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POST OFFICE.

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FIFTIETH REPORT
OF
THE POSTMASTER GENERAL
ON
THE POST OFFICE.

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



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POST OFFICE.

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ON THE

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



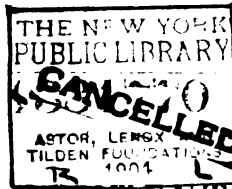
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FIFTIETH ANNUAL REPORT.

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

MY LORDS,

I HAVE the honour to submit to your Lordships the Fiftieth Annual Report of the Postmaster-General, being an account of the business of the Post Office during the year ended the 31st March 1904.

It is estimated that the number of postal packets delivered in the United Kingdom during the year 1903-4 was as follows:—

Statistics of postal packets. See also Appendix A., pp. 34-39.

—	Number.	Increase per Cent.	Average No. to each Person.
Letters - - -	2,597,600,000	·7	61·2
Postcards - - -	613,700,000	25·5	14·5
Halfpenny packets - -	820,400,000	1·3	19·3
Newspapers - - -	174,800,000	·3 (dec.)	4·1
Parcels - - -	94,400,000	4·5	2·2
Total - - -	4,300,900,000	3·8	101·3

The increase in the number of letters on the previous year is slight; and the letters delivered in London show an actual decrease (1·52 per cent.). This falling off is doubtless partly due to the stagnation in trade, and partly to the increased use of the telephone; but is also largely the result of the enormous increase in the use of pictorial postcards, which show a tendency to displace letters as well as official postcards. It will be seen that the number of postcards shows an increase of no less than 25·5 per cent., following on an increase of 9·9 per cent. in the previous year and of 6·2 per cent. in the year before. In Scotland the increase amounted to 35 per cent. Private postcards are now estimated to be about 77 per cent. of the whole number passing through the post.

The number of letters registered in the United Kingdom during the year 1903-4 was 19,029,114, an increase of 0·1 per cent. on the figures for 1902-3; whilst the number of parcels

Registered letters and parcels.

registered was 1,043,927, a decrease of 2 per cent. on the previous year. The depression in the cheap jewellery trade has tended to diminish the number of registered packets sent through the post.

EXPRESS DELIVERY SERVICES.

See also Appendix A., p. 44. The total number of express services was 1,290,800, as compared with 1,107,100 in the previous year, an increase of 16·6 per cent. This increase, following an increase of over 17 per cent. in each of the two previous years, affords satisfactory evidence of the growing popularity of the service with the public.

In London, 1,312,300 articles were delivered by express messengers, including 476,900 letters sent out for delivery in advance of the postman.

UNDELIVERED POSTAL PACKETS.

Statistics. See also Appendix G., p. 65. The following are the numbers of undelivered packets dealt with during the year :—

Description.	Number.	Increase (+) or Decrease (—) as compared with previous year.	
		Number.	Per Cent.
Letters - - -	11,148,281	+ 243,258	+ 2·2
Postcards - - -	2,245,327	+ 357,234	+ 18·9
Halfpenny packets - - -	12,427,681	+ 393,531	+ 3·3
Newspapers - - -	633,179	+ 32,518	+ 5·4
Parcels - - -	253,515	— 1,774	— 0·7
Total - - -	26,707,983	+ 1,024,767	+ 4·0

Undelivered postcards. The number of undelivered postcards has largely increased, but not in proportion to the total number of postcards sent by post.

Registered and property letters. The number of registered letters and letters containing property sent through the post with insufficient addresses shows no substantial decrease. These communications, which numbered no less than 319,497, contained 20,910% in cash and bank notes, and 613,618% in bills, cheques, money orders, postal orders, and stamps. My predecessor commented last year upon the immense amount of unnecessary labour caused to the Post Office by the carelessness of the public in addressing correspondence. The figures given above show that there has been little change in this respect.

Unaddressed letters. The number of postal packets posted without any address at all continues to increase, amounting during the year under review to 379,426. Out of these, 4,190 had valuable contents, including

345*l.* in cash and bank notes and 9,685*l.* in various forms of remittances, one unaddressed letter containing a cheque for 1,500*l.* It was found possible to restore the greater number of these letters to the senders.

There was a considerable decrease in the number of articles found loose in the post. These included, however, 1,128*l.* in cash and 16,122*l.* in cheques, postal orders, &c., amongst the latter being two accepted bills for 1,000*l.* each and a batch of foreign bills amounting in value to 4,460*l.*

Articles found loose in the post.

HOME MAIL SERVICES.

The Great Western Railway Company, as intimated in my predecessor's report last year, appealed against the award of the Railway Commissioners fixing the payment to be made to them for conveyance of mails. The appeal was, however, dismissed, and the payment therefore stands at 135,855*l.* a year.

Payment to the Great Western Railway Company for conveyance of mails.

Some progress has been made during the past year with the use of motor vans for the conveyance of mails. Mail services between the following towns are at present being performed by means of motor vans:—London and Epping, London and Redhill, Manchester and Liverpool, Sunderland and Newcastle, and Birmingham and Warwick. Several motor vans are also being used on mail services in London.

Use of motors.

The best results have been obtained on the service between London and Epping. A Milnes-Daimler motor van has been employed on this service, and it has kept excellent time and has had no serious breakdown. Speaking generally, however, the motor vans which have been tried have not proved so reliable as horse vans; and it has been necessary to exercise caution in extending their use for the conveyance of mails in order that the public service should not suffer. The superiority of the motor vans in point of speed is, however, an important advantage; and I fully hope that when they have reached a higher stage of development it will be possible to employ them extensively for the conveyance of mails.

I regret to state that advertisements of foreign lotteries continue to be sent by post in large numbers, and their delivery has given rise to public complaint. It is a matter of much concern to me that the Post Office should be made a medium for the distribution of these illegal advertisements; but the difficulty with which I have to contend is that they are usually sent in sealed covers, and their nature is thus not disclosed. The power which I possess of stopping lottery circulars enclosed in open covers is, however, fully exercised, and many thousands have been stopped and destroyed during the year.

Foreign lottery circulars.

In Lord Londonderry's report for the year ended the 31st March 1902 reference was made to an experimental delivery of packets addressed simply to "The Householder," in a specified

Packets addressed "The Householder."

town, and intended for house-to-house distribution. During last year the delivery of several batches of postcards addressed in this manner was undertaken at the request of the senders. No difficulty was experienced in dealing with the packets; and the senders were saved the trouble of addressing them to persons by name. The arrangement is still only in an experimental stage; but, should it be found that there is a real demand for the facility, the question of establishing it on a permanent footing will be dealt with.

Day mails.

As announced in my predecessor's report, the regulations as to the grant of a second delivery of letters in rural districts have been considerably relaxed; and in consequence, during the past year, I have found it possible to afford second deliveries in a large number of cases where they could not have been given under the old regulations.

Despatch of parcels.

To meet the difficulties attending the despatch of parcels by persons living in rural districts, increased facilities have been afforded for the collection of parcels by rural postmen and mail cart drivers.

Cash on delivery system.

Since the institution of the Parcel Post on the 1st of August 1883, the question of supplementing the service by the collection of the value of the parcels on delivery if the sender and the addressee so desire has often been raised. This arrangement, which is usually termed the "Cash on Delivery" system or "Value Payable Post," would, if introduced, apply to registered letters and packets as well as to parcels sent by Parcel Post. In India and nearly all important foreign countries the system is widely in operation; and proposals for its application to mails exchanged with this country have been made in several quarters, many of its advocates being of opinion that the want of such a system places British traders at a disadvantage in international business.

The benefits of the "Cash on Delivery" service were laid before my predecessor by a deputation on the 2nd of October last; and the adverse view was presented by a deputation which I received on the 2nd of December. I did not think it advisable to arrive at a decision without giving all classes of persons interested an opportunity to express their views, or without making full enquiries into the operation of the system elsewhere. After careful perusal of numerous representations, I find advocates and opponents in agreement on one point, namely, that the system would be largely used by the public of this country; and the only important objection rests on the anticipation of a diversion of trade from provincial retail traders to firms which advertise extensively. The opponents do not, however, support this apprehension by evidence derived from actual experience in other countries; and numerous Foreign Post Offices which I have consulted affirm that the system is in various ways useful to traders, and does not give rise to

complaints on their part. In these circumstances I am by no means satisfied, so far as my enquiries have gone, that the apprehensions expressed by retail traders in this country afford sufficient cause for withholding a convenience from the community at large.

INLAND POSTAL RATES.

The revised regulations for the Halfpenny Post which were foreshadowed in my predecessor's report came into operation on the 1st of January. They concede greater latitude as regards writing upon commercial documents, circulars, invitation cards, &c., sent at the halfpenny rate. Although in dealing with a privileged post such as this it is scarcely possible to avoid arbitrary distinctions between one partly written document and another which differs only slightly from it, the new regulations nevertheless remove some of the chief difficulties experienced under those previously in force, and afford facilities of which advantage is being largely taken. The designation "Book Packet," which had become inappropriate since the extension of the limit of weight for letters, has been abolished, and the expression "Halfpenny Packet" has taken its place.

Revised regulations for half-penny post.

STAMPS.

The experiment was tried of selling penny postage stamps in books of 24, the price charged for a book being 2s. 0½d.

Books of postage stamps.

These books have met with a considerable demand, the number sold during the first month of their issue being 132,130. I propose, in the course of a few months, to place on sale books containing twelve 1d. stamps and twenty-four ½d. ones, the price of these books also to be 2s. 0½d. each.

Now that a sixpenny postal order has been introduced it has been found possible to make the rules governing the repurchase of stamps from the public somewhat more stringent, so as to impose some check upon the abuses which were liable to arise under the old regulations. The new rules were introduced on the 1st January, and they have already resulted in the detection of one attempt to dispose of stolen stamps.

Repurchase of stamps from the public.

During the first three months of the present year 977 purchases of stamps from the public were made, the total value of the stamps purchased being 5,470l.

FOREIGN AND COLONIAL POST.

The Inter-Departmental Committee which was appointed to consider questions relating to the Eastern and Australian mail service has concluded its deliberations; and your Lordships are aware that, in order to allow of ample time for making fresh arrangements, it has been determined to extend the present contract with the Peninsular and Oriental Steam Navigation

Eastern and Australian mail service.

Company for three years from the 1st of February 1905, but with an acceleration of 24 hours on each section of the service outwards and homewards.

This decision has the advantage of maintaining intact during that period the existing facilities for communicating with India and the Eastern Colonies by British packet. In the case of Australia it is to be regretted that in consequence of the decision of the Commonwealth Legislature not to be a party to any mail contract which admits of the employment of coloured labour on board the packets, it no longer falls to the British Post Office to provide, on behalf of the mother country and the Commonwealth jointly, a weekly service. The contract with the Peninsular and Oriental Company is for a fortnightly service only to and from Australia; and, in maintaining that arrangement and leaving the Commonwealth to arrange for a similar alternating fortnightly service in both directions, the Imperial Government is, in the circumstances, doing all that can be legitimately demanded of it.

Trans-Siberian route.

In the course of last autumn the Russian Post Office announced the establishment of a mail service to the Far East by the Trans-Siberian Railway. Notwithstanding the onerous conditions imposed, it was felt that it would not be right to debar the public in this country from the use of the new route; and therefore, with your Lordships' concurrence, arrangements were made forthwith for the transmission by it of letters and post-cards specially directed to be so sent. Further developments were prevented by the outbreak of war between Russia and Japan, which has necessitated the suspension of the service.

United States mails.

The new agreement with the Cunard Steamship Company, to which reference was made in my predecessor's report, has now been concluded. Otherwise the only changes of importance in the mail service with the United States have arisen out of the substitution of Plymouth for Southampton as the port of disembarkation of mails sent to this country by packets of the American Line, and the alteration of the day of departure of those packets from New York. This alteration, which the United States Post Office were within their rights in making, involved a careful revision of the arrangements for dealing with the incoming mails in order to ensure delivery as soon as possible. The conditions of the Queenstown route were affected by the fact that, on the one hand, the White Star steamers were left to carry the whole of the mail despatched from New York on Wednesdays, while, on the other hand, the Cunard packets no longer carried the whole of the mail despatched from New York on Saturdays. The mails brought by the White Star steamers under these conditions proved at times too heavy for conveyance from Queenstown by the ordinary mail service via Dublin and Holyhead; and a special service has been organised experimentally for their conveyance on those occasions when an appreciably earlier arrival of the correspondence in London

during business hours could be thereby secured. No alteration has been made in the arrangements for landing at Queenstown the mails brought by the Cunard packets.

To suit the convenience of the Italian Government, the Postal Union Congress, which was to have been held at Rome in the spring of this year, has been postponed until April 1905. An open competition arranged by the Swiss Government in connection with the proposed erection of a monument at Berne to commemorate the 25th anniversary of the foundation of the Union did not result in the selection of a design. Further designs are to be submitted by six artists to whom prizes were awarded. They are none of them of British nationality.

I regret that it has not yet become possible to establish penny letter postage to Australia. Further endeavours are being made to come to an arrangement on this subject with the Commonwealth Government; and I hope that a satisfactory understanding will be arrived at.

An arrangement similar to that which was made last year in regard to the rate of postage chargeable on newspapers sent to this country from Canada has now been introduced for newspapers posted in New Zealand. I have agreed to accept newspapers from New Zealand for delivery in the United Kingdom prepaid at the rate of one penny each, irrespective of weight; but the serious loss of revenue which would be involved still precludes me from adopting such a low rate of postage for newspapers and other printed matter passing in the reverse direction between the United Kingdom and other parts of the British Empire.

The system of insurance for letters has been extended to the services between the United Kingdom and the following parts of the Empire:—British Honduras, the Gold Coast Colony, Mauritius, the Seychelles, Sierra Leone, Southern Nigeria, and the Windward Islands (Grenada, St. Lucia, and St. Vincent); and also between this country and Macao, Montenegro, and Nova Goa in Portuguese India.

The number of insured letters despatched to places abroad during the year was 9,421 against 7,924 during the previous year, an increase of about 18 per cent.; whilst the number received from places abroad was 49,095 against 45,444 during the previous year, an increase of over 8 per cent.

The number of parcels sent to and received from places abroad during the year was as follows :—

	Insured.	Ordinary.	Total.
Despatched -	148,071	2,065,748	2,213,819
Received -	133,747	1,161,737	1,295,484
Total	281,818	3,227,485	3,509,303

The total number of parcels sent and received shows a net increase as compared with last year of 154,698, or nearly 5 per cent. In the case of parcels sent to and received from the Cape Colony and St. Helena there has been a large decrease, owing to the withdrawal of troops from those places. The total number of foreign and colonial parcels insured, namely, 281,818 as against 254,718 in the previous year, shows an increase of about 10 per cent.

Exports and imports.

According to the Board of Trade Returns, the value of the goods exported and imported by Parcel Post during the last three years has been as follows:—

	Twelve Months ended 31st March			Increase (+) or Decrease(−) in 1903-4, as compared with 1902-3.	Increase (+) or Decrease(−) in 1903-4, as compared with 1901-2.
	1902.	1903.	1904.		
Exports - -	£ 3,710,116	£ 3,373,094	£ 3,475,707	+ 102,613	— 234,409
Imports - -	1,211,275	1,342,786	1,306,251	— 36,535	+ 94,976
Total -	4,921,391	4,715,880	4,781,958	+ 66,078	— 139,433

Reduced rate of postage on parcels exchanged with India.

The negotiations entered into with the Indian Post Office for a reduction of the rates of postage on parcels have arrived at a successful issue. That Office has now adopted the uniform scale of postage already in force in the relations between the United Kingdom and many British Colonies; and parcels can be sent to India by the long sea route for 1s. if not over 3 lb. in weight, 2s. if between 3 lb. and 7 lb., and 3s. if between 7 lb. and 11 lb. For parcels sent overland by way of Brindisi or Marseilles the postage is 2s., 3s., and 4s. at the three respective points of the scale.

Extension of Parcel Post.

The Parcel Post has been extended to Manila in the Philippine Islands and to Dilly in Portuguese Timor.

Additional facilities.

The arrangement for enabling the sender to pay customs and other charges ordinarily collected from the recipient has been extended to the Transvaal and the Orange River Colony.

The maximum limit of weight for a parcel for Rhodesia has been raised from 7 lb. to 11 lb.

MONEY ORDERS.

Statistics.
See also
Appendix K.
pp. 76-84.

The number of inland money orders issued during the year under review was 11,261,745, representing an amount of 35,430,349l.

