	Issued in America.	Issued in the U.K.	Issued in the Cape Colony.	Issued in the U.K.	Issued in India.	Issued in the U.K.	Issued in New Zealand.	Issued in the U.K.	Issued in the W. Indies.	Issued in the U.K.	Issued in the Colonies.	Issued in the U.K.	Issued in the Colonies.
1882-83	2,905	44,221	38,918	286,556	39,810	162,157	9,571	111,608	8,864	110,922	14,083	90,520	4,560	76,186	11,461	81,566	130,172	912,986
1883-84	3,893	53,608	47,173	281,675	51,084	187,113	11,790	97,987	11,258	115,521	16,358	96,899	5,004	105,994	9,439	89,818	156,559	1,027,615
1884-85	4,533	58,063	55,578	313,446	59,774	172,855	11,556	87,326	12,879	157,932	18,153	96,708	5,765	120,546	9,683	77,834	77,921	1,085,600
1885-86	4,453	83,024	61,573	346,045	62,641	164,025	11,406	83,785	16,807	174,743	20,258	93,343	6,420	131,029	12,937	98,937	106,475	1,176,131
1886-87	5,433	76,128	69,272	343,628	63,547	176,859	11,897	82,209	26,279	144,121	22,615	86,346	7,615	160,892	13,582	137,896	220,240	1,108,160
1887-88	4,844	74,129	78,927	340,300	66,310	199,512	11,108	89,763	34,634	138,240	24,385	82,681	8,161	206,648	13,915	64,721	242,344	1,108,994
1888-89	6,789	63,989	78,003	371,628	74,637	223,048	11,709	105,135	51,321	138,633	23,654	75,372	7,979	221,212	14,315	54,589	263,407	1,253,006
1889-90	7,348	85,529	82,364	356,456	79,850	221,573	14,575	112,650	72,926	150,206	23,474	72,923	9,276	202,064	16,461	96,851	306,344	1,325,273
1890-91	9,325	91,985	87,255	346,837	78,773	215,598	16,780	165,064	70,213	180,645	24,588	70,710	10,019	196,251	18,365	76,196	315,216	1,342,786
1891-92	10,476	92,873	91,322	344,196	83,893	215,723	19,253	184,756	73,925	142,822	25,522	73,630	10,245	200,151	18,665	70,014	332,411	1,323,670

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

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

Year.	Austria.		Belgium.		Denmark.		Egypt.		France.		Germany.		Italy.		Japan.		Hungary.
	Issued in the U.K.	Issued in Austria.	Issued in the U.K.	Issued in Belgium.	Issued in the U.K.	Issued in Denmark.	Issued in the U.K.	Issued in Egypt.	Issued in the U.K.	Issued in France.	Issued in the U.K.	Issued in Germany.	Issued in the U.K.	Issued in Italy.	Issued in the U.K.	Issued in Japan.	Issued in Hungary.
1882-83	—	—	15,005	23,340	5,885	9,424	1,394	20,086	83,440	98,680	126,184	84,466	28,687	13,752	183	986	—
1883-84	—	—	16,914	27,081	7,808	12,149	2,381	22,717	92,745	122,461	146,080	90,769	34,922	16,451	168	918	—
1884-85	—	—	17,816	32,271	6,985	9,751	2,992	30,712	97,201	128,992	153,045	91,299	37,975	18,327	242	1,531	—
1885-86	3,206	3,498	20,165	34,664	8,002	10,647	4,001	40,350	98,251	133,117	158,757	89,946	37,625	21,379	275	2,069	533
1886-87	7,100	6,980	22,540	36,374	8,914	9,878	3,908	33,827	103,989	136,035	161,424	71,960	39,532	102,258	354	1,268	6,556
1887-88	9,553	10,656	23,698	38,240	10,640	9,609	3,307	23,920	111,036	139,204	160,109	102,353	38,238	76,094	303	1,334	1,623
1888-89	10,936	10,686	23,992	44,448	11,878	11,780	2,986	20,263	113,083	146,681	172,986	107,327	41,226	34,034	414	1,441	2,094
1889-90	13,657	12,007	24,354	42,103	13,390	12,447	3,043	21,123	126,500	151,938	175,295	113,992	46,717	26,125	449	1,667	2,394
1890-91	15,654	13,468	26,640	44,249	14,482	11,755	3,282	23,432	127,783	155,378	186,217	119,062	52,178	35,702	571	2,692	2,545
1891-92	17,757	13,735	26,126	48,331	16,289	14,312	3,205	25,311	131,199	164,861	192,097	127,964	60,566	56,357	552	1,534	3,438

APPENDIX K.—*continued.***Money Orders.**TABLE showing the AMOUNT (to the nearest Pound) of MONEY ORDER TRANSACTIONS between the UNITED KINGDOM and FOREIGN COUNTRIES in each of the past Ten Years—*continued.*