The distribution of the orders into the different categories is shown in the following table, which also gives a comparison

between the figures for the year under review, and those for the previous year :—

	Number of Inland Orders.			
	1902-3.	1903-4.	Increase (+) or Decrease (-).	Rate per Cent.
Ordinary - - -	9,040,512	8,273,717	-766,795	-8.5
Telegraph - - -	462,885	475,738	+12,853	+2.8
Government - - -	2,648,464	2,512,290	-136,174	-5.1
Total - - -	12,151,861	11,261,745	-890,116	-7.3

	Amount of Inland Orders.			
	1902-3.	1903-4.	Increase (+) or Decrease (-).	Rate per Cent.
	£	£	£	
Ordinary - - -	28,600,805	25,841,149	-2,759,656	-9.6
Telegraph - - -	1,459,496	1,384,925	-74,571	-5.1
Government - - -	8,860,295	8,204,275	-656,020	-7.4
Total - - -	38,920,596	35,430,349	-3,490,247	-9.0

The Foreign and Colonial orders numbered 2,702,428 and amounted to 7,285,857*l.*, as against 2,379,563 orders for 6,481,899*l.* in the previous year.

The average amount of each kind of order since the introduction of the increased maximum (*see* below) has been as follows :—

	Amount.	Increase (+) or Decrease (-) on Previous Year.
Inland orders :—	£ s. d.	s. d.
Ordinary - - -	3 6 0	+2 9
Telegraph - - -	3 6 8	+3 8
Government - - -	3 1 7	-5 3
Foreign and Colonial orders - -	2 11 11	-2 6

Both ordinary and Government inland orders show a very considerable decrease, both in number and amount, on the previous year.

Decrease in ordinary and Government orders.

This decrease appears to be due to the following causes :—

- (1) A large diminution in the number of payments made by the War Office to troops on demobilisation by means of money orders.

- (2) The extension on and from the 1st January of the maximum amount of an inland money order from 10*l.* to 40*l.*, tending to reduce the number of orders.
- (3) The introduction of the new denominations of postal orders (*see* below).

Colonial orders.

There was again a considerable increase in the money orders exchanged with the colonies, especially in those in the inward direction. The outward orders exceeded those of the previous year by 13,159 (8·2 per cent.) in number and 25,013*l.* (4·5 per cent.) in amount. The inward orders showed an increase of 194,422 (23·7 per cent.) in number and 458,789 (17·9 per cent.) in amount.

The increase in the inward orders occurred almost entirely in the service with Canada and South Africa. The following comparative statement of the money orders exchanged with South Africa in 1898 and 1903 is striking:—

Colony.	Outwards.		Inwards.	
	1898.	1903.	1898.	1903.
Cape Colony, Orange River Colony, and Southern Rhodesia	£ 40,831	£ 66,284	£ 265,775	£ 738,986
Natal	11,892	21,207	89,682	249,070
Transvaal	10,282	35,610	212,641	565,448
Total	62,505	123,101	568,048	1,553,504

Foreign orders.

Money orders issued in this country for payment in foreign countries show an increase of 24,374 (4·6 per cent.) in number and 116,073*l.* (8·7 per cent.) in amount. In the reverse direction there was an increase of 90,910 (10·4 per cent.) in number and 204,083*l.* (10·1 per cent.) in amount.

Foreign telegraph orders.

The telegraph money orders exchanged with places abroad numbered 16,891 amounting to 91,435*l.*, as against 14,511 amounting to 78,351*l.* in 1902-3.

"Through" orders.

The orders transmitted through England between places having no direct money order service numbered 115,727, as compared with 93,095 in 1902-3. The total amount so remitted was 460,598*l.*

Payment to bankers.

Out of a total sum of 40,208,000*l.* paid on money orders in the United Kingdom, about one-sixth, viz. 6,604,795*l.* was paid at the Chief Money Order Office to London bankers.

Extension of maximum limit of inland money orders.

On the 1st January the maximum limit of inland money orders was raised from 10*l.* to 40*l.* This change will not only be advantageous to the public, who will have a smaller commission to pay when remitting considerable amounts but will result in

a saving of labour to my Department, through a reduction in the number of orders that have to be handled. The commissions chargeable on the various denominations of orders are now as follows :—

For sums not exceeding 1l.	-	-	-	2d.
For sums above 1l. and not exceeding 3l.	-	-	-	3d.
" " 3l.	"	"	10l.	4d.
" " 10l.	"	"	20l.	6d.
" " 20l.	"	"	30l.	8d.
" " 30l.	"	"	40l.	10d.

In the service with the colonies and foreign countries an increase in the maximum amount to 40l. has also been arranged in many instances.

Extension of maximum limit of foreign and colonial money orders.

With the exception of Bulgaria, Denmark, Roumania, and the United States (who have only agreed to raise the limit to 20l.), practically every foreign country has agreed to the 40l. limit. A number of British colonies have also accepted the limit, and I have every hope that it will be agreed to by the remaining colonies before long. A revised scale of charges for foreign and colonial orders has been introduced, which is considerably more favourable to the public than the old scale.

The only additional exchanges of money orders arranged during the year were with the Portuguese Colonies, Surinam, Fanning Island, the Marshall Islands, and the island of Rodrigues. Negotiations are in progress for the establishment of a service with Russia; and it is hoped that it will be possible to bring this into operation before long.

Extensions of system.

The question of establishing a telegraph money order service with the British colonies is under consideration, and I hope that it may be possible to effect this desirable extension at an early date.

An arrangement was introduced in January whereby the remitter of a money order payable abroad can telegraph the order as far as London, if thereby he is enabled to catch an outgoing mail which he could not have caught by post. This arrangement has already met with some appreciation.

The number of money order offices open in the United Kingdom on the 31st March was 14,438, or 317 more than on the 31st March 1903.

Money order offices.

The Chief Money Order Office was removed in November from Fore Street to the premises in Queen Victoria Street vacated by the Savings Bank and now known as the General Post Office South. The new premises have proved in all respects convenient, and the change has tended to the improvement of the service.

Removal of chief Money Order Office.

POSTAL ORDERS.

Statistics. The number of postal orders issued during the year was 90,571,000, representing 34,301,000*l.* The produce of the commission on these orders was 392,142*l.* The orders have decreased 2·9 per cent. in number and increased 4·2 per cent. in amount as compared with the previous year.

See also
Appendix L.,
pp. 86-7.

The value of the stamps affixed to postal orders during the year was 184,502*l.*

New denominations of postal orders. In the course of the year a number of new denominations of orders were introduced, with the result that a postal order can now be obtained for every complete sixpence from 6*d.*, to 21*s.* Not only does this mean a considerable reduction in the amount payable by the public in poundage, but through the substitution of one order for two in many cases an appreciable saving of labour will result to the Post Office staff. The new denominations have met with a large sale, the sixpenny order being purchased at the rate of half a million a year, the guinea order at the rate of over a million a year, and the 6*s.* order at the rate of two and a half millions a year.

Counterfoils. All postal orders sold are now furnished with counterfoils, in order to provide the public with a ready means of keeping a record of the number and amount of each order posted. Such a record is essential to enable my Department to identify orders that are alleged to have been lost or destroyed; and it is much to be desired that the public would realise the importance, in their own interest, of retaining the counterfoil and filling in the name of the payee. I regret that in many cases of lost orders I am unable to issue a duplicate, because these precautions were not adopted.

Extension of postal order business to small country offices. Since the 1st July 1903 arrangements have been made for the transaction of postal order business (including cashing as well as selling postal orders) at all offices in the United Kingdom.

Imperial postal orders. Negotiations have been entered into for establishing a system under which British postal orders can be interchanged between this country and India and the Colonies, and also between one Colony and another, thus affording means, cheaper than the money order service, for the transmission of small sums throughout the Empire.

British postal orders are already obtainable at Post Offices in India, New Zealand, Sierra Leone, Malta, Gibraltar, the Straits Settlements, Hong Kong, British Guiana, Newfoundland, and at the agencies of the British Post Office at Ascension, Panama, Constantinople, Salonica, and Smyrna; and before long such orders will also be paid at all these offices.

The following colonies have announced their intention of participating in the scheme at no distant date—Barbadoes, Bermuda, British Honduras, Ceylon, Cyprus, Gambia, Gold Coast, Jamaica, the Leeward Islands, Orange River Colony, St. Helena, Seychelles, Trinidad, Turk's Island, and the Windward Islands.

There is also good ground for thinking that the scheme will shortly be accepted by the Cape Colony, Natal, the Transvaal, and the Falkland Islands.

POST OFFICE SAVINGS BANK.

During the year ended the 31st December 1903, the deposits and withdrawals were as follows :—

Deposits.		Withdrawals.	
No.	Amount.	No.	Amount.
15,325,618	£ 40,857,206	6,180,419	£ 42,786,025

Statistics.
See also
Appendix J.,
pp. 70-75.

Deposits and
withdrawals.

the figures for the previous year being :—

Deposits.		Withdrawals.	
No.	Amount.	No.	Amount.
15,250,316	£ 42,217,008	6,012,983	£ 41,395,800

It will be seen that the amount of the deposits is less by 1,359,797*l.* than in the previous year, and that the withdrawals exceed the deposits by 1,928,819*l.*

Decline in
amount of
deposits.

The reasons for this decline of deposits are, no doubt, to be found in the state of the money market, opportunities presenting themselves for more profitable investment: in the widespread apprehension that the rate of interest paid to depositors was about to be reduced: and possibly in a diminished ability to save on the part of some sections of the community.

On the other hand, it is satisfactory to note that the number of deposits has not decreased, and that the withdrawals have not increased at an abnormal rate.

The interest credited to depositors for 1903 amounted to 3,458,878*l.*; so that, allowing for the excess of withdrawals over deposits, an addition of 1,530,059*l.* was made in the year

to the amount standing to the credit of depositors, which on the 31st December 1903 had reached 146,135,147*l*.

**Withdrawals
by telegraph.**

The withdrawals by telegraph on the day of application numbered 215,416. Under the system by which application for the money is made by telegraph, and the warrant is sent by return of post, the withdrawals numbered 15,149. The corresponding numbers for the previous year were 220,032 and 14,351.

**Accounts
opened and
closed.**

The total number of accounts opened was 1,342,040, and of accounts closed 1,071,349. The net increase was thus 270,691, as against 315,486 in 1902.

The total number of accounts remaining open on the 31st December 1903, their distribution, the average amount of each, and the proportion of depositors to population, are shown in the following table:—

—	Number of Depositors.	Total Amount to Credit of Depositors.	Average Amount to Credit of each Depositor.	Proportion of Depositors to Population.
		£	£ s. d.	
England and Wales -	8,537,991	130,799,452	15 6 5	1 in 4
Scotland - - -	418,981	5,786,898	13 16 3	1 in 11
Ireland - - -	446,880	9,548,797	21 7 4	1 in 10
United Kingdom -	9,403,852	146,135,147	15 10 10	1 in 4½

**Average
size of
accounts.**

The average amount to the credit of each depositor has again declined, being 5*s*. 10*d*. less than on the 31st December 1902. The continuous decrease in this average since 1899 referred to in my last report is thus maintained.

**Accounts of
societies.**

The number of friendly societies which opened accounts during 1903 was 371 as against 307 in 1902. Accounts to the number of 1,778 were opened for charitable, provident, and trade societies, and to the number of 233 for penny banks. The corresponding figures for 1902 were 1,848 and 283.

Transfers.

The amount transferred from Trustee Savings Banks (including one which was closed at St. Asaph) to the Post Office Savings Bank was 25,887*l*., whilst the amount transferred in the reverse direction was 39,181*l*.

The arrangement referred to in my last report for enabling soldiers returning home from India to transfer their deposits from the Indian Savings Bank to the Post Office Savings Bank in this country was brought into force on the 1st January last, and has already been utilised to a considerable extent.

**Government
stock.**

The investments of depositors in Government stock, which fell off considerably during 1902, resumed their previous level in 1903, doubtless owing to the low price of Consols. On the other hand, the increase in the sales referred to in my last report has

been maintained. The following table gives the figures for the last five years :—

Year.	Investments.		Sales.		Average Price of Consols.
	No.	Amount.	No.	Amount.	
		£		£	
1899	26,531	1,670,354	11,789	686,135	107½
1900	41,030	2,830,918	12,028	678,374	99½
1901	46,550	3,192,154	13,574	761,629	94½
1902	40,893	2,694,447	17,221	1,054,193	94½
1903	47,726	3,131,172	17,742	1,085,578	90½

Sixty-nine stock certificates to the amount of 14,400*l.* were obtained for depositors, and stock to the amount of 151,948*l.* was transferred to accounts opened for depositors at the Bank of England.

At the close of the year there were 131,343 stockholders with 16,165,548*l.* to their credit, an increase of 12,647 stockholders and 1,879,931*l.* stock.

Immediate annuities to the number of 1,763, and amounting to 43,973*l.*, were granted last year, as compared with 1,679, amounting to 42,791*l.*, in 1902. The deferred annuities granted numbered 157, and amounted to 3,424*l.* Annuities and life insurance.

The number of life insurances taken out was 592, for sums amounting to 31,413*l.*, as against 722, for sums amounting to 34,646*l.*, in 1902.

The net expenditure of the Bank for the year was 549,140*l.*, representing an average cost per transaction of 6·12*d.* as against 5·93*d.* in 1902. Expenditure.

Owing to the reduction in the rate of interest on Consols, the expenditure during 1903 (including the interest paid to depositors) exceeded the income by 107,403*l.*

The result of the transfer of the Savings Bank to West Kensington has proved satisfactory from every point of view. The new building appears to be admirably adapted to the needs of the Bank; and the ampler accommodation now provided has undoubtedly conduced to the comfort and health of the staff, as well as to economy as regards supervision. Removal of Bank to West Kensington.

TELEGRAPHS.

During the year under review 89,997,000 telegrams passed over the Post Office wires, as compared with 92,471,000 in 1902-3, a decrease of 2·7 per cent. Statistics. See also Appendix H., pp. 66-7.

The decrease is no doubt partly due to trade, and especially Stock Exchange, depression; but probably the principal cause is

the growth of the telephone system. This is to be expected, when it is remembered that a single telephone conversation often takes the place of two or more telegrams.

The following table gives the number and value of each kind of telegram, together with the corresponding totals for the previous year :—

Class of Telegram.	Number.			Receipts.		
	1902-3.	1903-4.	(+) Increase or (-) Decrease.	1902-3.	1903-4.	(+) Increase or (-) Decrease.
Ordinary - -	75,883,000	73,827,000	- 2,056,000	£ 2,317,834	£ 2,235,643	- £ 82,191
Press - -	6,453,000	6,322,000	- 131,000	143,740	141,496	- 2,244
Foreign - -	7,901,000	7,832,000	+ 31,000	376,299	378,082	+ 1,783
Railway, free - -	1,411,000	1,440,000	+ 29,000	—	—	—
„ reduced rate	30,000	30,000	—	556	541	- 15
Government, free - -	793,000	446,000	- 347,000	—	—	—
Totals - -	92,471,000	89,997,000	- 2,474,000	2,833,429	2,755,732	- 82,697

The estimated value of the railway free telegrams is 59,100*l.* and that of the Government free telegrams 23,200*l.*, as against 57,616*l.* and 46,622*l.* respectively in 1902-3. The number of Government telegrams was abnormally large in 1902-3 in consequence of the illness of the King and the duplicated preparations for the Coronation.

The number of ordinary inland telegrams was lower in each of the first 10 months of the year than in the corresponding month last year; and the number of telegrams sent from the Stock Exchange during the year was 3,130,000, as compared with 3,727,000 in 1902-3. During the last two months, however, there have been signs of a revival of business activity.

The only notable occasion in the year on which there was an exceptional increase in the telegrams was on December 17th, when nearly 90,000 telegrams relating to the Encyclopædia Britannica were handed in; these were despatched without delay and without interference with the ordinary traffic.

Press telegrams.

The average number of words per week in press telegrams during the year was 14,588,458, as compared with 14,890,712 in 1902-3.

Alteration of charges.

In May last the fee for a receipt for a telegram was reduced from 2*d.* to 1*d.*; and the charge of 1*d.* made upon an unopened telegram re-directed by post was discontinued.

In July arrangements were made for the immediate refundment, subject to a deduction of 2*d.*, of the sum paid for a telegram cancelled by the sender before transmission has actually begun.

The telegraph has been extended during the year to 199 New tele-
Post Offices in country districts and in the growing suburban graph offices.
areas of the larger towns. Guarantees have been given for 137
of the new telegraph offices—49 by local authorities and 88 by
private persons. There are now in the United Kingdom 9,976
telegraph offices at Post Offices, and 2,357 at railway stations
and other public places.

A largely increased number of bicycles have been supplied Delivery of
for use in the delivery of telegrams, especially in country telegrams by
districts. The system has proved both advantageous to the bicycle.
public and economical to the Department; and I propose to
extend it wherever the conditions are suitable.

Several new circuits have been erected for the purpose of Additional
providing more direct communication between provincial towns; lines.
and a marked improvement in the service will, I hope, be
effected.

The Metropolitan intercommunication system installed last Intercom-
year, under which, by means of an arrangement analogous to a munication
telephone switchboard, telegrams are sent direct from one office between
to another without re-transmission at the Central Telegraph Metropolitan
Office, continues to give satisfaction, and arrangements are offices.
being made for a considerable extension of the system. From
3,000 to 4,000 telegrams have passed daily between the offices
connected in this manner, and a considerable saving in time has
resulted.