Year.	Iceland and Danish W. Indies.		Netherlands and Dutch E. Indies.		Norway.		Portugal.		Sweden.		Switzerland.	Tunis.	United States.		TOTAL.	
	Issued in the U.K.	Issued in Iceland & D.W.I.	Issued in the U.K.	Issued in Netherlands and Dutch E. Indies.	Issued in the U.K.	Issued in Norway.	Issued in the U.K.	Issued in Portugal.	Issued in the U.K.	Issued in Sweden.	Issued in Switzerland.	Issued in the U.K.	Issued in Tunis.	Issued in the U.S.	Issued in the U.K.	Issued Abroad.
1882-83	£ —	£ —	£ 7,553	£ 13,328	£ 10,662	£ 2,279	£ —	£ —	£ 5,649	£ 3,416	£ 19,513	£ 12,750	£ 96,711	£ 647,097	£ 400,490	£ 890,542
1883-84	—	—	£ 9,035	£ 14,277	£ 16,720	£ 2,436	£ 480	£ 810	£ 10,015	£ 3,832	£ 23,289	£ 11,709	£ 116,727	£ 630,705	£ 477,293	£ 966,255
1884-85	£ 31	£ 3,350	£ 8,851	£ 14,498	£ 15,118	£ 2,544	£ 960	£ 1,466	£ 10,301	£ 4,373	£ 24,620	£ 14,671	£ 182,538	£ 567,677	£ 508,675	£ 921,712
1885-86	£ 218	£ 3,861	£ 8,772	£ 14,750	£ 17,758	£ 2,694	£ 1,780	£ 2,733	£ 12,366	£ 5,769	£ 25,351	£ 16,107	£ 135,560	£ 561,775	£ 532,528	£ 951,942
1886-87	£ 103	£ 7,333	£ 9,807	£ 15,417	£ 18,474	£ 2,930	£ 2,187	£ 3,207	£ 13,458	£ 6,001	£ 25,354	£ 16,518	£ 135,262	£ 729,940	£ 552,864	£ 1,210,620
1887-88	£ 556	£ 8,550	£ 10,638	£ 16,819	£ 22,461	£ 2,974	£ 4,142	£ 8,415	£ 15,449	£ 6,925	£ 28,417	£ 18,047	£ 146,410	£ 996,003	£ 698,238	£ 1,415,374
1888-89	£ 680	£ 19,767	£ 11,637	£ 16,534	£ 26,663	£ 3,142	£ 3,845	£ 4,029	£ 21,234	£ 6,410	£ 28,370	£ 19,146	£ 170,217	£ 1,047,619	£ 645,439	£ 1,496,961
1889-90	£ 436	£ 6,223	£ 12,870	£ 19,314	£ 28,506	£ 4,345	£ 5,176	£ 4,498	£ 26,753	£ 7,393	£ 31,273	£ 22,212	£ 180,026	£ 1,060,360	£ 692,631	£ 1,506,241
1890-91	£ 538	£ 4,367	£ 15,008	£ 20,963	£ 27,350	£ 6,176	£ 6,291	£ 3,790	£ 26,371	£ 8,596	£ 32,045	£ 21,685	£ 131,383	£ 1,115,789	£ 720,380	£ 1,591,638
1891-92	£ 665	£ 5,117	£ 16,651	£ 23,232	£ 24,632	£ 6,677	£ 2,902	£ 11,145	£ 27,943	£ 8,376	£ 32,756	£ 22,402	£ 196,430	£ 1,107,232	£ 746,139	£ 1,643,845

* Roumania.

	Issued in the U.K.	Issued in Roumania.
1890-91	425	1,150
1891-92	508	2,303

APPENDIX L. Postal Orders.

Table showing the NUMBER and VALUE of POSTAL ORDERS issued to the PUBLIC from the commencement on the 1st January 1881 to the 31st March 1892.

NUMBER OF EACH CLASS OF POSTAL ORDERS ISSUED.																			TOTAL.	
	s. d. 1 0	s. d. 1 6	s. d. 2 0	s. d. 2 6	s. d. 3 0	s. d. 3 6	s. d. 4 0	s. d. 4 6	s. d. 5 0	s. d. 7 6	s. d. 10 0	s. d. 10 6	s. d. 12 6	s. d. 15 0	s. d. 17 6	s. d. 20 0	Number.	Value.	£ s. d.	
Quarter ended 31st March 1881	62,589	48,904	—	32,041	—	—	—	—	124,147	40,381	122,745	—	17,963	31,736	11,091	125,312	646,989	292,150	10 0	
1881-2	452,823	362,004	—	437,096	—	—	—	—	853,306	262,020	808,736	—	110,691	202,665	60,611	911,978	4,462,920	2,006,917	19 0	
1882-3	948,678	759,105	—	825,198	—	—	—	—	1,463,020	449,229	1,330,068	—	181,832	318,769	97,345	1,606,454	7,980,328	3,451,284	0 6	
1883-4	1,700,463	1,397,774	—	1,333,656	—	—	—	—	2,164,178	676,193	1,870,963	—	203,745	444,637	143,184	2,318,773	12,286,556	5,028,663	9 0	
1884-5	1,407,937	1,003,609	922,180	1,371,127	796,733	406,848	844,563	319,550	3,036,013	902,384	2,916,248	394,789	51,489	818,697	27,476	3,611,521	18,891,164	7,885,347	9 0	
1885-6	1,624,421	1,109,449	1,531,407	1,581,562	1,343,562	703,036	1,497,125	565,831	3,987,230	1,146,139	3,874,602	694,680	—	1,127,985	—	4,943,267	25,790,316	10,788,946	2 6	
1886-7	2,225,587	1,471,775	1,909,349	1,907,160	1,691,524	912,717	1,920,846	742,332	4,795,124	1,376,281	4,538,659	806,960	—	1,328,869	—	5,891,528	31,698,711	12,958,693	19 6	
1887-8	2,559,701	1,772,774	2,288,881	2,189,838	1,965,946	1,094,598	2,269,050	889,704	5,511,549	1,607,113	5,639,738	1,090,775	—	1,490,517	—	6,586,463	36,386,147	14,696,369	13 0	
1888-9	2,856,289	2,047,503	2,593,854	2,427,739	2,181,063	1,240,506	2,539,921	1,005,489	6,046,886	1,804,163	5,514,842	1,234,688	—	1,635,049	—	7,154,169	40,282,321	16,112,079	15 0	
1889-90	3,256,608	2,338,828	2,951,140	2,699,614	2,418,391	1,391,983	2,837,462	1,126,679	6,637,199	2,003,526	6,027,107	1,380,954	—	1,795,111	—	7,839,446	44,712,548	17,737,802	4 0	
1890-91	3,699,150	2,631,736	3,340,251	2,998,441	2,616,391	1,525,144	3,096,381	1,240,370	7,154,497	2,185,815	6,457,535	1,513,512	—	1,938,908	—	8,443,634	48,841,765	19,178,367	8 0	
1891-92	4,016,124	2,924,441	3,535,118	3,237,946	2,844,011	1,684,488	3,348,712	1,367,115	7,690,070	2,378,337	6,901,801	1,656,970	—	2,094,181	—	8,980,821	52,659,545	20,663,750	0 6	
	24,810,360	17,897,672	19,072,180	21,070,218	15,537,621	8,959,410	18,351,060	7,257,090	40,463,819	11,832,501	45,433,164	8,872,308	628,710	13,227,124	339,707	58,413,366	324,489,310	130,700,618	10 0	

RATES OF POUNDAGE.											
To 31st May 1884.		Poundage.		½d.		1d.		1d.		2d.	
Amount of Order		s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.
—		1 0	1 6	2 0	2 6	3 0	3 6	4 0	4 6	5 0	5 6
From 1st June 1884		Poundage.		½d.		1d.		1d.		1½d.	

Postal Orders for the sums of 12s. 6d. and 17s. 6d. were abolished on the 31st May 1884.
Postal Orders for the sums of 2s., 3s., 3s. 6d., 4s., 4s. 6d., and 10s. 6d. were established on the 1st June 1884.

APPENDIX M.

Official Correspondence.

A STATEMENT showing the WEIGHT of CORRESPONDENCE carried for the following Public Offices, &c. in the Year ended the 31st March 1892.

NAMES OF OFFICES.	Correspondence.			Total. Weights.
	Weight in Ounces.			
	England and Wales.	Scotland.	Ireland.	
	oz.	oz.	oz.	oz.
Admiralty - - - - -	1,875,691	—	—	1,875,691
Attorney General - - - - -	10,567	—	—	10,567
Board of Agriculture - - - - -	2,026,581	—	—	2,026,581
Board of Supervision - - - - -	—	53,864	—	53,864
Board of Trade - - - - -	1,655,941	—	—	1,655,941
Cape of Good Hope, Agent General for - - - - -	37,543	—	—	37,543
Census Office - - - - -	135,169	—	—	135,169
Chancellor, The Lord - - - - -	62,657	—	—	62,657
Charity Commissioners - - - - -	205,418	—	—	205,418
Chelsea Hospital - - - - -	64,965	—	—	64,965
Chicago Exhibition - - - - -	15,791	—	—	15,791
Chief Secretary, Dublin Castle - - - - -	98,454	—	432,681	531,135
Civil Service Commissioners - - - - -	371,347	—	—	371,347
Clerk of the Parliaments - - - - -	531,388	—	—	531,388
Colonial Office - - - - -	428,038	—	—	428,038
Congested Districts Board - - - - -	—	—	5,342	5,342
Constabulary of Ireland - - - - -	—	—	385,229	385,229
Courts of Law and Justice, Scotland - - - - -	—	26,012	—	26,012
Crown and Hanaper - - - - -	—	—	7,184	7,184
Crown Office - - - - -	—	70,192	—	70,192
Customs - - - - -	935,865	—	3,774	939,639
Emigrants' Information Office - - - - -	207,597	—	—	207,597
Exchequer and Audit Department - - - - -	174,229	—	—	174,229
Exchequer Offices in Scotland - - - - -	—	35,720	—	35,720
Foreign Office - - - - -	300,435	—	—	300,435
Home Office - - - - -	1,570,698	4,416	—	1,575,084
House of Commons - - - - -	193,463	—	—	193,463
Inland Revenue - - - - -	14,179,467	5,245,109	2,996,239	22,420,815
Irish Fisheries, Inspector of - - - - -	—	—	111,978	111,978
Irish Land Commission - - - - -	—	—	39,388	39,388
Loan Fund Board - - - - -	—	—	8,443	8,443
Local Government Board - - - - -	2,098,459	—	584,489	2,682,948
Local Marine Board - - - - -	365,855	—	—	365,855
Lord Lieutenant and Private Secretary - - - - -	—	—	16,099	16,099
Lunacy, Commissioners in - - - - -	42,781	—	19,680	62,441
Merchant Seamen, Registrar of - - - - -	644,531	—	—	644,531
Mint, The Royal - - - - -	14,403	—	—	14,403
National Debt Office - - - - -	98,767	—	—	98,767
Patent Office - - - - -	498,377	—	—	498,377
Paymaster General - - - - -	48,404	—	18,139	66,543
Prisons Board - - - - -	—	—	127,496	127,496
Privy Council Office - - - - -	1,884,322	—	—	1,884,322
Public Education - - - - -	—	44,620	—	44,620
Public Works Loan Board - - - - -	22,999	—	689,377	712,376
Record Office - - - - -	13,706	—	3,793	17,499
Register House - - - - -	—	87,074	—	87,074
Registrar General - - - - -	972,812	279,163	851,217	2,102,682
Registrar of Friendly Societies - - - - -	116,973	12,687	2,594	132,254
Registrar of Petty Sessions, Clerks - - - - -	—	—	68,195	68,195
Science and Art Department - - - - -	2,634,182	—	—	2,634,182
Scotch Education Department - - - - -	316,878	—	—	316,878
Secretary for Scotland - - - - -	133,115	1,633	—	134,748
Solicitor General - - - - -	5,484	—	—	5,484
Stationery Office - - - - -	2,113,535	—	52,845	2,166,380
Supreme Court of Judicature - - - - -	411,677	—	—	411,677
Surveys of the United Kingdom - - - - -	105,325	—	93,382	198,707
Treasury - - - - -	537,701	—	—	537,701
Valuation Office - - - - -	—	—	40,811	40,811
War Office - - - - -	3,316,165	17,793	366,966	3,700,924
Woods and Forests, Commissioners of - - - - -	103,949	—	—	103,949
Works and Buildings, Commissioners of - - - - -	163,305	—	357,069	520,374
TOTALS - - - - -	41,744,479	5,887,273	7,281,380	54,913,132

APPENDIX N.

Private Wires.

STATEMENT showing the NUMBER OF PRIVATE WIRE CONTRACTS, MILES OF WIRE, and INSTRUMENTS, and the Net Additional Rentals in each of the last 10 Financial Years.