The proposals set forth in my predecessor's report of last Underground
year with regard to the underground cable from London to lines.
the North have been carried into effect: the line of pipes
is now completed as far as Carlisle: further north a section
19 miles in length has been laid across the Beattock incline:
and a spur line of two pipes has been laid from Manchester to
Leeds. A temporary cable has been provided over 25 miles of
this latter section, the permanent cable has been carried
northwards for a long distance on the main route, and provision
has been made this year for carrying it as far as Carlisle. The
laying of pipes as far as Glasgow is also contemplated. In order
that the various sections of the underground system may be
more readily available in case of damage to overhead lines, it
has been decided to modify the scheme outlined in the Post-
master General's report of 29th July 1902, and to carry the line
direct to Glasgow, extending it thence to Edinburgh, instead of
laying branches from Lanark to Glasgow and Edinburgh. This
arrangement will also afford additional means of direct commu-
nication between Edinburgh and Glasgow; and the means of
communication between Dundee and Aberdeen will be reinforced
by the underground wires as far as Larbert.

On Saturday, the 31st October, this country was visited by Magnetic ~
a magnetic storm of exceptional violence, which set up earth- storm of 31st
October 1903.

currents of considerable extent. The disturbances continued throughout the day and seriously affected telegraphic communication in all parts of the country. There was no interference, however, with the working of telephone circuits, because they are all composed of two wires and are free from connection with the earth. Devices were applied for diminishing the effects of the storm and communication was kept open; but some delay occurred in disposing of the traffic, which, as usual on Saturdays, was very heavy, and was increased by the press messages sent in connection with three political speeches.

Storms of this nature occur in England only at long intervals, and as a rule their effect is not wide-spread. The last occasion on which interruption of any magnitude occurred from this cause was shortly after the acquisition of the telegraphs by the State in 1870.

Wayleave
difficulties.

I observe with much concern a growing tendency on the part of local authorities, both in the Metropolis and in the provinces, to attach onerous conditions to the consents granted by them for the erection of overhead lines. Many of these are inconsistent with the statutory right of the Postmaster General to use the public highways for his telegraphs, and in three instances during the past year it has been necessary as a last resource to appeal to the Courts.

Protection
against
power
currents.

The protection of the telegraphs against the powerful currents used for lighting and traction purposes continues to demand careful attention; but it is satisfactory to find that the precautions taken have so far prevented any serious damage to Post Office property or interference with the telegraph and telephone services.

FOREIGN TELEGRAPHS.

International
Telegraph
Conference.

After having been postponed on account of the death of Queen Victoria, and again because of the King's coronation, the International Telegraph Conference met in London on the 26th May 1903, and its labours terminated on the 10th July. The Conference was attended by 72 delegates and attachés representing the various States adhering to the International Telegraph Convention, and by representatives of Cable Companies, as well as by the principal officials of the International Telegraph Bureau.

The delegates of this country were:—Mr. J. C. Lamb, C.B., C.M.G., Mr. John Ardron, Mr. P. Benton, Mr. R. J. Mackay, and Mr. F. W. Home, with Mr. E. Raven as secretary to the delegation; and the Post Office also supplied three secretaries for the conference, viz.: Mr. N. Hautrive, Mr. J. I. De Wardt, and Mr. J. F. Lamb.

The British delegates also jointly represented Cape Colony and Natal. Mr. Ardron further represented Crete, and Mr. Mackay was also joint delegate for New Zealand.

Mr. J. C. Lamb was president of the conference, and Mr. Ardron and Mr. Benton vice-presidents.

Numerous and important changes were made in the regulations annexed to the Convention, with the object of simplifying and improving the transmission of telegrams. The following may be mentioned as among those which chiefly affect the commercial community.

As the result of previous conferences, an official collection of code words, known as the "Official Vocabulary," had been prepared by the International Telegraph Bureau, and it was proposed that the use of this vocabulary should become compulsory. Much dissatisfaction with the vocabulary had, however, been expressed by Chambers of Commerce; and my predecessor decided that the delegates of this country were to do what they could to secure freedom. The matter gave rise to prolonged discussion at the conference, and serious opposition was encountered; but eventually the views of this country prevailed, and the proposal that the use of words drawn from the vocabulary should be made compulsory was rescinded. Not only so, but the field of selection was widened by the admission of artificial words pronounceable in accordance with the usage of one of the eight languages from which ordinary code words may be selected. This result has been received with general satisfaction by business men.

Official
vocabulary
for code
telegrams.

It was also decided to admit letter-cypher (which has hitherto been prohibited altogether in the international system) at the rate of five letters to the word. This will include commercial expressions and groups of letters in the text of telegrams which hitherto have either been inadmissible or chargeable at a much higher rate.

Letter
cypher.

Where the name of a country, county, or province is necessary in the address of a foreign telegram in order to distinguish a particular town from others of the same name, it will in future be allowed to pass free of charge if joined to the name of the town so as to form one word.

Names of
towns in the
address.

The rules as to the reimbursement of telegraph charges in cases of erroneous transmission were made more liberal. Hitherto the sender of a mutilated telegram has had no right to reimbursement, or even to an investigation of his complaint, unless, by prepayment of an additional quarter rate, he had secured the repetition of the telegram to ensure accuracy. The right to claim reimbursement in cases of serious mutilation has now been extended to the senders of all telegrams in plain language, whether repetition has been paid for or not, and the introduction of this change will remove a fruitful source of

Reimburse-
ment of
charges.

public dissatisfaction. Further ameliorations of a similar character in the interests of the public were also arranged.

**Telegraph
tariffs.**

The question of tariffs received considerable attention. An effort was made by the British delegation to secure a reduction in the charges made by European States for the transmission of Extra-European telegrams to the level of those charged for European telegrams, and generally to bring about an assimilation in all respects of the European and Extra-European régimes.

The justice of the proposal was generally admitted, but almost all the large European States declared their inability to agree to it, on account of the heavy financial loss which it would entail. A modified proposal was then submitted, and was approved by the majority of the representatives; but opposition was still offered by certain of the large European States, and eventually it was agreed, after prolonged debate, that the States in question should be treated exceptionally—the remainder binding themselves to charge a reduced rate. To bring some of the States to agree, the British delegates had to act as intermediaries between their representatives and the Cable Companies. In this manner substantial benefits were secured for the public and the way was paved for further reforms.

**Reductions
of rate.**

The reductions in charge actually arranged as the result of the deliberations of the conference were as follows:—

Rate per Word to—	From	To
	<i>s. d.</i>	<i>s. d.</i>
Europe:		
Bosnia-Herzegovina - - - - -	0 4	0 3½
Crete - - - - -	0 6½	0 6
Cyprus - - - - -	1 7	1 5
Gibraltar - - - - -	0 3½	0 8
Greece and Greek Islands - - - - -	0 6½	0 6
Malta - - - - -	0 6	0 4½
Montenegro - - - - -	0 4	0 3½
Portugal - - - - -	0 3½	0 3
Russia - - - - -	0 5½	0 4½
Spain - - - - -	0 3½	0 8
Africa:		
Egypt (Alexandria) - - - - -	1 7	1 5
Suakin - - - - -	2 6	2 0
Egypt:		
First region, including Cairo and Suez - - - - -	1 10	1 5
Second region - - - - -	2 0	1 10
Third region - - - - -	2 3	2 0
Morocco:	<i>s. d.</i>	<i>s. d.</i>
Tangier - - - - -	0 5	0 4½
Spanish Possessions - - - - -	0 3½	0 3
Tripoli - - - - -	0 8½	0 7
West Coast:		
British Possessions:		
Gold Coast:		
Accra and Sekondi - - - - -	5 7	4 8
Other places - - - - -	5 9	4 10

Rate per Word to—	From	To
<i>Africa, &c.—continued.</i>	<i>s. d.</i>	<i>s. d.</i>
Nigeria :		
Brass, Bouny, and Lagos - - - -	6 3	5 0
Other places - - - -	6 5	5 2
Sierra Leone - - - -	4 6	3 6
French Possessions :		
Dahomey - - - -	6 3	5 0
French Congo - - - -	6 9	5 5
French Guinea :		
Conakry - - - -	4 6	3 6
Other places - - - -	4 7	3 7
Ivory Coast :		
Grand Bassam - - - -	5 0	4 6
Other places - - - -	5 2	4 8
German Possessions :		
Cameroons - - - -	6 5	5 2
Togoland :		
Viâ Gold Coast - - - -	5 11	5 0
Viâ Dahomey - - - -	6 6	5 2
<i>Asia :</i>		
Annam - - - -	5 3	4 5
British Borneo :		
Labuan - - - -	5 0	3 6
Other places - - - -	5 3	3 8
China and Hong Kong - - - -	5 6	4 5
Cochin China - - - -	4 6	3 10
Corea :		
Chemulpo, Fusan, and Seoul :		
Viâ Great Northern Company - - - -	6 2	4 10
Viâ Eastern Company - - - -	7 9	5 8
Viâ Indo-European Company - - - -		
Other places :		
Viâ Great Northern Company - - - -	6 6	5 2
Viâ Eastern Company - - - -	8 1	5 11
Viâ Indo-European Company - - - -		
Formosa - - - -	6 2	4 10
Hedjaz - - - -	3 9	3 3
Japan :		
Viâ Great Northern Company - - - -	6 2	4 10
Viâ Eastern Company - - - -	7 9	5 8
Viâ Indo-European Company - - - -		
Philippine Islands :		
Luzon - - - -	5 9	4 5
Other islands - - - -	6 2	4 10
Russia-in-Asia (Second Region) - - - -	1 3	1 0
Siam :		
Viâ Saigon - - - -	5 0	4 3
Viâ Moulmein - - - -	3 10	3 3
Tonquin - - - -	5 6	4 5

Detailed provisions as to the transmission of press telegrams during the night at half rates have been introduced into the Regulations. These provisions are optional, but their insertion is to be welcomed as leading the way to a more general adoption of the system of half rates for press telegrams by the European States.

The question of telephonic communication between the various States was discussed, and provisions governing the service were agreed upon. The Regulations follow almost

entirely on the lines of the Anglo-French and Anglo-Belgian Telephone Conventions; and their adoption by the Conference will undoubtedly add to the efficiency of the service. It emphasises the fact that the telephone has ceased to be regarded merely as a means of local communication, and that it has now taken its place in the international system.

**International
Conference
on Wireless
Telegraphy.**

A preliminary International Conference on Wireless Telegraphy met in Berlin on the 4th August 1903 and terminated on the 13th August. This country was represented by delegates from the Post Office, the War Office, and the Admiralty, the representatives of the Post Office being Mr. J. C. Lamb, C.B., C.M.G.; Mr. John Gavey, C.B.; and Mr. R. J. Mackay.

The principal recommendations of the conference were:—

- (1) That shore signal stations fitted with wireless apparatus should be bound to exchange messages with ships at sea without regard to the system of wireless telegraphy employed by the latter.
- (2) That the rate of charge for each shore station should be subject to the approval of the State on whose territory the station is erected, and the rate for each ship to the approval of the State whose flag it carries.
- (3) That the working of the wireless stations should be organised as far as possible in such a way as not to interfere with that of other stations.

The delegates of this country took an active part in the discussions and helped to shape the conclusions arrived at; but they were not able to commit themselves to the recommendations, and signed the report under a general reservation.

The whole subject of wireless telegraphy has received careful and close attention in conjunction with the other Government Departments concerned. There are paramount strategical reasons for securing to the Government an adequate control of installations for wireless telegraphy; and I have recently introduced in the House of Commons a Bill for the purpose of requiring all wireless stations to be licensed.

**American
Pacific Cable.**

The American Pacific Cable from San Francisco to the Philippines, which was laid as far as Honolulu in January 1903, has been completed, via Midway and Guam Islands, and was opened for traffic on 25th July 1903.

TELEPHONES.

Trunk lines.

On the 31st March last the number of Post Office trunk wire centres was 336, an increase of 41 in the year. The total number of trunk circuits in use was 1,418, as compared with 1,309

in the preceding year. The number of new circuits opened for traffic during the year was therefore 109. The total length of the trunk circuits in use was 51,400 miles, containing about 102,800 miles of wire. The capital expenditure on the purchase and development of the trunk wire system up to the 31st March last was 2,200,024*l.*, including an expenditure during the year of 108,607*l.* The Telegraph (Money) Act of this Session authorised the raising of a further sum of 3,000,000*l.* on the development of the telephone system of the country. Of this sum about 1,300,000*l.* will be required for the extension of the trunk wire system, and about 1,700,000*l.* for the development of the exchange system in London and the provinces.

The total number of trunk line conversations during the year was 13,467,975. The corresponding number for the preceding year was 11,574,229; and the increase in the year was thus 1,893,746, which is at the rate of 16·3 per cent. The gross revenue from this service was 325,525*l.*, as compared with 274,835*l.*, the increase being at the rate of 18·4 per cent. The average value of each conversation was 5·8*d.* Seven years ago the average value was 5·02*d.* This increase corresponds with a greater use of the trunk lines between more distant towns.

Trunk line
conversations.

Telephonic communication between London and Brussels was established on the 8th June 1903, and the service was extended to certain provincial centres in England and Belgium on the 1st October 1903. The charge is 8*s.* for a conversation of three minutes. Two telephone circuits have been provided between London and Brussels, and are working in a satisfactory manner.

International
telephone
lines.

The extension of the Anglo-French telephone service to the principal provincial towns in England and France, which had been arranged for in the year under review, was carried out on the 11th April 1904. The service is limited solely by the electrical conditions, and it will be extended as they are improved.

An arrangement has been made whereby conversations over the Anglo-French and Anglo-Belgian circuits can be obtained between the hours of 9 p.m. and 7 a.m. for double periods of six minutes at the same rates as for conversations of three minutes during the day, by callers who contract for one or more calls each night for a period of at least one month.

Experiments have been conducted during the year with a view to the establishment of telephonic communication between London and Holland. The results were such as to show that it is not at present practicable to construct a cable at reasonable cost which will enable direct telephonic communication to be established and maintained satisfactorily.

New Post Office exchanges.

Post Office exchanges in connection with the trunk line system were opened during the year at the following places:—

Aberystwyth.	Hatch End.	Richmond (Yorkshire).
Anmanford.	Hayes.	Rickmansworth.
Antrim.	Hillingdon.	Ross (Hereford).
Atherstone.	Horley.	Royston.
Auchtermuchty.	Innellan.	Sandbach.
Ballymena.	Kells (Antrim).	Scunthorpe.
Barnard Castle.	Kenfig Hill.	Seaton Sluice.
Beaufort.	Kingskettle.	Sible Hedingham.
Blaengwynfi.	Llandilo.	St. Athan.
Bognor.	Llanidloes.	Strichen.
Bourne.	Machynlleth.	Torksey.
Brigg.	Memsie.	Treorchy.
Castleton.	Montgomery.	Upper Brynamman.
Clutton.	Mostyn.	Walton-on-the-Naze.
Cranleigh.	New Pitsligo.	Waunllwyd.
Daventry.	Newtown (Mont.).	Welshpool.
Easington.	Northwood.	Wooler.
Ebchester.	Pentewan.	Yiewsley.
Farndon.	Peterston-super-Ely.	Ynysybwl.
Frinton-on-Sea.	Pinner.	
Garnant.	Ponteland.	
Halstead.	Pontyclun.	

Other trunk line extensions.

At nearly all of these places there was previously no telephone service. Numerous other exchanges are in course of construction.

The telephone trunk system was also extended, under guarantees given by the National Telephone Company, to Naas and West Kilbride.

Provincial exchanges.

The sum received as rentals of Post Office Provincial Telephone Exchange circuits and of private wires was 206,786*l.*, as compared with 194,429*l.* for the previous year.

The total number of subscribers to the Post Office Provincial Telephone Exchanges on the 31st March was 5,253; and the number of telephones rented increased in the year from 5,218 to 6,874.

The experiment has been tried of establishing a telephone call office system in rural districts with the aid of the public telegraph circuits, with a view to ascertain what demand there is for telephonic facilities between market towns and the surrounding villages. The places selected for the experiment were Oakham in England, Fraserburgh in Scotland, and Cavan in Ireland; but the system has been little used by the public up to the present, and the receipts have not covered the cost of attendance and maintenance.

London telephone service.

The number of telephones in connection with the Post Office London Telephone system increased during the year from 9,122 to 15,632; and additional subscribers are being connected at

the rate of from 100 to 200 a week. Three new exchanges have been opened during the year.