Financial Year.	Net Increase in each Financial Year.				Totals at end of each Financial Year.			
	Contracts.	Miles.	Instruments and Batteries.	Rentals.	Contracts.	Miles.	Instruments and Batteries.	Rentals.*
1882-83	-	1,384	766	£ 12,787 13 6	2,690	12,439	7,748	£ 101,533 16 3
1883-84	-	1,768	1,113	12,109 16 4	3,102	14,207	8,861	113,633 12 7
1884-85	-	1,129	110	7,349 4 4	3,285	15,336	8,971	120,832 16 11
1885-86	-	919	208	5,615 5 9	3,407	16,255	9,179	126,498 2 8
1886-87	-	317	—	† —	3,500	16,572	9,045	122,768 11 11
1887-88	-	301	116	1,304 9 7	3,543	16,878	9,161	124,073 1 6
1888-89	-	171	90	1,149 0 0	3,595	17,044	9,251	125,222 1 6
1889-90	-	167	81	1,695 15 10	3,684	17,211	9,332	126,917 17 4
1890-91	-	2,834	117	12,518 15 8	3,705	20,045	9,449	139,436 13 0
1891-92	-	2,121	473	† —	3,855	22,166	9,992	133,257 10 11

* These amounts include rentals for certain lines leased to Cable Companies, and accounted for under that heading in the Revenue statement, Appendix B.

† The rates for double Wire Telephone Lines were reduced in 1886, and existing rentals were reduced accordingly.

‡ The rates were further reduced in 1891, consequent on the expiry of telephone patents.

see 37 "p. 61
see 39 to 44 p. 74.

APPENDIX O.

Inland Revenue Licenses.

NUMBER AND DESCRIPTION OF LICENSES issued by the Post Office during the last Ten Years.

Year.	Brewers.			Dogs.	Male Servants at 1s. each.	Carriages.					Hackney Carriages.		
	At 9s. each.	At 6s. each.	At 4s. each.			At 42s. each.	At 21s. each.	At 11s. each.	At 10s. 6d. each.	At 7s. 6d. each.	At 11s. each.	At 7s. 6d. each.	
1882-83	-	6,587	84,793	-	658,660	93,722	-	74,212	-	175,171	-	-	-
1883-84	-	6,339	81,182	-	688,682	98,515	-	78,580	-	188,043	-	-	-
1884-85	-	6,096	78,069	-	710,286	100,524	186	74,371	-	194,792	-	708	77
1885-86	-	5,732	83,062	62,603	724,838	101,331	191	73,997	-	192,350	-	684	-
1886-87	-	5,961	-	25,332	743,139	101,276	254	74,100	-	200,805	-	934	-
1887-88	-	5,757	-	19,173	783,731	107,571	252	78,233	-	212,160	-	1,025	-
1888-89	-	3,997	-	13,374	824,964	108,747	40,847	41,873	-	197,142	-	1,388	-
1889-90	-	5,937	-	17,346	832,717	113,087	57,670	31,404	286	199,330	-	1,319	-
1890-91	-	5,717	-	15,931	924,176	116,674	57,856	29,521	335	207,462	-	1,463	-
1891-92	-	5,142	-	14,328	975,500	117,997	56,202	29,079	331	208,438	-	1,665	-

APPENDIX P.

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

Year.	Gross Revenue from Letters, Post Cards, Newspapers, Books, and Parcels.	Commission.		Unclaimed Money Orders.	Total Postal Revenue.	Total Cost of Post Office Service.	Net Revenue.
		Money Order.	Postal Order.				
1888-89	£ 7,034,983	£ 217,686	£ 44,492	3,800	£ 7,300,960	£ 4,545,368	£ 2,755,592
1889-90	7,465,208	209,704	65,945	4,000	7,764,355	5,154,329	2,610,026
1890-91	7,623,520	186,719	85,567	4,500	7,906,406	5,317,213	2,589,193
1891-92	7,686,398	163,668	114,658	3,600	8,170,604	5,466,724	2,683,880
1892-93	8,196,519	142,290	139,389	3,000	8,471,198	5,860,141	2,691,057
1893-94	8,465,212	133,446	169,579	2,800	8,706,387	6,353,590	2,771,517
1894-95	8,795,890	129,063	176,523	1,500	9,102,776	6,062,902	3,038,874
1895-96	9,146,941	129,628	196,405	2,900	9,474,774	6,396,353	3,208,311
1896-97	9,506,494	128,425	212,728	2,441	9,851,078	6,687,089	3,163,989
1897-98	9,829,316	130,231	228,586	2,464	10,190,967 (a)	7,142,399	3,048,568
Average Annual Net Revenue of first period of Five Years					£ 7,300,960	£ 4,545,368	£ 2,755,592
Ditto					7,764,355	5,154,329	2,610,026
second period of Five Years					7,906,406	5,317,213	2,589,193
-					8,170,604	5,466,724	2,683,880
-					8,471,198	5,860,141	2,691,057
-					8,706,387	6,353,590	2,771,517
-					9,102,776	6,062,902	3,038,874
-					9,474,774	6,396,353	3,208,311
-					9,851,078	6,687,089	3,163,989
-					10,190,967 (a)	7,142,399	3,048,568
Average Annual Net Revenue of first period of Five Years					£ 7,300,960	£ 4,545,368	£ 2,755,592
-					7,764,355	5,154,329	2,610,026
-					7,906,406	5,317,213	2,589,193
-					8,170,604	5,466,724	2,683,880
-					8,471,198	5,860,141	2,691,057
-					8,706,387	6,353,590	2,771,517
-					9,102,776	6,062,902	3,038,874
-					9,474,774	6,396,353	3,208,311
-					9,851,078	6,687,089	3,163,989
-					10,190,967 (a)	7,142,399	3,048,568

(a) Postal Revenue as per Finance Accounts 10,183,290.

Add Unclaimed Money Orders - 2,484.

Extra Receipts - 5,193.

7,877.

10,190,967.

APPENDIX Q.