The following table shows the number of subscribers' telephones working on the 31st March:—

Name of Exchange.	Date of Opening.	Subscribers' Telephones Working.	
		On March 31, 1904.	On March 31, 1903.
Central - - -	1st March 1902 - - -	10,541	7,054
Chiswick - - -	3rd June 1903 - - -	208	—
Croydon - - -	26th January 1904 - - -	62	—
Kingston - - -	20th May 1902 - - -	339	233
Mayfair - - -	20th October 1903 - - -	1,057	—
Putney - - -	20th May 1902 - - -	382	240
Richmond - - -	7th November 1902 - - -	289	163
Victoria - - -	12th August 1902 - - -	1,169	618
Western - - -	5th August 1902 - - -	1,380	651
Wimbledon - - -	6th August 1902 - - -	255	163
Total - - -		15,632	9,122

The accommodation at the Central Exchange will be nearly exhausted in the course of the financial year 1904-5; and the construction of a second exchange with a maximum capacity of 18,000 lines is in progress.

The trunk wire exchange in London was transferred in February last from the Central Telegraph Office to the General Post Office (South), where the Central Exchange is situated. An entirely new switchboard was designed for the trunk wire exchange; and the working of the trunk system has been materially improved by the modifications introduced.

The length of the underground pipes which had been laid in the London area on the 31st March last was 1,146 miles, and cables containing 125,717 miles of wire have been provided, including 32,248 miles provided for the use of the National Telephone Company on rental terms pending the transfer of the Company's system to the Post Office. The lines of the present subscribers and the junction lines between exchanges have absorbed 43,335 miles; and 50,134 miles of wire remain available for the further development of the London service.

Extent and cost of underground system.

On an average, each circuit directly connected with an exchange has involved the provision of $1\frac{1}{2}$ miles of double wire, if allowance be made for the junction lines between exchanges. This is an increase on the average length given in my predecessor's report (1.35 miles): the greater length being due to the greater average distance of subscribers' premises from exchanges, as well as to the increasing number of junction lines required for calls between subscribers of different exchanges. Owing to the great extent of the London exchange area, and

the number of its local exchanges, the proportion of junction lines required is probably greater than in any other local exchange system in the world; and this fact will always make the cost of the service comparatively high. The average cost of construction has increased since the last report from 18*l.* 11*s.* 4*d.* per mile of double wire to 18*l.* 16*s.* 10*d.* Including the cost of installation of telephone instruments and of exchange apparatus the total cost of each subscriber's line has increased from 38*l.* 6*s.* 3*d.* to 41*l.* 9*s.* 8*d.* This does not include the cost of the spare wires which are necessary for the maintenance of an exchange system in an efficient state, or of the ducts, cables, and exchange plant intended to provide for the future development of the system and not yet brought into use.

Revenue and expenditure.

An account of the receipts and expenditure relating to the London service for the year ending 31st March 1904 is printed in Appendix O on page 91. It shows a balance of 33,515*l.* available for meeting the charge for interest on capital and for making provision for depreciation of plant. The capital expenditure to the 31st March last was 1,514,300*l.* It must, however, be remembered that a large part of the plant which has been constructed has not yet been brought into use, and is earning no revenue. This must happen in all cases where large underground systems are provided to meet future requirements; and the great extent of the London system makes it more noticeable in London than elsewhere. The proportion of revenue available, after paying working expenses, for the payment of interest on capital and as a sinking fund ought, however, to increase each year.

Municipal telephones.

I have not granted any licenses during the year for the establishment of municipal exchange systems; but exchanges have been opened by the Corporations of Brighton and Swansea in virtue of licenses previously granted, and considerable extensions have been made in the exchange systems of the Corporations of Glasgow and Portsmouth.

Telephone royalty.

The amount of royalty received during the year from the National Telephone Company was 169,853*l.*, and the amount from other licensees was 6,206*l.*

POST OFFICE BUILDINGS.

New and enlarged offices.

At the commencement of the year under review the business of the Savings Bank was transferred from the old premises in Queen Victoria Street to the new buildings at West Kensington, provided at a cost of 45,000*l.* for site and about 292,650*l.* for buildings, fittings, and furniture. The premises thus vacated have been occupied by the Central Telephone Exchange and the Money Order Department, with the latter of which the Postal Order Branch has been amalgamated.

In view of the need for improved accommodation for sorting work at the General Post Office East, arrangements have been

made to acquire nearly the whole of the site (or about $3\frac{1}{2}$ acres) formerly occupied by Christ's Hospital. Arrangements have also been made to acquire a new site for the Western District Office and for a Sorting Office at Manchester, the work in both cases having outgrown the existing accommodation. Progress has been made with schemes for the acquisition of additional ground for the new Head Post Office at Sheffield, and for the enlargement of three of the principal District Offices in London—the Eastern District Office, the South-Eastern District Office, and the Paddington Office; and also for the enlargement of the Head Post Office at Bristol.

A new Chief Office for the Northern District of London, a new Parcel Office in Union Street, S.E., to take the place of the existing offices at London Bridge and Waterloo, and a new building at Islington for Postal Stores have been begun during the year; and considerable progress has also been made with the construction of Telephone Exchanges in London and the provinces.

During the year 135 Crown Post Office buildings have been provided, of which 75 are new offices specially erected for Post Office purposes; 28 Crown Post Offices have been enlarged or improved; and 117 are in course of erection or enlargement.

The expenditure out of the Post Office votes for the purchase of sites and buildings during the year amounted to 226,327*l.*, as against 152,186*l.* in 1902-3. The expenditure in London was 74,217*l.* Expenditure.

During the year the expenditure by the Commissioners of Works and Public Buildings on new Post Office buildings and on the enlargement and maintenance of existing buildings amounted to 386,017*l.* in Great Britain and 37,029*l.* in Ireland. The corresponding figures for the previous year were 271,606*l.* and 25,027*l.* The increased provision which your Lordships were pleased to make for sites and buildings rendered it possible to meet urgent requirements which had been held in suspense for some years; and the still larger appropriations available for the current year will enable further and more rapid progress to be made in this direction.

POST OFFICES AND LETTER BOXES.

The total number of Post Offices open on the 31st March last was made up as follows:—

—	London.	England and Wales.	Scotland.	Ireland.	Total.
Head Offices -	11	615	141	121	888
Branch Offices -	111	121	30	11	273
Town Sub-Offices -	901	4,105	350	210	5,566
Country Sub-Offices -	—	11,623	1,828	2,672	16,123
Totals -	1,023	16,464	2,349	3,014	22,850

The total includes 213 additional offices opened during the year. Of the 22,850 offices, 14,438 are open for Money Order and Savings Bank business, and 9,976 for Telegraph business, which is also transacted at 2,357 railway stations.

The number of letter boxes was increased during the year from 36,141 to 37,521.

STAFF.

Numbers.
See also
Appendix F.
pp. 59-60.

The number of persons on the establishment of the Post Office is 81,865, of whom 11,092 are women. The number added during the year was 2,313.

In addition, there are 106,166 persons filling unestablished situations (some of them employed only for a portion of the day), of whom 28,170 are women. The number added during the year to the unestablished force was 2,123.

The total number of persons employed wholly or in part in the Post Office is thus 188,031.

Dismissals.

The number of persons dismissed during the year was 785, while 199 were deprived of good conduct stripes. The corresponding figures for 1902-3 were 962 and 253. Dishonesty accounts for 30 per cent. of the whole number of dismissals. Intemperance is responsible for 21 per cent. of the dismissals and 67 per cent. of the losses of good conduct stripes.

Committee
on Post Office
Wages.

A committee was appointed by my predecessor in August 1903, "to enquire into the scales of pay received by the undermentioned classes of Established Post Office Servants, and to report whether, having regard to the conditions of their employment and to the rates current in other occupations, the remuneration of (a) Postmen, (b) Sorters (London), (c) Telegraphists (London), (d) Sorting Clerks and Telegraphists (Provincial) is adequate." The committee was composed of Sir Edward Bradford (chairman), Mr. Charles Booth, Mr. Thomas Brodrick, Mr. R. Burbidge, and Mr. Samuel Fay. As your Lordships are aware, I have received the report of the committee, and have laid it before Parliament, together with the evidence. It will be my duty to submit recommendations as to the manner in which the report should be dealt with; and I confine myself at present to pointing out that the report departs in many respects from the terms of reference, and that, if it were carried out as it stands, it would involve a very heavy burden upon the taxpayer.

Sub-Post-
masters.

A more liberal system of remuneration for Sub-Postmasters has with your Lordships' sanction been introduced, which will specially benefit the smaller offices.

Retiring
gratuities
to unesta-
blished
officers.

Although not affecting the year under review, it may not be out of place to refer to the scheme which has recently been sanctioned for awarding a retiring gratuity under certain conditions to unestablished officers of the Post Office who are

not entitled to a pension under the Superannuation Acts, and whose circumstances appear to be such as to call for such a grant. The scheme came into operation on the 1st April 1904.

In April 1900 a system was introduced under which the Army and Navy pensions of Pensioners employed in the Post Office, formerly paid by quarterly instalments, are paid weekly along with the wages earned in the Post Office. This system was extended in April 1903 to the reserve pay of Army Reservists similarly employed, its application to these men having been deferred owing to their being called out for active service in South Africa. The number of Army and Navy Pensioners and Army Reservists who are now paid their pensions and reserve pay under this system is about 3,000 ; and the result both to the Department and the men is satisfactory.

Army re-servists in Post Office employ.

I have recently sanctioned an arrangement under which ex-soldiers and reservists in the employment of the Post Office are encouraged to wear their war medals when in uniform. This arrangement has given general satisfaction to the men concerned.

War medals.

The Post Office medical system was instituted, as your Lordships are aware, in 1855, when a medical officer was appointed in London to give medical attendance to Post Office servants, to examine candidates for appointment, to prevent officers absenting themselves from duty on a false or insufficient plea of illness, and to report on the sanitary condition of Post Offices.

Post Office medical system.

Medical officers were subsequently appointed at a few of the larger provincial towns, and the system has since then been gradually extended to most Head Post Offices, and to a few of the larger Sub-Offices.

On the 31st December last there were 671 medical officers, and the number of Post Office servants directly under their care was 92,734.

Until quite recently it has been made a condition of the appointment of a medical officer to any Post Office that the number of the staff entitled to free medical assistance should be at least twenty ; but the system has proved so satisfactory in providing the lower-paid servants of the Post Office with skilled medical attendance free of charge and in checking malingering that my predecessor urged its extension to all Post Offices, provided that properly qualified medical practitioners could be found willing to undertake the duties.

Arrangements have now been made for carrying the proposed extension into effect. A large number of new appointments have already been made ; and during the present year the number of medical officers will be still further increased.

HEALTH OF THE STAFF.

The health of the staff during 1903 was generally good. Smallpox was prevalent in the United Kingdom during the year, and five established and one unestablished officer took the disease. All the cases were, however, of a mild character. Eleven deaths and eight cases of retirement were due to influenza; and seventy deaths and one hundred and nineteen retirements to tubercular diseases. The deaths and retirements from tubercular diseases were considerably above the average, a fact which the chief medical officer attributes to the exceptional and prolonged rains of 1902 and 1903, which brought about atmospheric conditions conducive to the development and progress of consumption.

Sick absence. The figures in the following table and in the second and third tables of Appendix F. relate only to the staff under the care of the 671 departmental medical officers, namely, 88,939 men (59,499 established and 29,440 unestablished) and 11,823 women (10,200 established and 1,623 unestablished):—

Established Staff.						
	Percentage of Sick Absentees.		Average Amount of Sick Absence per Sick Officer (in days).		Average Absence per Officer employed (in days).	
	Men.	Women.	Men.	Women.	Men.	Women.
England—						
Chief Office - -	55	77	11·5	13·5	6·4	10·4
Metropolitan Districts	58	78	14·1	15·3	8·2	12·0
Country - -	46	61	16·5	17·7	7·7	10·8
Scotland - -	37	54	17·0	16·0	6·3	8·6
Ireland - -	57	74	18·1	21·4	10·3	16·1

Unestablished Staff.						
	Percentage of Sick Absentees.		Average Amount of Sick Absence per Sick Officer (in days).		Average Absence per Officer employed (in days).	
	Men.	Women.	Men.	Women.	Men.	Women.
England—						
Chief Office - -	59	67	8·8	13·9	5·2	9·3
Metropolitan Districts	49	51	9·0	9·0	4·5	4·7
Country - -	39	38	11·3	13·2	4·4	5·1
Scotland - -	43	35	9·5	13·0	4·1	4·5
Ireland - -	46	38	9·5	18·9	4·4	7·3

Statements as to the diseases which led to death and retirement during 1903 at places where there are departmental medical officers are given in Appendix F. **Deaths and retirements. See also Appendix F., pp. 61-4.**

The following tables relate to the established staff throughout the United Kingdom, that is, to the men and women who give their whole time to the Post Office services:—

Deaths.

Number of Deaths.		Death Rate per 1,000.		Average Age at Death (in years).		Average Length of Service (in years).	
Men.	Women.	Men.	Women.	Men.	Women.	Men.	Women.
228	14	8·3	1·3	37	33	15·2	12·6

Retirements.

	Number of Persons.		Average Age on Retirement (in years).		Average Length of Service (in years).	
	Men.	Women.	Men.	Women.	Men.	Women.
Invalided - -	611	121	41	34	19·6	15·0
Superannuated at age of 60 and upwards.	208	6	61	61	25·8	32·5

The number of women who retired on marriage in 1903 was 238, with an average age of 28 and an average service of nine years. **Retirement on marriage.**

The number of candidates for Post Office employment medically examined by the Department's medical officers was 5,599 men and 1,205 women, of whom 460 men (8·2 per cent.) and 163 women (13·5 per cent.) were rejected. **Medical examination of candidates.**

FINANCE.

The postal revenue of the year, including the value of services rendered to other Departments, was 15,824,394*l.*, an increase of 819,132*l.* on that of the previous year. The postal expenditure was 11,180,087*l.*, an increase of 360,149*l.* on that of the previous year. The net profit was thus 4,644,307*l.*, or 458,983*l.* more than last year. **See also Appendices Q., R., S., and T., pp. 93-7.**

The telegraph revenue of the year, 3,736,115*l.*, shows an increase of 12,249*l.*, and the telegraph expenditure, 4,719,796*l.*,

an increase of 394,219*l.* upon the previous year. The net deficit on telegraphs was thus 983,681*l.*, or 381,970*l.* more than last year. If allowance be made for interest on the capital—10,867,644*l.*—created for the purchase of the telegraphs, the telegraph deficit on the year is raised to 1,282,541*l.*

These figures are, necessarily, partly estimated.

I have the honour to be,

My Lords,

Your Lordships' obedient Servant,

STANLEY.

9th August 1904.

A P P E N D I C E S.

APPENDIX A.

STATEMENT showing the ESTIMATED NUMBER OF LETTERS, POST CARDS, BOOK PACKETS and CIRCULARS, NEWSPAPERS, PARCELS, and TELEGRAMS dealt with, and the Average Number per Head of the Population for the year ended the 31st March 1904.

	Population.	Letters.		Post Cards.		Book Packets and Circulars.		Newspapers.		Parcels.		Telegrams.	
		No.	No. per Head of Population.	No.	No. per Head of Population.	No.	No. per Head of Population.	No.	No. per Head of Population.	No.	No. per Head of Population.	No.	No. per Head of Population.
England and Wales	33,474,200	2,213,300,000	66·3	517,100,000	15·4	693,300,000	20·7	133,600,000	4·0	78,215,000	2·3	75,537,000	2·3
Scotland	4,579,233	226,200,000	49·4	72,200,000	15·8	86,500,000	18·9	21,100,000	4·6	10,105,000	2·2	9,302,000	2·0
Ireland	4,411,542	163,100,000	34·7	24,400,000	5·5	40,600,000	9·2	20,100,000	4·6	6,102,000	1·4	5,138,000	1·2
Totals	42,461,965	2,597,600,000	61·3	613,700,000	14·5	820,400,000	19·3	174,800,000	4·1	94,425,000	2·2	89,987,000	2·1

Note.—Of the total yearly number of Letters, Post Cards, Book Packets, Newspapers, Parcels, and Telegrams, the percentage of each is as follows :—

Letters	59·3	Parcels	3·1
Post Cards	14·0	Telegrams	2·0
Newspapers	4·0		

APPENDIX A.—*continued.*

Letters Delivered.

STATEMENT showing the ESTIMATED NUMBER of Letters delivered in the UNITED KINGDOM in each of the last Ten Years.

Year.	England and Wales.				Scotland.	Ireland.	United Kingdom.	Increase per cent.	Average number to each person.
	Country Offices.	Increase per cent.	London District.	Increase per cent.	Total.	Increase per cent.			
1894-95	882,300,000	2·0	593,300,000	dec. 11·6	1,592,100,000	dec. 3·1	1,770,900,000	dec. 2·3	24
1895-96	1,021,300,000	2·8	537,500,000	inc. 5·8	1,553,800,000	inc. 3·8	1,834,200,000	inc. 3·6	25
1896-97	1,049,300,000	2·7	537,900,000	3·7	1,604,500,000	3·1	1,893,000,000	3·2	26
1897-98	1,120,300,000	6·8	530,900,000	6·0	1,711,900,000	6·5	2,012,300,000	6·3	27
1898-99	1,242,000,000	10·8	617,700,000	4·5	1,856,700,000	8·7	2,198,800,000	8·6	30
1899-1900	1,278,300,000	2·7	632,000,000	2·4	1,909,300,000	2·6	2,246,800,000	2·7	31
1900-01	1,312,700,000	2·9	684,300,000	5·0	1,977,000,000	3·6	2,523,600,000	3·4	32
1901-02	1,392,700,000	6·1	692,100,000	4·2	2,084,300,000	5·5	2,451,500,000	5·5	33
1902-03	1,463,800,000	5·2	742,000,000	7·2	2,207,800,000	5·9	2,579,500,000	5·2	34
1903-04	1,487,700,000	1·5	730,600,000	dec. 1·5	2,216,300,000	·5	2,597,600,000	·7	35

APPENDIX A—continued.

Post Cards Delivered.

STATEMENT showing the ESTIMATED NUMBER of POST CARDS delivered in the UNITED KINGDOM in each of the last Ten Years.

Year.	England and Wales.						Ireland.	In-crease per cent.	Average Number to each Person.	United Kingdom.	In-crease per cent.	Average Number to each Person.
	Country Offices.	In-crease per cent.	London District.	In-crease per cent.	Total.	In-crease per cent.						
1894-95	157,500,000	5·7	113,800,000	90·3 dec.	271,800,000	29·9 dec.	12,500,000	4·2	2·7	312,800,000	25·9	8·0
1895-96	181,300,000	14·9	87,000,000	23·6 inc.	268,300,000	1·2 inc.	14,000,000	12·0	3·1	314,500,000	·6	8·0
1896-97	192,600,000	6·2	94,500,000	8·4	293,900,000	6·9	15,200,000	8·6 dec.	3·3	336,500,000	7·0	8·5
1897-98	206,600,000	7·3	102,500,000	8·5	308,900,000	7·7	15,100,000	·7 inc.	3·3	360,400,000	7·1	9·0
1898-99	223,100,000	8·0	104,100,000	1·8	327,200,000	5·9	16,200,000	7·3	3·6	382,200,000	6·0	9·5
1899-1900	233,700,000	4·8	108,900,000	4·6	342,600,000	4·7	16,900,000	4·3	3·7	400,300,000	4·7	9·9
1900-01	244,600,000	4·7	114,800,000	5·4	359,400,000	4·9	18,000,000	6·5	4·0	419,000,000	4·7	10·2
1901-02	260,900,000	6·7	119,400,000	4·0	380,300,000	5·8	18,900,000	5·0	4·3	444,900,000	6·2	10·7
1902-03	286,200,000	9·7	122,700,000	8·6	415,900,000	9·4	19,500,000	3·2	4·4	468,900,000	9·9	11·6
1903-04	369,200,000	20·9	147,900,000	14·0	517,100,000	24·3	24,400,000	25·1	5·5	613,700,000	25·5	14·5

APPENDIX A.—*continued.***Book Packets and Circulars Delivered.**

STATEMENT showing the ESTIMATED NUMBER of BOOK PACKETS and CIRCULARS delivered in the UNITED KINGDOM in each of the last TEN YEARS. (The totals for the first three years include also Inland Samples.)

Year.	England and Wales.					Average Number to each Person.	Scotland.	Increase per cent.	Average Number to each Person.	Ireland.	Increase per cent.	Average Number to each Person.	United Kingdom.	Increase per cent.	Average Number to each Person.
	Country Offices.	Increase per cent.	London District.	Increase per cent.	Total.										
1894-95	378,400,000	5.3	144,100,000	10.6	522,500,000	17.3	60,800,000	8.2	14.7	31,300,000	10.2	6.8	614,600,000	7.0	15.1
1895-96	418,400,000	10.6	146,200,000	2.8 dec.	564,600,000	18.6	70,700,000	16.3	17.0	35,000,000	11.8	7.7	672,300,000	9.4	17.1
1896-97	439,700,000	5.1	143,600,000	3.1 inc.	583,300,000	18.9	75,400,000	6.6	18.0	39,200,000	12.0	8.6	687,900,000	3.8	17.6
1897-98	463,700,000	5.5 dec.	149,200,000	3.9 dec.	612,900,000	19.7	76,900,000	2.0 dec.	18.2	37,500,000	4.3	8.2	727,300,000	4.2 dec.	18.2
1898-99	446,600,000	3.0 inc.	131,300,000	5.3 inc.	590,900,000	18.8	75,100,000	2.3	17.7	35,500,000	5.3	7.8	701,500,000	3.5 inc.	17.4
1899-1900	451,600,000	.4	143,700,000	1.7	595,300,000	18.7	75,000,000	.1 inc.	17.5	32,500,000	8.5 inc.	7.2	702,800,000	.2	17.3
1900-01	466,600,000	3.3	152,700,000	6.3	619,300,000	19.2	77,800,000	3.7 dec.	18.0	35,300,000	8.6	7.8	732,400,000	4.3	17.9
1901-02	492,800,000	7.1	153,300,000	.4	653,100,000	20.0	76,000,000	2.3 inc.	16.9	37,100,000	5.1	8.4	768,200,000	4.6	18.4
1902-03	526,900,000	5.4	157,900,000	3.0	684,800,000	20.7	86,900,000	14.3 dec.	19.2	38,100,000	2.7	8.6	806,900,000	5.7	19.3
1903-04	533,800,000	1.3	158,500,000	1.0	693,300,000	20.7	86,500,000	.5	18.9	40,600,000	6.6	9.2	820,400,000	1.3	19.3

APPENDIX A.—*continued.*

Parcel Post.

STATEMENT showing the NUMBER of PARCELS DELIVERED in the UNITED KINGDOM, and the REVENUE derived from the PARCEL POST in each of the last ten Years.

Year	NUMBER OF PARCELS DELIVERED.										REVENUE.					
	ENGLAND AND WALES.					SCOTLAND.		IRELAND.		UNITED KINGDOM.		Postage.		Average Postage per Parcel.		
	Country Offices.		London District.		Total.	Number.	In-crease per cent.	Number.	In-crease per cent.	Number.	In-crease per cent.	Gross Amount.	55 per cent. borne on Railway-Parcels paid to Railway Companies.		Post Office Share.	Post Office Share.
	Number.	In-crease per cent.	Number.	In-crease per cent.												
1894-95	37,109,000	5·8	10,027,000	6·4	47,216,000	5·9	4·4	3,833,000	5·0	57,136,000	5·7	£ 1,235,367	£ 611,465	£ 673,902	d. 2·83	
1895-96	39,261,000	5·8	10,618,000	5·9	49,879,000	5·8	7·0	4,038,000	5·2	60,627,000	5·9	1,372,677	649,325	723,752	d. 2·86	
1896-97	41,512,000	5·5	11,220,000	5·8	52,731,000	5·5	4·5	4,172,000	3·3	63,715,000	5·2	1,445,126	681,319	763,307	d. 2·87	
1897-98	44,277,000	6·7	11,890,000	5·9	56,167,000	6·5	6·3	4,421,000	6·0	67,823,000	6·4	1,495,293	673,406	751,887	d. 2·88	
1898-99	46,387,000	5·9	12,615,000	6·1	58,992,000	5·9	7·3	4,641,000	4·9	71,913,000	6·0	1,498,069	706,752	792,367	d. 2·64	
1899-1900	49,046,000	4·6	13,414,000	6·6	62,460,000	5·0	4·4	4,890,000	4·7	75,448,000	4·9	1,580,508	742,215	838,293	d. 2·66	
1900-01	52,523,000	7·1	14,671,000	9·1	67,194,000	7·5	6·3	5,215,000	7·3	81,017,000	7·4	1,689,984	801,236	898,758	d. 2·68	
1901-02	56,051,000	6·8	15,742,000	7·3	71,793,000	6·9	7·2	5,552,000	6·5	86,602,000	6·9	1,821,976	859,603	962,373	d. 2·67	
1902-03	58,566,000	4·4	16,339,000	3·8	74,905,000	4·3	4·4	5,771,000	3·9	90,310,000	4·3	1,902,048	895,369	1,006,679	d. 2·67	
1903-04	61,356,000	4·8	16,863,000	3·2	78,219,000	4·4	4·9	6,102,000	5·7	94,426,000	4·6	1,994,454	938,173	1,056,283	d. 2·68	

APPENDIX A.—*continued.*

Registered Letters.

STATEMENT showing the NUMBER OF LETTERS REGISTERED by the Public in the UNITED KINGDOM in each of the last Ten Years.

YEAR.	ENGLAND AND WALES.						SCOTLAND.		IRELAND.		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.								
1894-05	-	-	6,435,761	1·5	3,606,333	3·8	10,092,094	2·3	1,089,695	dec. ·9	776,575	dec. ·002	11,958,264	1·8
1895-06	-	-	6,704,084	3·4	4,446,400	23·3	11,150,484	10·5	1,184,753	8·7	786,708	2·9	13,133,050	9·8
1896-07	-	-	6,919,295	3·2	4,469,428	1·2	11,418,723	2·4	1,206,831	1·9	813,181	1·8	13,456,735	2·3
1897-08	-	-	7,316,040	5·7	4,789,067	6·4	12,105,107	6·0	1,273,541	5·5	834,831	2·7	14,213,479	5·8
1898-99	-	-	7,817,938	6·9	5,174,092	8·0	12,992,060	7·3	1,368,732	7·5	879,987	5·4	15,340,669	7·2
1899-1900	-	-	8,359,899	6·9	5,555,544	7·4	13,915,443	7·1	1,438,530	5·1	902,979	2·0	16,256,852	6·7
1900-01	-	-	9,048,411	8·2	5,921,283	0·6	14,969,699	7·5	1,781,775	23·9	934,396	9·0	17,729,869	9·1
1901-02	-	-	9,553,006	5·6	6,100,963	4·6	15,743,989	5·2	2,027,342	13·8 dec.	1,023,983	4·5	18,800,313	6·0
1902-03	-	-	9,926,058	2·9 dec.	6,447,780	4·1	16,373,818	3·4 dec.	1,696,098	16·3 inc.	1,046,240	1·7	19,016,156	1·1
1903-04	-	-	9,745,096	·8	6,503,334	·8	16,247,429	·2	1,718,235	1·4	1,063,460	1·0	19,029,114	·1

APPENDIX A.—*continued.***Registered Letters.**

STATEMENT showing the NUMBER of LETTERS REGISTERED, at each FEE, by the PUBLIC in the UNITED KINGDOM in each of the last TEN YEARS.

YEAR.	AMOUNT OF FEE.													TOTAL.
	2d.	3d.	4d.	5d.	6d.	7d.	8d.	9d.	10d.	11d.	1s.	1s. 1d.	1s. 2d.	
	LIMIT OF COMPENSATION.													
	*£5.	*£10.	*£15.	*£20.	*£25.	*£30.	*£35.	*£40.	*£45.	*£50.	†£50.	†£100.	†£110.	
	†£5.	†£10.	†£20.	†£30.	†£40.	†£50.	†£60.	†£70.	†£80.	†£90.	†£100.	†£110.	†£120.	
1894-95	11,861,303	46,026	16,315	11,308	8,180	3,623	1,949	1,892	907	6,861				11,968,204
1895-96	13,028,182	49,208	18,207	12,698	8,252	4,281	2,164	2,201	932	7,805				13,133,050
1896-97	13,333,737	48,066	18,106	12,472	8,631	4,160	2,185	2,488	1,085	7,865				13,438,735
1897-98	14,105,415	49,516	17,945	12,932	8,512	4,650	2,074	2,455	1,107	8,813				14,213,479
1898-99	15,118,316	55,627	29,482	13,302	7,757	5,969	2,603	1,515	1,006	2,500	1,614	240	1,358	15,240,669
1899-1900	16,127,080	58,921	33,425	13,214	7,785	6,184	2,056	1,277	1,127	1,050	2,543	299	1,941	16,246,932
1900-01	17,591,110	62,373	36,308	14,033	7,927	6,031	2,237	1,337	1,346	931	3,086	434	2,166	17,729,869
1901-02	18,659,927	62,745	36,134	14,752	8,168	6,505	2,229	1,281	1,367	910	3,207	522	2,546	18,900,313
1902-03	18,882,275	61,894	33,324	13,981	7,335	6,078	2,111	1,168	1,401	712	3,091	316	2,290	19,016,156
1903-04	18,905,338	55,641	30,842	13,327	6,871	5,837	2,109	1,173	1,373	561	3,300	328	2,416	19,029,114

* Limit of compensation up to 30th April 1898.

† Limit of compensation from 1st May 1898.

APPENDIX A.—*continued.*

Registered Parcels.
 STATEMENT showing the NUMBER of PARCELS REGISTERED by the PUBLIC in the UNITED KINGDOM in each of
 the last TEN YEARS.

YEAR.	ENGLAND AND WALES.					SCOTLAND.		IRELAND.		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.							
1894-95	352,274	20·0	164,727	14·3	517,001	18·1	18·4	35,014	51·5	690,718	19·7
1895-96	396,265	13·3	182,281	10·7	581,546	12·5	14·4	36,357	3·8	662,186	12·1
1896-97	437,451	9·6	253,360	41·7	685,811	19·6	13·2	39,053	7·4	784,990	18·5
1897-98	417,086	4·7	215,978	16·4	633,064	9·0	dec.	38,060	dec.	710,471	8·3
1898-99	459,555	10·2	212,963	1·4	672,518	6·2	inc.	39,764	inc.	761,801	8·9
1899-1900	523,077	13·8	218,051	2·4	741,128	10·2	8·1	43,458	9·2	836,113	10·0
1900-01	574,728	9·9	238,475	9·4	813,203	9·7	45·5	48,909	12·6	940,025	12·2
1901-02	644,634	12·2	265,302	11·2	909,936	11·9	44·4	57,133	16·8	1,079,541	14·8
1902-03	643,742	·1	284,411	7·2	928,153	2·0	dec.	63,244	10·7	1,065,373	1·3
1903-04	610,923	5·1	296,308	4·2	907,230	2·3	3·0	64,918	2·6	1,043,997	2·0

APPENDIX A.—continued.

Registered Parcels.

STATEMENT showing the NUMBER of PARCELS REGISTERED, at each FEE, by the PUBLIC in the UNITED KINGDOM in each of the last TEN YEARS.

YEAR.	AMOUNT OF FEE.													TOTAL.
	2d.	3d.	4d.	5d.	6d.	7d.	8d.	9d.	10d.	11d.	1s.	1s. 1d.	1s. 2d.	
	LIMIT OF COMPENSATION.													
	* £5.	* £10.	* £15.	* £20.	* £25.	* £30.	* £35.	* £40.	* £45.	* £50.	* £100.	* £110.	* £120.	
	† £5.	† £10.	† £20.	† £30.	† £40.	† £50.	† £60.	† £70.	† £80.	† £90.	† £100.	† £110.	† £120.	
1894-95	559,481	15,094	4,122	4,005	3,869	831	350	488	208	2,271			590,718	
1895-96	631,983	14,304	4,045	4,436	3,268	865	371	444	196	2,284			662,196	
1896-97	754,633	14,296	4,055	4,097	3,231	917	338	525	254	2,544			784,990	
1897-98	689,109	13,924	4,426	4,361	2,887	1,059	435	530	245	2,475			719,471	
1898-99	731,489	13,549	6,214	4,460	2,129	1,694	394	293	205	619	395	32	761,901	
1899-1900	805,708	13,912	7,211	4,913	2,167	1,909	455	304	247	284	626	47	838,113	
1900-01	904,362	14,451	8,309	5,276	2,889	1,988	622	321	305	215	758	67	940,025	
1901-02	1,042,739	14,439	9,437	5,044	2,505	2,143	611	376	312	193	999	54	1,079,541	
1902-03	1,096,534	14,803	10,004	5,465	2,712	2,263	702	415	382	251	940	99	1,085,373	
1903-04	1,003,623	14,475	10,175	5,973	2,922	2,418	863	483	466	261	1,105	113	1,043,927	

* Limit of compensation up to 30th April 1898.

† Limit of compensation from 1st May 1898.

APPENDIX A.—*continued.***Express Delivery Service.**

STATEMENT showing the NUMBER of EXPRESS DELIVERY SERVICES performed in the UNITED KINGDOM in each of the last
TEN YEARS.