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

Year.	EXPENDITURE.													
	COST OF COLLECTION AND DELIVERY, OF MANAGEMENT, AND OF MONEY ORDER AND POSTAL ORDER BUSINESS.				COST OF CONVEYANCE OF MAILS.									
	Salaries, Wages, Pensions, Travelling Allowances, Foundation on Sale of Stamps, Commission on Money Order and Postal Order Business, Cost of Uniform Clothing, of Medical Attendance, of Substitutes during Holidays or Sickness, and Amount of Official Postage, Law Charges and Incidental Expenses.	Manufacture of Postage Stamps, Post Cards, and Stamped Newspaper Wrappers.	Stationery.	Buildings and Repairs, Rents, Rates, Taxes, Fuel, and Light.	Total Cost of Collection, Delivery, and Management, and of Money Order and Postal Order Business.	Conveyance by Coaches, Carts, and Omnibuses.	Conveyance by Railways.	Mail Bags and Boxes, Tolls, and Ferry-ages, Apparatus for Exchange of Bags conveyed by Railway, and Miscellaneous Expenses.	Conveyance of Mails by Private Ships under Contract, and by Private Ships.	Conveyance of Mails over Isthmuses of Panama and in other Foreign Ports, Agents and other Officers in charge of Foreign and Colonial Mails.	Total Cost of Conveyance	Conveyance of Savings Bank Correspondence.	Net Cost of Conveyance.	Total Cost of Post Office Service.
1882-83	2,613,951	117,765	83,789	207,272	2,967,777	190,342	732,831	30,495	633,879	14,716	1,602,253	35,632	1,566,621	4,545,388
1883-84	2,967,936	134,889	83,093	287,176	3,448,004	266,811	746,649	62,093	684,636	14,912	1,743,301	38,566	1,704,735	5,154,329
1884-85	3,061,323	141,800	83,906	304,687	3,591,038	300,444	783,213	47,323	619,019	16,276	1,766,275	40,120	1,726,155	5,317,213
1885-86	3,290,182	154,270	82,743	324,234	3,671,429	280,453	838,010	64,542	638,201	15,559	1,856,765	41,470	1,815,295	5,486,724
1886-87	3,428,767	153,987	62,840	337,070	4,042,664	299,737	870,896	64,595	698,805	17,337	1,879,900	42,435	1,837,477	5,680,141
1887-88	3,608,994	168,340	65,783	297,543	4,121,179	306,642	880,230	76,492	871,625	21,428	1,868,407	46,766	1,821,641	5,933,820
1888-89	3,724,469	165,029	63,696	262,637	4,196,061	299,794	903,643	76,533	827,018	10,063	1,916,681	49,550	1,866,541	6,062,802
1889-90	3,827,677	151,464	59,317	821,615	4,960,073	304,777	906,968	71,760	868,376	9,138	1,967,028	50,838	1,906,190	6,206,263
1890-91	4,068,290	165,285	60,054	846,538	4,967,177	317,616	920,164	74,731	782,681	7,704	2,072,908	52,994	2,019,912	6,697,069
1891-92	4,423,014	169,372	75,692	502,108	5,160,086	329,465	934,179	84,251	679,827	8,444	2,086,686	54,513	1,982,183	7,142,269

APPENDIX R.

GROSS and NET REVENUE derived from the TELEGRAPH SERVICE in the last TEN YEARS.

Year ended 31st March.	Gross Revenue from Telegrams and from Wires rented by Cable Companies, &c.	News Produce and Special Wire Rentals.	Private Wire Rentals.	Miscel- laneous.	Extra Receipts.	Total Revenue collected. (a.)	Payments out		Total Telegraph Revenue.	Working Expenses charged to the Telegraph Vote. (c)	Net Revenue.
							To Cable Companies, &c. (b)	For Telegram Moneys refunded, &c. (c)			
1883	£ 1,781,617	£ 97,989	£ 84,429	£ 29,517	£ 15,515	£ 2,009,087	£ 265,860	£ 3,144	£ 1,740,063	£ 1,504,204	£ 235,859
1884	1,779,997	99,825	94,953	32,179	12,970	2,019,924	255,408	3,617	1,760,899	1,709,644	+ 51,255
1885	1,789,610	98,637	97,448	41,046	15,533	2,042,274	283,521	3,635	1,755,118	1,731,040	+ 24,078
1886	1,798,976	103,415	100,802	61,659	13,113	1,987,965	226,174	3,622	1,758,169	1,733,105	+ 25,064
1887	1,757,715	111,150	96,998	69,261	14,525	2,049,649	189,962	4,001	1,855,686	1,939,764	- 84,078
1888	1,852,743	113,688	98,976	73,910	14,878	2,154,195	190,404	4,385	1,959,406	1,928,159	+ 31,247
1889	2,013,448	113,546	99,185	84,198	14,941	2,325,268	320,971	10,249	2,094,048	1,969,096	+ 124,952
1890	2,330,709	113,805	103,720	94,095	18,271	2,660,600	322,148	12,737	2,325,715	2,179,921	+ 145,794
1891	2,489,974	112,261	99,377	89,647	22,112	2,812,371	390,860	4,820	2,416,691	2,265,388	+ 151,353
1892	2,533,048	119,527	83,680	106,503	24,040	2,866,798	353,877	4,783	2,508,138	2,506,989	+ 1,149

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

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

(c) The working expenses are those shown in the Appropriation Accounts of the Post Office Telegraphs Vote, and do not include the Telegraph Expenditure charged to the Votes of other Departments.

Note.—The initial charge for Telegrams was reduced from one shilling to sixpence on the 1st October of 1885.

The revenue shown on page 19 includes the value of work done for other Government Departments amounting to 35,592l. as well as the amounts realized by the Stationery Office and Office of Works for waste paper and old materials which were respectively 1,748l. and 922l. On the other hand, the expenditure shown on the same page includes a sum of 124,378l. expended by other Departments on account of the Telegraph Service.

APPENDIX S.

Expenditure in relation to Telegraphs.

Year.	EXPENDITURE.						
	Working Ex- penses charged to the Tele- graph Vote, according to the Appropria- tion Account.	Manufacture and Issue of Stamps used on Telegrams.	Stationery.	Buildings.	Auditing of Telegraph Accounts by Exchequer and Audit Depart- ment.	Rates and Contributions in lieu of Rates paid by Treasury.	Total Cost of Telegraph Service.
1882-83	£ 1,504,204	£ 741	£ 21,761	£ 54,696	£ 1,561	£ 913	£ 1,583,876
1883-84	- 1,709,644	168	24,349	71,977	1,911	871	1,808,920
1884-85	- 1,731,040	166	24,169	62,089	2,347	1,003	1,820,764
1885-86	- 1,733,105	237	31,391	64,353	2,161	1,155	1,832,402
1886-87	- 1,939,764	334	35,259	53,977	2,193	1,105	2,032,632
1887-88	- 1,928,345	352	35,088	31,478	2,634	1,136	1,999,033
1888-89	- 1,969,324	377	30,937	36,774	2,825	1,124	2,041,361
1889-90	- 2,179,921	405	33,295	62,386	1,903	1,076	2,278,986
1890-91	- 2,265,338	425	29,692	90,374	1,641	1,111	2,388,581
1891-92	- 2,506,989	420	36,700	84,393	1,688	1,177	2,631,367

APPENDIX T.