Year.	ENGLAND AND WALES.						SCOTLAND.		IRELAND.		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.						
1894-95	71,108	30·0	180,129	45·0	251,237	40·4	17,636	35·7	4,670	34·1	273,543	40·0
1895-96	94,019	32·2	243,751	35·3	337,770	34·4	20,298	15·1	5,903	26·4	363,971	33·1
1896-97	113,153	20·4	294,467	20·8	407,620	20·7	23,174	14·2	7,333	24·2	438,126	20·4
1897-98	150,062	32·6	362,580	23·1	512,642	25·8	29,515	28·7	8,923	21·7 dec.	551,379	25·8
1898-99	181,918	21·2	416,119	14·8	598,037	16·7	34,418	15·4	8,773	1·7 inc.	641,227	16·3
1899-1900	199,839	9·9	474,351	14·0	674,190	12·7	37,344	8·5	8,847	9·9	720,381	12·3
1900-01	223,908	12·0	530,661	11·9	754,569	11·9	40,900	9·5	8,989	1·4	804,447	11·7
1901-02	268,918	15·6	627,326	18·3	896,244	17·5	46,237	10·6	9,925	10·7	941,906	17·1
1902-03	299,547	15·6	745,252	18·7	1,044,599	17·8	50,328	11·3	12,179	22·7	1,107,106	17·5
1903-04	364,733	21·9	856,012	14·7	1,219,794	16·8	57,172	13·6	13,987	13·9	1,280,833	16·6

APPENDIX B.

ESTIMATE of the WEIGHT of LETTERS, &c., exchanged by the UNITED
KINGDOM with FOREIGN COUNTRIES and BRITISH COLONIES.

APPENDIX B.

ESTIMATE of the WEIGHT of LETTERS and POSTCARDS, and
FOREIGN COUNTRIES and BRITISH

COUNTRY OR COLONY.	Despatched from the United Kingdom.		Destined for the United Kingdom.	
	Letters and Postcards.	Circulars, Book Packets, Patterns, News- papers.	Letters and Postcards.	Circulars, Book Packets, Patterns, News- papers.
EUROPE.	Lb.	Lb.	Lb.	Lb.
Austria-Hungary - - - -	44,000	315,000	44,000	106,000
Belgium and Luxemburg - - -	83,000	335,000	76,000	155,000
Denmark, Norway, and Sweden - -	78,000	325,000	65,000	133,000
France (including Algeria and Tunis) -	300,000	1,510,000	235,000	1,060,000
Germany - - - -	300,000	1,460,000	345,000	870,000
Gibraltar (including Tangier), Malta, and } Cyprus	48,000	400,000	44,000	37,000
Holland - - - -	110,000	290,000	81,000	128,000
Italy - - - -	68,000	650,000	63,000	163,000
Russia - - - -	44,000	335,000	32,000	72,000
Spain, Portugal, and Azores - - -	50,000	410,000	44,000	74,000
Switzerland - - - -	49,000	390,000	49,000	133,000
Turkey, Greece, Roumania, and Balkan States	27,000	300,000	22,000	63,000
Totals - - - -	1,202,000	6,720,000	1,150,000	2,999,000
ASIA.				
Asiatic Turkey and Persia - - -	8,000	110,000	5,000	13,000
India (including Aden) - - -	202,000	2,530,000	144,000	504,000
Ceylon, Straits Settlements, and East Indies	40,000	680,000	35,000	77,000
China, Japan, &c. - - -	38,000	535,000	32,000	67,000
Totals - - - -	207,000	3,095,000	216,000	556,000

APPENDIX B.

of OTHER ARTICLES, exchanged by the UNITED KINGDOM with COLONIES, during the Year 1903.

COUNTRY OR COLONY.	Despatched from the United Kingdom.		Destined for the United Kingdom.	
	Letters and Postcards.	Circulars, Book Packets, Patterns, Newspapers.	Letters and Postcards.	Circulars, Book Packets, Patterns, Newspapers.
AFRICA.	Lb.	Lb.	Lb.	Lb.
South African Colonies - - -	320,000	3,250,000	275,000	530,000
East Coast of Africa, Mauritius, &c. - -	11,000	155,000	8,500	15,000
West Coast of Africa, Madeira, &c. - -	33,000	315,000	32,000	35,000
Egypt - - - - -	25,000	325,000	17,500	54,000
Totals - - -	389,000	4,045,000	333,000	634,000
AMERICA.				
United States - - - -	365,000	2,500,000	360,000	2,400,000
Canada and Newfoundland - - -	115,000	1,125,000	107,000	500,000
West Indies (British and Foreign), &c. -	37,000	425,000	26,000	56,000
Mexico and Central American States -	8,500	120,000	7,000	20,000
Brazil, Argentine Republic, Uruguay, and } Paraguay - - - - - }	20,000	440,000	27,000	77,000
Chili, Peru, and Bolivia - - - -	10,500	145,000	10,500	24,000
Ecuador, Colombia, and Venezuela - -	4,000	50,000	2,000	5,000
Totals - - -	530,000	4,805,000	539,500	3,482,000
AUSTRALASIA.				
Commonwealth of Australia - - -	102,000	1,615,000	74,000	535,000
New Zealand, Fiji, &c. - - - -	46,000	660,000	30,000	235,000
Totals - - -	148,000	2,275,000	104,000	770,000
GRAND TOTALS - -	2,605,000	21,750,000	2,342,500	8,461,000

APPENDIX E.—continued.

STATEMENT of the NUMBERS of FOREIGN and COLONIAL
31st March 1903 and

Country.	Date of Establishment of Post.	Number of Parcels.			
		Despatched.			
		1902-03.	1903-04.	In- crease.	De- crease.
Aden - - - -	July 1885	3,846	9,372a	6,026	—
Antigua - - - -	Jan. 1886	2,298	2,226	—	72
Argentine Republic - - - -	Feb. 1890	4,290	5,761	1,471	—
Ascension - - - -	July 1886	638	787	149	—
Austria-Hungary* - - - -	June 1886	16,050	21,082	5,032	—
Bahamas - - - -	Sept. 1887	1,735	1,851	116	—
Barbados - - - -	April 1886	5,539	6,418	829	—
Belgium† - - - -	Jan. 1886	56,655	59,769	3,114	—
Bermuda - - - -	April 1890	7,477	7,925	448	—
Beyrout - - - -	Jan. 1888	1,351	1,424	73	—
British Central Africa - - - -	Aug. 1893	1,485	1,499	14	—
British East Africa - - - -	April 1891	4,429	5,595	1,156	—
British Guiana‡ - - - -	Jan. 1886	7,668	10,230	2,562	—
British Honduras§ - - - -	March 1887	1,014	1,124	110	—
British North Borneo - - - -	Sept. 1887	364	491	127	—
Canada, Dominion of - - - -	Aug. 1886	84,772	120,672	35,900	—
Cape Colony - - - -	Dec. 1885	300,955	175,834	—	125,121
Ceylon - - - -	Nov. 1885	17,014	19,937	2,893	—
Chili¶ - - - -	Jan. 1897	1,778	2,491	713	—
Colombia, Republic of - - - -	March 1888	4,738	7,624	2,886	—
Constantinople - - - -	Jan. 1886	5,424	5,832	408	—
Costa Rica - - - -	Feb. 1888	1,204	2,043	839	—
Cyprus - - - -	Jan. 1886	2,578	3,294	716	—
Denmark - - - -	April 1903	—¶¶	6,587b	6,587	—
Dominica - - - -	Jan. 1886	1,311	1,720	409	—
Dutch East Indies - - - -	June 1896	1,269	1,448	179	—
Egypt - - - -	July 1885	28,982	33,845	4,863	—
Falkland Islands - - - -	Oct. 1888	3,092	3,029	—	63
Fiji - - - -	June 1890	564	662	98	—
France** - - - -	Oct. 1887	237,215	251,872	14,657	—
Gambia - - - -	Jan. 1888	1,040	1,178	138	—
Germany†† - - - -	Jan. 1886	330,587	337,889	7,302	—
Gibraltar (including agencies } in Morocco) - - - - }	July 1885	18,889	20,729	1,840	—
Gold Coast - - - -	Jan. 1888	17,737	22,592	4,855	—
Grenada - - - -	Oct. 1885	2,462	2,791	329	—
Guatemala - - - -	Jan. 1899	291	321	30	—
Holland - - - -	April 1886	53,018	57,668	4,650	—
Hong Kong‡‡ - - - -	Oct. 1885	27,390	31,616	4,226	—
India (including Persia) - - - -	July 1885	146,144	161,538	15,394	—
Italy§§ - - - -	Oct. 1897	88,855	103,367	14,512	—
Jamaica - - - -	Oct. 1885	12,422	13,361	939	—
Japan - - - -	Nov. 1895	8,021	8,015	—	6
Labuan - - - -	Dec. 1885	137	201	64	—
Lagos - - - -	Jan. 1888	5,192	5,546	354	—
Liberia - - - -	July 1893	516	691	175	—
Madeira - - - -	July 1891	1,980	2,240	310	—
Malta - - - -	Aug. 1885	30,833	32,132	1,299	—
Carried forward -		1,551,279	1,574,809	148,792	125,202

* Including parcels for and from Bulgaria, Roumania, Servia, &c.

† Including parcels for and from the Congo Free State.

‡ Including parcels for and from Dutch Guiana.

§ Including parcels for and from the Republic of Honduras.

¶ Including parcels for and from the Army in South Africa.

|| Including parcels for and from Bolivia.

¶¶ Including parcels for and from the Somaliland Field Force.

APPENDIX B.—*continued.*

PARCELS Despatched and Received during the Years ended the
the 31st March 1904.

Number of Parcels.								Country.
Received.				Totals.				
1902-03.	1903-04.	In-crease.	De-crease.	1902-03.	1903-04.	In-crease.	De-crease.	
3,354	4,012 ^a	658	—	7,200	13,884	6,684	—	Aden.
397	371	—	26	2,695	2,597	—	98	Antigua.
710	847	—	63	5,000	6,408	1,408	—	Argentine Republic.
112	164	52	—	750	951	201	—	Ascension.
8,326	8,665	339	—	24,376	29,747	5,371	—	Austria-Hungary.*
331	326	—	5	2,066	2,177	111	—	Bahamas.
1,653	1,583	—	70	7,242	8,001	759	—	Barbados.
33,272	36,692	3,420	—	89,927	96,461	6,534	—	Belgium.†
2,246	2,190	—	56	9,723	10,115	392	—	Bermuda.
252	185	—	67	1,603	1,609	6	—	Beirut.
505	410	—	95	1,990	1,909	—	81	British Central Africa.
848	1,413	565	—	5,277	6,998	1,721	—	British East Africa.
1,608	1,943	340	—	9,271	12,173	2,902	—	British Guiana.‡
89	119	30	—	1,103	1,243	140	—	British Honduras.§
86	85	—	1	450	576	126	—	British North Borneo.
39,188	51,354	12,171	—	123,965	172,026	48,071	—	Canada, Dominion of.
43,641	32,004	—	11,637	344,596	207,838	—	136,758	Cape Colony.
8,563	9,158	596	—	25,606	29,095	3,489	—	Ceylon.
730	686	—	44	2,508	3,177	669	—	Chili.¶
85	104	19	—	4,823	7,728	2,905	—	Colombia, Republic of.
970	991	21	—	6,394	6,823	429	—	Constantinople.
70	74	4	—	1,374	2,117	843	—	Costa Rica.
1,261	1,764	503	—	3,639	5,058	1,219	—	Cyprus.
¶¶—	2,230 ^b	2,230	—	—	8,817	8,817	—	Denmark.
127	227	100	—	1,438	1,947	509	—	Dominica.
—	—	—	—	1,269	1,448	179	—	Dutch East Indies.
18,223	18,635	412	—	47,305	52,480	5,275	—	Egypt.
323	320	—	2	3,414	3,349	—	65	Falkland Islands.
84	99	15	—	648	761	113	—	Fiji.
234,356	242,351	7,995	—	471,571	494,223	22,652	—	France.**
118	155	37	—	1,158	1,333	175	—	Gambia.
467,819	470,026	2,207	—	798,406	807,915	9,509	—	Germany.††
8,196	8,282	86	—	27,065	29,011	1,926	—	{ Gibraltar (including
2,191	2,502	311	—	19,928	25,064	5,166	—	{ agencies in Morocco).
389	432	43	—	2,851	3,223	372	—	Gold Coast.
11	6	—	5	302	327	25	—	Grenada.
46,150	50,348	4,198	—	99,168	108,016	8,848	—	Guatemala.
21,104	24,870	3,766	—	48,494	56,486	7,992	—	Holland.
81,212	93,600	5,388	—	227,356	248,138	20,782	—	Hong Kong.‡‡
74,716	78,347	631	—	163,571	178,714	15,143	—	India (including Persia).
3,855	3,893	38	—	16,277	17,254	977	—	Italy.§§
7,001	7,467	466	—	15,022	15,482	460	—	Jamaica.
85	168	83	—	223	369	147	—	Japan.
753	824	81	—	5,945	6,380	435	—	Labuan.
20	10	—	10	536	701	165	—	Lagos.
258	370	112	—	2,188	2,610	422	—	Liberia.
15,317	13,906	—	1,411	46,150	46,038	—	112	Madeira.
1,130,593	1,164,018	46,917	13,492	2,651,872	2,738,827	194,069	137,114	Malta.

** Including parcels for and from the French Possessions, &c.

†† Including parcels for and from Eastern Europe, German Possessions, &c.

‡‡ Including parcels for and from China and the China Fleet.

§§ Including parcels for and from Greece, Turkey, &c.

||| Included in figures for Holland.

¶¶ Included in figures for Germany.

¶ Included in figures for Germany, until October 1903.

APPENDIX B.—continued.

STATEMENT of the NUMBERS of FOREIGN and COLONIAL
31st March 1903 and

Country.	Date of Establishment of Post.	Number of Parcels.			
		Despatched.			
		1902-03.	1903-04.	In- crease.	De- crease.
	Brought forward	1,551,279	1,574,809	148,792	125,202
Mauritius - - -	April 1889	3,309	4,250	941	—
Mexico - - -	April 1890	5,336	5,783	446	—
Montserrat - - -	Jan. 1886	341	408	67	—
Natal - - -	June 1887	59,577*	60,256	679	—
Nevis - - -	Jan. 1886	146	187	41	—
Newfoundland - - -	Sept. 1886	3,592	4,079	487	—
New South Wales - - -	July 1886	23,705	24,290	585	—
New Zealand - - -	Nov. 1888	32,140	30,941	7,801	—
Nigeria - - -	Dec. 1892	6,566	9,118	2,552	—
Norway - - -	April 1886	16,618	16,027	—	591
Orange River Colony - - -	Dec. 1889	30,836	34,305	3,469	—
Portugal† - - -	Jan. 1888	11,015	11,730	715	—
Queensland - - -	Feb. 1892	8,539	8,816	277	—
Rhodesia and Bechuanaland } Protectorate - - -	Jan. 1893	10,285	11,181	896	—
St. Helena - - -	April 1886	3,436	2,834	—	652
St. Kitts - - -	Jan. 1886	1,208	1,330	122	—
St. Lucia - - -	Oct. 1885	2,400	2,838	438	—
St. Pierre and Miquelon - - -	Aug. 1895	3,637	3,717	80	—
St. Thomas - - -	Jan. 1888	497	540	43	—
St. Vincent - - -	Nov. 1885	793	1,066	293	—
Salonica - - -	May 1900	496	652	156	—
Salvador - - -	April 1893	743	886	143	—
Samoa and Raratonga - - -	May 1894	50	54	4	—
Sarawak - - -	July 1887	415	470	55	—
Seychelles - - -	April 1890	363	405	42	—
Siam - - -	Aug. 1890	1,305	1,530	275	—
Sierra Leone - - -	Jan. 1883	7,865	9,178	1,313	—
Smyrna - - -	April 1887	1,914	2,242	328	—
South Australia - - -	July 1886	6,392	7,002	610	—
Spain - - -	Sept. 1891	38,466	37,858	—	608
Straits Settlements - - -	Oct. 1885	10,821	12,993	2,172	—
Sweden†† - - -	May 1886	18,150	20,725	2,575	—
Switzerland - - -	Dec. 1887	58,278	65,098	6,820	—
Tasmania - - -	Jan. 1887	3,764	4,052	288	—
Tortola - - -	Oct. 1886	80	52	—	28
Transvaal - - -	Dec. 1889	125,922	154,883	28,961	—
Trinidad (including Tobago) - - -	Oct. 1883	7,618	8,895	1,277	—
United States of America - - -	Sept. 1902	22,116	37,782	15,666	—
Uruguay - - -	April 1891	956	923	—	33
Victoria - - -	July 1886	18,014	19,046	1,032	—
West Australia - - -	Jan. 1887	9,458	10,322	864	—
Zanzibar - - -	Jan. 1887	1,264	1,197	—	67
TOTALS -		2,109,755	2,213,819	231,305	127,241
		Net Increase - 104,064			

In 1902-1903 the Parcel Post was extended to the United States of America.

In 1903-1904 the uniform scale of Postage was applied to the exchanges with British India and British Somaliland. The Parcel Post was extended to Manila and Portuguese Timor; reductions were effected in the postage on parcels for the Azores, Chili, Denmark (including Iceland and the Farøe Islands), French Guinea, Holland, Marshall Islands, and Portuguese West Africa; and the rates on parcels for the Cape Verde Islands, Persia, Portuguese India, and Rhodesia were revised.

APPENDIX B.—continued.

PARCELS Despatched and Received during the Years ended the
the 31st March 1904—continued.

Number of Parcels.								Country.
Received.				Totals.				
1902-03.	1903-04.	In-crease.	De-crease.	1902-03.	1903-04.	In-crease.	De-crease.	
1,130,593	1,164,018	46,917	13,492	2,681,872	2,738,827	194,069	137,114	
724	788	64	—	4,033	5,038	1,005	—	Mauritius.
925	939	14	—	6,261	6,721	460	—	Mexico.
48	59	11	—	389	497	78	—	Montserrat.
14,141*	13,279	—	862	73,718	73,535	—	183	Natal.
9	16	7	—	155	203	48	—	Nevis.
603	850	187	—	4,265	4,929	674	—	Newfoundland.
9,147	9,381	234	—	32,852	33,671	819	—	New South Wales.
6,897	7,690	1,283	—	38,537	47,621	9,084	—	New Zealand.
1,110	1,171	61	—	7,676	10,239	2,613	—	Nigeria.
6,961	8,228	1,267	—	23,579	24,255	676	—	Norway.
1,301†	3,584	2,283	—	32,137	37,889	5,752	—	Orange River Colony.
1,013	1,112	99	—	12,028	12,942	814	—	Portugal.‡
2,966	3,223	267	—	11,496	12,039	544	—	Queensland.
—§	578	578	—	10,285	11,759	1,474	—	Rhodesia and Bechuana- land Protectorate.
1,213	356	—	857	4,699	3,190	—	1,509	St. Helena.
179	182	3	—	1,387	1,512	125	—	St. Kitts.
465	580	95	—	2,885	3,418	533	—	St. Lucia.
78	81	3	—	3,715	3,798	83	—	St. Pierre and Miquelon.
69	98	29	—	566	638	72	—	St. Thomas.
176	134	—	42	969	1,220	251	—	St. Vincent.
123	70	—	52	618	722	104	—	Salonica.
84	6	—	28	777	892	115	—	Salvador.
—¶	—¶	—	—	50	54	4	—	Samoa and Raratonga.
186	200	14	—	601	670	69	—	Sarawak.
358	387	29	—	721	792	71	—	Seychelles.
—**	—**	—	—	1,305	1,580	275	—	Siam.
1,561	1,793	212	—	9,446	10,971	1,525	—	Sierra Leone.
490	487	—	3	2,404	2,729	325	—	Smyrna.
3,609	3,632	—	37	10,061	10,634	573	—	South Australia.
—††	—††	—	—	38,466	37,858	—	608	Spain.
7,166	8,139	973	—	17,987	21,132	3,145	—	Straits Settlements.
6,780	7,337	557	—	24,980	28,062	3,132	—	Sweden.††
22,793	25,404	2,611	—	81,071	90,502	9,431	—	Switzerland.
788	944	156	—	4,582	4,996	444	—	Tasmania.
4	6	2	—	84	58	—	26	Tortola.
10,616	18,090	7,474	—	136,538	172,973	36,435	—	Transvaal.
2,417	2,393	—	24	10,035	11,288	1,253	—	Trinidad (including Tobago).
—	—	—	—	22,116	37,782	15,666	—	United States of America.
90	92	2	—	1,046	1,015	—	31	Uruguay.
6,493	6,837	344	—	24,507	25,883	1,376	—	Victoria.
2,285	2,670	385	—	11,743	12,992	1,240	—	West Australia.
790	660	—	130	2,054	1,857	—	197	Zanzibar.
1,244,850	1,295,494	66,161	15,527	3,354,605	3,509,303	294,366	139,663	
Net Increase - 50,634.				Net Increase - 154,698.				

* Including parcels for and from the Army in South Africa.

† Included in figures for Cape Colony until November 1902.

‡ Including parcels for and from Brazil and Portuguese Possessions.

§ Included in figures for Cape Colony.

|| Included in figures for Cape Colony until November 1903.

¶ Included in figures for New Zealand.

†† Included in figures for France.

** Included in figures for Straits Settlements.

‡‡ Including parcels for and from Finland.

APPENDIX C.

Home Packet Service.

Line of Communication.	Frequency.	Contractors.	Terminable.	Payment.	Remarks.
ENGLAND AND WALES.					
FLEETWOOD and BELFAST.	Week days	North Lancashire Steam Navigation Company (but payment made through Lancashire and Yorkshire Railway Company).	On 6 months' notice.	1,000 <i>l</i> .	The Department has the general use of the Company's vessels.
HOLYHEAD and KINGSTOWN.	Twice a day.	City of Dublin Steam Packet Company.	31 Mar. 1917 or on 12 months' notice after 31 Mar. 1916.	100,000 <i>l</i> .* to 31 Mar. 1917; 80,000 <i>l</i> . after that date.	Time on outward journey (including transfer on both sides of the Channel), 3 hrs. 37 mins. Time on inward journey (including transfer), 3 hrs. 32 mins.
LIVERPOOL and DOUGLAS (ISLE of MAN).	Once on week days (twice on week days during the summer season).	Isle of Man Steam Packet Company.	On 6 months' notice.	4,500 <i>l</i> .	Speed of 14 nautical miles an hour in summer; 12 in winter.
PenZANCE and SCILLY	Three times a week in summer. Twice a week in winter.	West Cornwall Steamship Company.	On 6 months' notice.	500 <i>l</i> . and 1 <i>s</i> . 6 <i>d</i> . per basket for parcels.	—
PORTSMOUTH and RYDE.	Once daily, with the Night Mails.	London, Brighton, and South Coast, and London and South-Western Railway Companies.	On 6 months' notice.	1,400 <i>l</i> .	The Department has the general use of the Companies' vessels, which are constantly plying between the two places.
SOUTHAMPTON and CHANNEL ISLANDS.	Once on week days.	London and South-Western Railway Company.	On 6 months' notice.	6,500 <i>l</i> .	No Contract.
SOUTHAMPTON and COWES.	Once on week days.	Southampton, Isle of Wight, and South of England Royal Mail Steam Packet Company.	-	150 <i>l</i> .	No Contract. The Department has the general use of the Company's vessels.
WEYMOUTH and CHANNEL ISLANDS.	Six days a week.	Great Western Railway Company.	-	200 <i>l</i> .	No Contract. The Department has the general use of the Company's vessels.
SCOTLAND.					
ABERDEEN and LERWICK.	Five days a week in summer. Three days a week in winter.	North of Scotland and Orkney and Shetland Steam Navigation Company.	On 6 months' notice.	6,000 <i>l</i> . 100 <i>l</i> . for parcels and 40 <i>l</i> . for North Isle Service.	—
LERWICK, WHALSAY, and NORTH ISLES.	Thrice a week.	Do.			

* Subject to a reduction of 2,000*l*. in respect of the receipts from passenger traffic.

APPENDIX C.—*continued.*Home Packet Service—*continued.*

Line of Communication.	Frequency.	Contractors.	Terminable.	Payment.	Remarks.
<i>SCOTLAND—cont.</i>					
ARDROSSAN and ABERN.	Week days	Glasgow and South-Western Railway Company.	On 6 months' notice.	425 <i>l.</i>	—
GLASGOW and CAMPBELTOWN.	Week days	Campbeltown and Glasgow Steam Packet Company.	On 3 months' notice.	1,575 <i>l.</i>	The Department has the general use of these steamers.
GREENOCK, ARDROSSAN, and BELFAST.	Week days	G. and J. Burns.	On 12 months' notice.	10,000 <i>l.</i>	—
GREENOCK, COLONSAY, and TARBERT (HARRIS).	Once a week	Martin Orme and John McCallum & Co.	- - -	500 <i>l.</i>	No contract.
GREENOCK and DUNVEGAN.					
GREENOCK and KILMUR.	Twice on week days.	Capt. Jas. Williamson, for Caledonian Steam Packet Company.	- - -	125 <i>l.</i>	No contract.
GREENOCK and LOCHGOILHEAD.	Week days	Lochgoil Steam Packet Company, per M. T. Clark.	On 6 months' notice.	350 <i>l.</i>	The Department has the general use of all this Company's steamers.
GREENOCK (PRINCE'S PIER) and ROTHERSAY.	Week days	Glasgow and South-Western Railway Co.	On 6 months' notice.	130 <i>l.</i>	—
GREENOCK and ROTHERSAY.	Week days	David MacBrayne	On 6 months' notice.	2,510 <i>l.</i>	This payment includes 320 <i>l.</i> for the general use of all Mr. MacBrayne's steamers running to and from the Clyde.
GREENOCK and ABERDEENSHIRE.					
GREENOCK, ISLAY, and JURA.	Week days	David MacBrayne	On 6 months' notice.	900 <i>l.</i>	—
TARBERT, ISLAY, and JURA.					
INVERGORDON and CROMARTY.	Week days	Cromarty Steamship Company.	On 3 months' notice.	120 <i>l.</i>	No contract.
INVERNESS and FORT AUGUSTUS.	Six days a week.	David MacBrayne	On 6 months' notice.	210 <i>l.</i> and 25 <i>l.</i> for Parcel Service.	—
KIRKWALL and BALFOUR.	Five days a week.	John Reid	On 3 months' notice.	50 <i>l.</i>	Speed of not less than 8 nautical miles an hour.
KIRKWALL and NORTH ORKNEY.	Twice a week for 9 months, and three times a week for 3 months.	Orkney Steam Navigation Company, per Donald Bertram.	On 6 months' notice.	340 <i>l.</i>	—
KNOYDART and MALLAIG.	Three days a week.	Arthur Salvin Bowlby, payable to Alexander McLennan.	On 6 months' notice.	52 <i>l.</i> 2 <i>s.</i> 10 <i>d.</i>	By sailing vessel.
KYLE and PORTREE.	Six days a week.	David MacBrayne	On 12 months' notice.	650 <i>l.</i>	Speed of not less than 10 nautical miles an hour.

APPENDIX C.—*continued.*
Home Packet Service—*continued.*

Line of Communication.	Frequency.	Contractors.	Terminable.	Payment.	Remarks.
<i>SCOTLAND—cont.</i>					
KYLE and STORNOWAY	Once a day, six days a week each way.	David MacBrayne	On 6 months' notice.	3,000 <i>l.</i>	Speed of 11 nautical miles an hour.
OBAN and FORT WILLIAM.	Once a day, six days a week.	"	- - -	665 <i>l.</i>	Time on outward or homeward journey, 3½ hours.
OBAN and TOBERMORY.	Once a day, six days a week.	"	On 6 months' notice.	555 <i>l.</i>	Speed of 10 nautical miles an hour.
OBAN and West of MULL, calling at Croggan, Tobermory, Kilchoan, Coll, Tiree, Iona (on outward voyage) and bunessan.	<i>Out.</i> — On Mondays, Wednesdays, and Fridays. <i>In.</i> — On Tuesdays, Thursdays, and Saturdays.	"	On 6 months' notice.	1,200 <i>l.</i>	
OBAN and DUNVEGAN, calling at Tobermory, Castlebay, Lochboisdale, and Lochmaddy.	Mondays, Wednesdays, and Fridays.	}			
DUNVEGAN and OBAN, calling at Loch Pooltie, and Loch Bracadale and Tobermory; And also at Canna and Rum.	Tuesdays, Thursdays, and Saturdays.		On 6 months' notice.	3,000 <i>l.</i>	Speed of not less than 11 nautical miles an hour.
	Tuesdays and Thursdays.				
OBAN and LOCHMADDY, calling at Tobermory, Loch Bracadale, Loch Pooltie, and Dunvegan; And also at Rum and Canna.	Tuesdays, Thursdays, and Saturdays.	}			
	Tuesdays and Saturdays.		On 6 months' notice.	3,000 <i>l.</i>	" "
LOCHMADDY and OBAN, calling at Lochboisdale and Castlebay.	Mondays, Wednesdays, and Fridays.	}			
PORTREE, HARRIS, LOCHMADDY, and DUNVEGAN.	<i>Out.</i> — Tuesdays, Thursdays, and Saturdays. <i>In.</i> — Mondays, Wednesdays, and Fridays.		On 6 months' notice.	1,550 <i>l.</i>	Speed of not less than 10 nautical miles an hour.
ROTHESAY and WEMYSS BAY.	Week days	Caledonian Steam Packet Company, per Capt. James Williamson.	On 6 months' notice.	150 <i>l.</i>	—
SCRABSTER PIER (THURSO) and STROMNESS.	6 days a week	North of Scotland and Orkney and Shetland Steam Navigation Company.	On 6 months' notice.	2,000 <i>l.</i>	Vessels to be capable of steaming 12 knots an hour.
SHEILAND (VIRKIE) and FAIR ISLE.	Once a fortnight.	John Bruce, Junr.	—	180 <i>l.</i>	By sailing vessel

APPENDIX C.—continued.
Home Packet Service—continued.

Line of Communication.	Frequency.	Contractors.	Terminable.	Payment.	Remarks.
<i>SCOTLAND—cont.</i>					
SHEPHERD (WALLS) and FOULA.	Once a fortnight (Oct. to Mar.). Once a week (Apr. to Sept.).	M. Manson and L. Gray.	On 6 months' notice.	78 <i>l.</i> (2 <i>l.</i> a trip.)	By sailing vessel.
STRANRAER and LARNE. (<i>See below.</i>)					
STROMNESS and SOUTH ISLES.	4 days a week	R. Garden - -	On 6 months' notice.	180 <i>l.</i>	—
WEMYSS BAY and MILLPORT.	Thrice on week days in summer and twice in winter.	Caledonian Railway Co.	—	—	The service is provided under a general agreement with the Railway Co.
Ditto - -	Additional week day service in winter.	Caledonian Steam Packet Company, per Capt. James Williamson.	On 6 months' notice.	200 <i>l.</i>	—
<i>IRELAND.</i>					
LARNE and STRANRAER.	Week days -	Portpatrick and Wigtownshire Joint Committee.	On 12 months' notice.	13,500 <i>l.</i>	This amount includes also payment for Railway Services between Carlisle and Stranraer, Larne and Belfast, and Larne and Derry.
GALWAY AND ABBAY ISLANDS.	3 days a week	Galway Bay Steamboat Co.	—	70 <i>l.</i>	No contract.

NOTES—

1. In addition to the payments given in detail above. Letters, &c. are conveyed by Private Ships to and from places in the United Kingdom for a certain fixed payment of 2*s.* 1*d.* per 100. The total amount paid at present is about 1,400*l.* a year.

2. There is also a number of small miscellaneous fixed payments for conveyance of Home Mails and for ferriage (including various payments for the conveyance of Mails in the Highlands and Islands of Scotland), not exceeding in any case 120*l.* a year.

3. For the conveyance of Outward American Mails on Saturday by train from Euston to Holyhead and thence by steamer to Dublin, the London and North-Western Railway Company receives 5,510*l.* a year, and for the conveyance of Homeward American Mails by steamer from Dublin to Holyhead when required, 80*l.* a trip.

APPENDIX D. Foreign and Colonial Packet Service.