CUMULATIVE ACCOUNT showing the FLUCTUATIONS in the

	Year ending				
	1881.	1882.	1883.	1884.	1885.
Value of Stores in Depôts at commencement of year -	£ s. d. 105,698 17 1½	£ s. d. 129,361 0 1	£ s. d. 152,625 15 11½	£ s. d. 190,776 9 5½	£ s. d. 211,762 11 10½
Value of Stores purchased during year, including wages for completing Stores -	134,126 0 0½	146,558 19 3½	161,591 5 3	312,655 13 7	240,987 8 3½
Value of Stores returned into Stock under the following Sub-heads:-					
C ³ Maintenance -	58,590 14 10	83,786 1 5½	107,914 15 3½	103,147 1 2	173,145 10 6½
C ¹¹ " [Ships] -	—	—	—	—	60 1 7½
O ¹ Extensions -	128 1 11	165 1 9	118 17 11½	56 1 9½	504 17 8½
O ² Re-arrangements -	7,073 5 2½	15,065 2 0½	9,886 14 3	16,241 17 1	39,005 19 10½
O ³ Private Telegraphs -	9,461 6 2½	13,661 17 0	20,447 7 8½	13,611 13 10½	10,456 4 0
O ⁴ Works executed for Rly. Co's, &c. -	486 8 4½	305 4 8½	413 12 8	348 9 6½	697 16 6½
O ⁵ Government dept. Telegraphs -	53 6 6½	240 6 7½	621 18 4½	393 6 3½	264 0 5½
A ⁴ Fraud, accident, and default (losses) -	—	—	—	—	—
General Stock -	3 9 1	—	—	—	—
E ⁴ Electric lighting of West Chief Offices -	—	—	—	—	—
Extra receipts -	—	—	—	—	—
Postal G ⁸ Incidental Expenses -	—	—	—	—	—
A ¹³ Gas and Electric Light (G.P.O. East, &c.) -	—	—	—	—	—
E ⁵ Fuel and Light (P.O.S.B.) -	—	—	—	—	—
G ⁶ Supply and Repair of Mail Bags, &c. -	—	—	—	—	—
Total -	315,621 9 4	389,143 13 0	453,620 7 6	636,630 12 10½	676,884 10 11½
Value of Stores used under the following Sub-heads:-					
C ³ Maintenance -	99,987 19 10	136,201 9 4	164,286 12 7½	171,615 6 11	237,281 5 8½
C ¹¹ " [Ships] -	—	—	—	—	1,288 5 3½
O ¹ Extensions -	3,537 16 10½	3,728 16 0	2,832 13 8½	3,302 8 8½	6,589 9 8½
O ² Re-arrangements -	63,802 1 0½	43,318 13 5½	34,686 1 6	212,172 14 9	177,877 0 5½
O ³ Private Telegraphs -	17,275 0 3½	49,916 0 7½	56,386 0 2½	33,600 14 10	34,184 13 3½
O ⁴ Works executed for Rly. Co's, &c. -	1,432 19 8½	1,414 17 10½	2,874 13 11½	2,646 11 5½	3,199 2 5½
O ⁵ Government dept. Telegraphs -	224 11 5½	1,937 19 8	1,777 15 11½	1,530 4 4	1,135 6 5
A ⁴ Losses by fraud, default, &c. -	—	—	—	—	—
E ⁴ Electric Lighting of West Chief Offices -	—	—	—	—	—
G ⁶ Fuel and Light -	—	—	—	—	—
L Stores (Morse and Wheatstone paper, &c.) -	—	—	—	—	—
A ¹³ Gas and Electric Light (G.P.O. East, &c. (Postal) -	—	—	—	—	—
C ⁵ Fuel and Light (Provincial) -	—	—	—	—	—
E ⁵ Fuel and Light (P.O.S.B.) -	—	—	—	—	—
General Stock -	—	—	—	—	—
Postal G ⁸ Incidental Expenses (Mail Bags, &c.) -	—	—	—	—	—
Postal G ⁶ Supply and repair of Mail Bags, &c. -	—	—	—	—	—
C ¹⁸ Fuel and Light (Scotland) -	—	—	—	—	—
Suspense Account -	—	—	—	—	—
Value of Stores in Depot at end of year -	129,361 0 1	152,625 15 11½	190,776 9 5½	211,762 11 10½	215,329 7 8½
Total -	315,621 9 4	389,143 13 0	453,620 7 6	636,630 12 10½	676,884 10 11½

(Signed) CHAS. E. STUART,
Controller of Stores.

APPENDIX T.

CONSUMPTION of TELEGRAPH STORES, and the BALANCES in DEPÔTS.

March 31st.

1886.	1887.	1888.	1889.	1890.	1891.
<i>£ s. d.</i> 215,329 7 8½	<i>£ s. d.</i> 212,183 10 1½	<i>£ s. d.</i> 226,786 7 9½	<i>£ s. d.</i> 205,364 17 0½	<i>£ s. d.</i> 211,542 16 1½	<i>£ s. d.</i> 238,865 9 3½
152,775 7 1	146,408 5 4	142,256 17 10½	142,512 15 8½	173,840 15 7½	190,214 17 5½
136,181 19 4½	115,468 16 5½	137,908 5 0½	138,065 3 10½	116,566 10 1½	85,928 16 9
47 9 0½	3 9 3½	7 15 2½	28 3 2	16 5 9½	28 10 8½
452 18 0	375 14 6½	2,085 3 11	840 5 0½	657 5 2½	618 12 11½
59,966 1 7½	18,917 6 8½	16,083 6 8½	18,710 11 4½	17,274 6 7½	15,143 1 3
13,470 0 4½	13,120 14 1½	19,550 17 11½	15,174 6 4	12,226 5 8	12,424 19 11
325 7 2	607 9 2½	603 13 7½	601 14 6	757 7 3½	768 2 6½
266 13 4	153 3 8½	285 12 10½	253 12 10½	370 1 1	273 3 11
—	—	—	0 2 6	4 0 0	—
—	—	—	—	—	—
—	—	—	96 17 6	188 1 0	1 4 0
—	—	—	0 1 3	0 0 7	1 7 0
—	—	—	2 10 0	21 10 0½	3 6 10½
—	—	—	—	—	28 4 2
—	—	—	—	—	4½
—	—	—	—	—	11 12 3½
578,835 3 8½	507,328 9 6½	545,628 0 11½	521,671 1 2½	533,474 5 3	544,307 13 6
209,045 10 6	196,094 6 7	237,192 19 8½	213,678 15 1½	203,917 8 2½	171,023 5 8
805 11 4½	519 2 6½	700 15 7½	471 8 7	809 14 7½	1,063 13 2½
5,814 5 10½	6,400 4 0½	7,567 10 2	8,476 4 4	5,808 3 5½	6,966 18 9½
112,853 4 11	51,569 16 8½	40,562 14 10½	52,006 19 4½	51,974 18 3½	65,768 13 7½
34,777 6 8½	21,103 12 4½	41,892 2 4½	30,739 11 10	23,574 2 7	34,993 0 10½
1,560 16 10½	1,622 18 7	1,041 7 3½	2,181 17 11½	2,207 9 0½	4,912 8 2½
1,794 17 4½	1,823 6 2½	1,212 0 11½	2,159 8 10½	2,193 3 2½	4,239 10 0½
—	224 6 8½	70 5 2½	30 12 8	31 17 1	53 8 0
—	1,175 8 0	123 7 7½	64 6 5½	328 16 0	1,579 1 11
—	—	—	—	4 9 8½	5 12 1½
—	—	—	—	4 3 4	28 18 4
—	—	—	—	1,220 7 4	7,514 9 0½
—	—	—	—	1 18 4	20 19 5
—	—	—	—	526 6 4½	864 17 3½
—	—	—	—	—	—
—	—	—	368 7 0½	1,145 11 3	1,046 16 11½
—	—	—	0 17 10	859 5 1½	814 4 10
—	—	—	—	0 0 7½	—
—	—	—	—	1 1 5½	7 13 7½
212,183 10 1½	226,786 7 9½	205,364 17 0½	211,542 16 1½	238,865 9 3½	243,403 15 6½
578,835 3 8½	507,328 9 6½	545,628 0 11½	521,671 1 2½	533,474 5 3	544,307 13 6

(Signed) JAMES J. CARDIN,
Receiver and Accountant General.

APPENDIX U.

EXTRACT FROM THE FINANCE ACCOUNTS FOR
THE YEAR ENDED 31ST MARCH 1892.*Inserted by desire of the Select Committee on Estimates, Revenue
Departments.*DETAILED STATEMENT of the GROSS RECEIPTS and NET
PRODUCE of the REVENUE.

POST OFFICE.

	Gross Receipts.			Payments out.		
	£	s.	d.	£	s.	d.
Postage collected by Country Postmasters -		4	4	0	—	—
Postage collected in the Metropolis -	119,926	8	1	—	—	—
Postage, &c. refunded -	—	—	—	12,814	6	1
Postage Stamps sold by Postmasters, &c. in the United Kingdom, and issued to Postmasters and Agents Abroad -	10,633,407	12	9½	—	—	—
Postage Stamps sold by Stamp Distributors of Inland Revenue -	261,933	1	3½	—	—	—
Postage, &c. refunded by Stamp Distributors of Inland Revenue -	—	—	—	2,713	6	2½
Payments to Inland Revenue Department on account of Postage Stamps used for Inland Revenue purposes -	—	—	—	511,720	0	0
Payments to Railway Companies and to Her Majesty's Customs on account of Parcel Post -	—	—	—	531,374	19	7
Commission on Money Orders -	130,231	6	3½	—	—	—
Ditto Postal " -	228,936	9	5½	—	—	—
Miscellaneous Receipts -	34,116	18	7½	—	—	—
Postage collected for Great Britain by Colonial Offices and Postmasters and Agents Abroad -	66,846	7	6½	—	—	—
Postage collected by Foreign Offices for credit of Great Britain -	128,444	9	7½	—	—	—
Postage collected by Great Britain for credit of Colonial Offices not under the control of the Imperial Post Office -	—	—	—	98,511	4	0½
Postage collected by Great Britain for credit of Foreign Offices -	—	—	—	263,423	1	4
	11,603,846	17	9½	1,420,556	17	3½
Deduct Payments out -	1,420,556	17	3½			
NET PRODUCE £	10,183,290	0	6			

General Post Office, }
June 1892.JAMES J. CARDIN,
Receiver and Accountant General

APPENDIX U.—*continued.*

TELEGRAPH SERVICE.

	Gross Receipts.	Payments out.
	£ s. d.	£ s. d.
Amount received for the transmission of Telegraphic Messages, &c. in Cash	609,686 4 3	—
Amount received for the transmission of Telegraphic Messages, &c. in Stamps -	2,233,071 12 1	—
Payments to Cable Companies, &c.,	- - -	358,660 1 7
Telegram Moneys refunded, &c., &c. -	2,842,757 16 4	358,660 1 7
Deduct Payments out	358,660 1 7	
NET PRODUCE £	2,484,097 14 9	

General Post Office, }
June 1892.

JAMES J. CARDIN,
Receiver and Accountant General.

APPENDIX V.

Treasury Minute, dated 23rd May 1892, upon the Proposals for the Development of the Telephone System in the United Kingdom.

My Lords have before them the proposals of the Postmaster General for carrying out the policy which has been adopted by Her Majesty's Government for development of the telephone system in the United Kingdom.

(1.) It is the object of these proposals, while preserving the property in the telegraphs, which has been paid for by the nation, to secure that expansion of the telephone system which is called for by public opinion and the necessities of commerce. It is impossible to continue the present system under which the telegraph revenue is seriously suffering, while, on the other hand, the extension of telephones is checked in a manner which cannot be permanently maintained.

The proposals of the Postmaster General will enable the telephone companies and the Post Office to co-operate in services to the public.

(2.) The telephone companies are at present restricted to oral communications. The scheme prepared by the Postmaster General will in one direction, as hereafter explained, remove that restriction; and it proposes the establishment of trunk wires throughout the United Kingdom.

(3.) Unless trunk wires are in the hands of the State, a monopoly, injurious to the public interest, would inevitably ensue, to the advantage of the company which first laid down such trunk wires.

(4.) If, on the removal of the restriction to oral communications, the companies were allowed themselves to write down and deliver messages and a network of trunk wires were spread over the country by private enterprise, the distinction established by Mr. Fawcett between the business of the companies and of the Post Office would disappear, and rival systems of telegraphy would be working side by side where Parliament intended that there should be only one.

(5.) For this reason it is proposed that the Post Office shall write down and deliver the messages, and that the Post Office shall provide a national system of trunk lines. United action, on the part of the companies and the Post Office, is necessary to the success of the scheme.

(6.) It is proposed that the companies should abandon their right to construct trunk wires, and that the Post Office should purchase from them such as they have already erected; and that in addition to this the Post Office should gradually provide additional trunk wires, so that there may ultimately be a complete system of communication between all the important towns in the kingdom. It is further proposed that a connecting link between Great Britain and Ireland should be furnished by a submarine cable, and that the whole system should be open, not only to the subscribers of the companies, but also to any member of the public who may choose to come to a Post Office for the purpose of using it.

(7.) The companies will connect their exchanges with the offices of the Post Office, in order that their subscribers may telephone messages—

- (a) for transmission over the public telegraphs;
- (b) for transmission through the post as letters;
- (c) for delivery as express letters;
- (d) that they may call for the service of express messengers; and may
- (e) request to be placed in telephonic communication with other towns by means of the trunk wires of the State.

(8.) The Post Office will make no charge for the services of its officers who attend to the wires connecting the exchanges with the local post offices, and will pay the companies a commission of 5 per cent. on ordinary telegrams telephoned to those offices for transmission by the public telegraphs.

(9.) The Post Office will draw its veto on the establishment by the companies of public call offices in the houses and shops of sub-postmasters. It will further be a consideration whether, if the convenience of the Department will permit it, head, district, and branch post offices should be allowed to be used as call offices, &c., subject to such payment by way of rent, as may be agreed on.

(10.) As far as practicable, the Post Office will provide underground wires at an agreed rent to connect together the exchanges of a company within one and the same exchange area, so that municipal authorities may not have to complain of their streets being disturbed by the companies, which, in some places, might be in competition.

(11.) The Post Office, where it can permit telephone companies to use railways, canals, or other property over which it has acquired exclusive rights of way for telegraphs, will charge a nominal sum of 1s. per mile of wire instead of 20s. as at present.

(12.) Parliament, by a Bill now about to be introduced, will be asked to confer on the companies, subject to the consent of the local authority, powers for the erection of the wires required to connect their exchanges with the houses of their subscribers,

(13.) The messages telephoned to post offices for delivery will have to be limited in length, and it is proposed to adopt the two-fold limit of three minutes and 30 words. The charge will be the same as for an ordinary express letter, viz., 3*d.*, if the address be within a mile of the post office where the message is written down.*

(14.) For conversations on the trunk wires of the State the following charges will, it is thought, be equitable, while, at the same time, sufficient to secure a margin of profit.*

For any distance not exceeding 20 miles	-	-	3 <i>d.</i>
For any distance exceeding 20 miles and not exceeding 40 miles	-	-	6 <i>d.</i>
For every additional 40 miles or fraction thereof	-	-	6 <i>d.</i>

(15.) A charge of 6*d.* for 40 miles has been sanctioned by the Treasury for the trunk wires already provided by the Post Office, but the charge of 3*d.* for 20 miles is new. The Post Office consider it necessary that there should be this lower charge for the short wires.

Longer distances cannot be charged for at a less rate, as, although it is true that the terminal expenses are a fixed quantity, the expenses of construction and maintenance will, even in proportion, increase greatly with the length of the line. Where a submarine cable is used, or where exceptional expense is incurred, an additional charge will be made.

(16.) As in the case of the London-Paris telephone line, the period of each conversation will be three minutes, and two consecutive periods will be allowed for a double payment.

(17.) My Lords will examine with care such schemes as may be successively submitted by the Post Office for the gradual construction of new trunk lines.

In the course of a few months wires can be erected on existing poles from London to certain principal places, and progress can be made as convenience permits with further wires in many directions.

These works would be carried out in such a manner as to supplement and extend the system acquired from the companies.

(18.) It must be clearly understood that the right of the Post Office to establish telephone exchanges, which was reserved by Mr. Fawcett, will be maintained; the Department holding itself ready, as in the past, to comply with the reasonable demand of any town or district for telephonic facilities.

(19.) As to fresh licenses, no further license for the whole country will be granted; and even for a license to establish an exchange in a particular town no application will be entertained unless a formal resolution in its favour has been passed by the corporation, or other municipal authority, and evidence given that there is sufficient capital subscribed to carry out the undertaking. In this way competition will not be excluded, but a check will be imposed on the formation of companies whose sole object is to force the existing licensees to buy them up.

But although this is the policy which commends itself to Her Majesty's Government, it must be distinctly understood that, should licenses hereafter be granted on other principles, no company now or hereafter to be licensed will have any ground to complain of breach of contract or want of good faith on the part of the Postmaster General.

It will be a condition of any license to a new company that their system must be constructed entirely of twin wires, or metallic circuits, so that there may be an assurance of its efficiency.

* These charges are independent of the charges which the companies make on their own account for sending a telephone message.

(20.) The royalties now payable by the companies to the State will remain unchanged. The other conditions imposed by their licenses will remain unchanged, except so far as they may be modified by the policy indicated in this Minute.

(21.) In conclusion it may be stated that the intention is to meet, as far as possible, the views of municipal authorities, to aid the telephone companies in the improvement of their exchange system, to place additional facilities at the disposal of the public, and to establish trunk wires between the more important towns throughout the country.

My Lords concur.

Let a copy of this Minute be laid before Parliament.

Add 37th Rep. p. 23.

Add 40th Rep. p. 14.

" 41st Rep. p. 29

" 42nd Rep. p. 16. 17

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