Service.	Contracts.			Payment during the Year 1903-1904.	Amount received.		Cost borne in respect of Mails despatched from the United Kingdom.
	Com-mencement.	Termination.	Penalties for Overtime.		By Contributions.	By Sea Postage for Mails despatched by Colonies and Foreign Countries.	
EUROPE :				£		£	£
Dover and Calais -	21 June 1893 -	On 12 months' notice -	5s. for 30 minutes and 6s. for every additional 15 minutes.	25,000	-	-	25,000*
Harwich to the Hook of Holland	{ 1 May 1903 - 1 Jan. 1904 -	{ 31 December 1903 - 31 December 1904 -	-	850	-	-	850
†Newhaven to Dieppe	1 July 1897 -	On 6 months' notice	-	50†	-	-	50
†Channel Islands and St. Malo and Granville	15 Feb. 1898 -	Do.	-	41†	-	96	15
†Grimsby and Hamburg -	16 Apr. 1898 -	Do.	-	1,394†	-	774	560
†London and Hamburg -	1 Jan. 1896 -	Do.	-	679†	-	40	680
†Liverpool, Malta, and the Levant	1 Jan. 1896 -	Do.	-	155†	-	120	35
†United Kingdom and Lisbon -	1 Jan. 1898 -	Do.	-	140†	-	10	130
AMERICA :							
United Kingdom to United States :—							
Cunard Service -	7 Aug. 1902 -	20 years certain	-	66,417	-	-	-
White Star Service -	1 Aug. 1899 -	On 12 months' notice	-	67,487	-	12,486	124,080
American Service -	—	—	-	2,592	-	-	-
New York and Bermuda -	1 Jan. 1899 -	On 6 months' notice	-	1,400†	-	60	1,340
Newfoundland -	Colonial Contract	-	-	2,000†	-	-	2,000
†Liverpool, Belize, and Mexico -	1 Dec. 1891 -	On 6 months' notice	-	394†	-	4	390
Turks Islands -	Colonial Contract	-	-	369†	-	-	350
United Kingdom and West Indies	1 July 1900 -	30 June 1905	25s. for every 24 hours.	87,632	{ British Guiana 4,900 Jamaica - 1,756 Leeward Is. - 2,350 Trinidad - 13,941 Windward Is. 6,480 } 87,877½		
						10,305	49,470

Southampton to Brazil and River Plate	1 Sept. 1876 -	On 6 months' notice	-	-	-	10,589 [†]	-	-	-	4,344	6,650
+ Do. to and from do. do.	1 Sept. 188 -	Do.	-	-	-	405 [†]	-	-	-	-	-
Liverpool and Falkland Islands, Liverpool to Callao, Panama to Valparaiso	14 June 1900 -	13 June 1910 -	-	-	-	32,000	Falkland Islands, 2,500	-	-	15,500	14,000
AFRICA:											
United Kingdom and West Coast of Africa	1 Jan. 1899 -	On 3 months' notice	-	-	-	15,335	-	-	-	5,976	11,200
+ Do. do. do.	1 Jan. 1898 -	On 6 months' notice	-	-	-	1,821 [‡]	-	-	-	-	-
United Kingdom and St. Helena and Ascension	1 Oct. 1893 -	On 6 months' notice	-	-	-	4,890	Admiralty, 600	-	-	150	4,080
Aden and Zanzibar	5 Nov. 1892 -	On 12 months' notice	-	-	-	9,000	-	-	-	450	8,550
+ United Kingdom and Chinde	15 Aug. 1900 -	On 3 months' notice	-	-	-	97 [‡]	-	-	-	23	74
+ United Kingdom and Morocco	1 Oct. 1900 -	-	-	-	-	44 [‡]	-	-	-	4	40
ASIA AND AUSTRALIA:											
Brindisi and Bombay and Shanghai	1 Feb. 1898 -	31 January 1906	-	-	100 [‡] for every 12 hours.	245,000	India - 52,000 [‡] Ceylon - 1,400 [‡] Straits Settlements - 6,000 [‡] Hong Kong - 6,000 [‡]	-	-	35,000	154,600
Brindisi or Naples and Adelaide	1 Feb. 1898 -	31 January 1906	-	-	100 [‡] for every 24 hours.	102,750	Commonwealth of Australia - 71,890 [‡]	-	-	6,450	91,400
Canada, Japan, and Hong Kong	7 April 1901 -	6 April 1906	-	-	100 [‡] for every 12 hours.	60,000	Canada - 15,000 [‡] Admiralty - 7,312 [‡]	-	-	2,778	34,910

* A second service in each direction is provided at the cost of the French Post Office.

† These Contracts are for Parcel Mails only.

‡ The payments in these cases depend upon the weight of mails conveyed by the Packets.

§ These sums represent the Imperial share of the cost of the Services.

APPENDIX E.

STATEMENT showing the NUMBER of Post Towns in ENGLAND and WALES, including the CHANNEL ISLANDS and the ISLE OF MAN, arranged in CLASSES according to the Number of MAILS they receive *from*, and despatch *to*, LONDON.

YEAR.	Towns having One Mail.		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.	
	From London.	To London.	From London.	To London.	From London.	To London.	From London.	To London.	From London.	To London.	From London.	To London.	From London.	To London.	From London.	To London.
1902-03	-	1	5	19	64	130	156	231	171	140	105	56	72	24	28	16
1903-04	-	1	4	18	59	124	145	227	172	143	103	58	84	28	29	19

APPENDIX F.

Staff of Officers.

Totals 31 Mar. 1903.	Description of Officers.	England and Wales.		Ireland.		Scotland.		Totals.		Totals 31 Mar. 1904.
		Males.	Fe- males.	Males.	Fe- males.	Males.	Fe- males.	Males.	Fe- males.	
	A.									
1	Postmaster General - -	1	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	1
	B.									
11	Secretary, Second Secretary, Assistant Secretaries, Comp- troller and Accountant General, and Secretaries for Ireland and Scotland.	9	—	1	—	1	—	11	—	11
	C.									
42	Clerks, Class I., Secretary's Office.	42	—	—	—	—	—	42	—	42
	D.									
155	Heads of Departments, Staff Officers, and other Superior Officers in Metropolitan Offices.	124	6	14	—	12	—	150	6	156
	E.									
232	Surveyors and Assistant Sur- veyors.	58	—	13	—	11	—	260	—	260
	Travelling Clerks, Inspecting Telegraphists, and Stationary Clerks.	131	—	23	—	24	—			
	F.									
886	Head Postmasters : Metropolitan - -	9	—	—	—	—	—	790	92	882*
	Provinces - - -	570	45	91	27	120	20			
	G.									
21,461	Sub-Postmasters : Metropolitan - -	731	146	59	87	57	27	14,629	7,025	21,654†
	Provinces - - -	10,869	4,858	1,648	1,078	1,265	829			
	H.									
8,504	Clerks and Superintending Officers : Metropolitan - -	3,607	2,022	201	40	163	45	6,289	2,313	8,602
	Provinces - - -	1,965	172	106	6	247	28			
	I.									
31,022	Counter Clerks and Tele- graphists; Sorters, Sorting Clerks and Telegraphists; Telegraphists, and Tele- phone Operators, &c. : Metropolitan - -	9,424	2,653	636	120	465	142	23,300	8,399	31,699
	Provinces - - -	10,500	4,294	809	388	1,467	802			
62,304	Carried forward - - -	38,040	14,106	3,591	1,746	3,832	1,893	45,472	17,835	63,307

* Unestablished, 66; Established, 816.

† Unestablished, 21,131; Established, 523.

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

Totals 31 Mar. 1903.	Description of Officers.	England and Wales.		Ireland.		Scotland.		Totals.		Totals 31 Mar. 1904.
		Males.	Fe- males.	Males.	Fe- males.	Males.	Fe- males.	Males.	Fe- males.	
62,304	Brought forward - -	38,049	14,196	3,591	1,746	3,832	1,893	45,472	17,835	63,307
	J.									
38,388	Mechanics, Porters, Postmen, &c.:									
	Metropolitan - -	10,014	—	379	—	557	—	39,734	15	39,749
	Provinces - -	23,239	9	1,923	—	3,622	6			
	K.									
82,897	Persons employed in un- established positions, viz., Assistants to Postmasters, Auxiliaries, Boy Messengers, Boy Clerks, Commissionaires, Female Servants, Telegraph Construction Hands, &c.:									
	Metropolitan - -	14,432	2,485	707	242	451	158	63,552	21,412	84,964
	Provinces - -	33,968	14,774	8,607	1,463	5,367	2,260			
188,584	L.	119,722	31,464	15,207	3,481	13,829	4,317	148,768	39,262	188,030
11	Postmasters and Clerks, &c. abroad (under direction of Postmaster General) and agents in Foreign Countries for collection of postage, &c.	—	—	—	—	—	—	11	—	11
183,595	Totals - -	119,722	31,464	15,207	3,481	13,829	4,317	148,769	39,262	188,031

APPENDIX F—*continued.***Mortality Table.**

Number of Deaths during the Twelve Months ended 31st December 1903.												
	Chief Office.		Metro- politan Districts.		Rest of England.		Scotland.		Ireland.		Total.	
	Men.	Women.	Men.	Women.	Men.	Women.	Men.	Women.	Men.	Women.	Men.	Women.
I.—SIMPLE FEBRILE OR ZYMOTIC DISEASES.												
1. Miasmatic diseases :												
Typhoid - - -	-	-	1	-	3	-	-	-	-	-	4	-
Scarlet fever - -	1	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	1	1
Influenza - - -	-	-	1	-	9	1	-	-	-	-	10	1
Dysentery - - -	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-
2. Septic diseases :												
Erysipelas - - -	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	1	-
Pyæmia - - -	1	-	-	-	1	-	1	-	-	-	3	-
II.—CONSTITUTION DISEASES.												
Cancer - - -	5	2	4	-	4	-	-	-	-	1	13	3
Phthisis and hæmop- tysis. - - -	13	-	11	-	20	-	5	-	9	-	58	-
Tuberculosis - - -	3	-	2	-	4	-	2	1	-	-	11	1
Rheumatic fever - -	1	-	-	-	2	-	-	-	-	-	3	-
Glandular disease - -	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	1	-
III.—LOCAL DISEASES.												
1. Diseases of nervous system :												
Apoplexy - - -	2	1	1	-	4	1	-	-	-	-	7	2
Inflammation of brain. - - -	-	-	2	-	6	-	-	-	-	-	8	-
Paralysis - - -	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-
Mania (mental derangement). - -	-	-	-	2	1	-	1	-	-	-	2	2
Epilepsy - - -	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-
2. Diseases of circula- tory system :												
Disease of the heart	5	-	4	-	10	3	2	-	2	-	23	3
Disease of the blood vessels. - -	1	-	-	-	2	-	1	-	1	-	5	-
Syncope - - -	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-
Angina pectoris - -	1	-	1	-	2	-	-	-	-	-	4	-
3. Diseases of respira- tory system :												
Bronchitis - - -	-	-	3	-	2	1	-	-	-	-	5	1
Pneumonia - - -	8	-	6	-	14	2	2	-	2	-	32	2
Pleurisy - - -	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-
Empyema - - -	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	1	-
Laryngitis - - -	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	1	-
Carried forward - -	42	3	40	2	88	9	14	1	14	1	198	16

APPENDIX F.—*continued***Mortality Table—*continued.***

	Number of Deaths during the Twelve Months ended 31st December 1903.											
	Chief Office.		Metro- politan Districts.		Rest of England.		Scotland.		Ireland.		Total.	
	Men.	Women.	Men.	Women.	Men.	Women.	Men.	Women.	Men.	Women.	Men.	Women.
Brought forward -	42	3	40	2	88	9	14	1	14	1	198	16
4. Diseases of digestive system :												
Ulcer of stomach -	-	-	2	-	2	-	1	-	-	-	5	-
Appendicitis -	5	-	3	-	4	-	-	-	1	-	13	-
Enteritis and ulceration of bowels.	-	-	-	-	-	-	2	-	1	-	3	-
Peritonitis -	-	-	-	-	2	-	1	-	1	1	4	1
Disease of liver -	-	-	1	-	2	-	-	-	1	-	4	-
Other diseases of digestive system.	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-
5. Diseases of urinary system :												
Bright's disease -	-	1	2	-	5	-	2	1	1	-	10	2
Uræmia -	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	1	-
Stricture of urethra.	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-
Stone in kidney -	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	1	-
IV.—DEATHS FROM VIOLENCE.												
Accidents -	4	1	3	-	2	-	-	-	-	-	9	1
Drowned -	1	-	1	-	1	-	1	-	-	-	4	-
Suicide -	3	-	-	-	3	-	-	-	-	-	6	-
V.—ILL-DEFINED AND NOT SPECIFIED CASES.												
Abscess -	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	1	-	2	-
Tumours -	1	-	-	-	2	-	-	-	-	-	3	-
Operations for cure of disease.	1	-	1	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	3	-
Pernicious anæmia -	-	-	1	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	2	-
Alcoholism -	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	1	-
Purpura -	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	1	-
Totals -	57	5	56	2	117	9	22	2	20	2	272	20

APPENDIX F.—*continued.***Table giving Causes of Retirement from the Service through ill-health.**

	Number of Persons retired during the Twelve Months ended 31st December, 1903.											
	Chief Office.		Metro-politan Districts.		Rest of England.		Scotland.		Ireland.		Total.	
	Men.	Women.	Men.	Women.	Men.	Women.	Men.	Women.	Men.	Women.	Men.	Women.
Influenza - -	-	-	1	-	4	1	2	-	-	-	7	1
Cancer - -	1	-	1	-	3	-	-	-	-	-	5	-
Phthisis and hæmoptysis.	22	7	17	-	39	6	7	-	7	-	92	13
Tuberculosis - -	3	1	3	-	6	-	-	-	-	1	12	2
Chronic rheumatism and sciatica.	4	5	15	-	30	2	1	-	2	-	52	7
Gout - -	4	-	1	-	4	-	-	-	-	-	9	-
Diabetes - -	1	-	2	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	3	-
Glandular disease -	1	-	1	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	2	1
Anæmia - -	-	11	-	1	2	2	-	-	-	-	2	14
Apoplexy - -	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	1	-
Paralysis - -	5	-	4	-	8	-	1	-	2	-	20	-
General paralysis of the insane.	1	-	1	-	2	-	-	-	-	-	4	-
Writers' cramp - -	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-
Epilepsy - -	-	-	4	-	3	-	1	-	-	-	8	-
Mental derangements	6	6	7	-	19	4	1	1	7	-	40	11
Nervous debility -	8	12	8	2	10	8	2	-	2	-	30	22
Vertigo - -	1	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	2	-
Heart disease - -	9	3	7	2	24	1	2	-	1	2	43	8
Aneurysm - -	1	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	2	-
Varicose veins - -	1	-	3	-	1	-	1	-	2	-	8	-
Chronic bronchitis -	1	-	2	-	5	-	1	1	2	-	11	1
Emphysema - -	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	1	-
Pleurisy - -	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	1	-
Pneumonia - -	-	-	-	-	1	-	1	-	-	-	2	-
Asthma - -	1	-	1	-	3	-	-	-	1	-	6	-
Liver disease - -	1	1	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	2	1
Carried forward -	72	46	79	6	168	24	21	2	26	3	366	81

APPENDIX F.—*continued.***Table giving Causes of Retirement from the Service through ill-health—*continued.***

	Number of Persons retired during the Twelve Months ended 31st December, 1903.											
	Chief Office.		Metro-politan Districts.		Rest of England.		Scotland.		Ireland.		Total.	
	Men.	Women.	Men.	Women.	Men.	Women.	Men.	Women.	Men.	Women.	Men.	Women.
Brought forward -	72	46	79	6	168	24	21	2	26	3	366	81
Gall stones -	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	1	-
Ulcer of stomach -	1	-	1	-	-	2	-	-	-	-	2	2
Fistula -	-	-	2	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	2	-
Dyspepsia -	2	1	1	-	4	2	2	1	1	-	10	4
Kidney disease -	5	-	3	-	8	-	2	-	-	-	18	-
Cystitis and stricture of urethra.	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-
Incontinence of urine	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-
Eye affections -	2	5	2	-	11	2	2	-	3	-	20	7
Ear affections -	-	-	1	-	1	-	-	-	1	-	3	-
Tumours -	-	-	-	-	1	-	1	-	-	-	2	-
Necrosis of hip -	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-
Hernia -	-	-	1	-	1	1	-	-	1	-	3	1
Chronic synovitis -	-	-	-	-	3	-	-	-	2	-	5	-
Flat feet and weak ankles.	1	-	1	-	4	-	1	-	-	-	7	-
Hammer toes -	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	1	-
Skin disease -	2	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	2	-
Accidents -	1	-	5	-	10	-	4	-	1	-	21	-
Senile decay -	3	-	1	-	2	-	-	-	-	-	6	-
General debility -	1	20	4	1	9	5	-	-	4	1	18	27
Diseases of uterus -	-	1	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	2
Amputation of leg -	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	1	-
Totals -	92	73	102	7	224	37	34	3	39	4	491	124

APPENDIX G.

STATEMENT showing the NUMBER of UNDELIVERED POSTAL PACKETS, &c., dealt with in each of the last TEN YEARS.

Year.	Letters.		Post Cards.	Book Packets.	Newspapers.	Parcels.		Total.	Increase per cent.
	Total No.	No. which could neither be delivered to the Addressees nor returned to the Senders.				Total No.	No. which could neither be delivered to the Addressees nor returned to the Senders.		
1894-95	6,163,721	473,064	1,281,595	10,741,381	580,860	143,096	29,119	18,910,653	4·16 dec.
1895-96	6,393,855	546,772	1,016,005	9,538,097	707,004	146,407	34,256	17,801,368	5·87 inc.
1896-97	6,636,162	520,617	1,179,137	11,526,274	562,482	156,404	37,952	20,059,459	12·68
1897-98	7,699,040	720,172	1,294,216	11,620,374	534,120	175,675	48,603	21,323,425	6·30
1898-99	8,553,936	665,274	1,387,084	11,301,606	553,622	188,837	44,976	21,985,085	3·10 dec.
1899-1900	8,954,041	698,294	1,495,085	10,613,853	597,919	206,944	51,066	21,867,842	·53 inc.
1900-01	9,786,870	832,421	1,619,391	11,911,614	627,642	227,252	53,059	24,172,769	10·54
1901-02	10,183,866	986,120	1,757,081	11,523,272	615,285	242,472	58,272	24,321,976	·62
1902-03	10,905,023	1,188,981	1,868,093	12,084,150	600,661	255,289	57,879	25,683,216	5·60
1903-04	11,148,281	1,238,430	2,245,327	12,427,681	638,179	253,515	55,684	26,707,983	3·99

APPENDIX H.

Telegrams.

STATEMENT showing the TOTAL NUMBER of TELEGRAMS forwarded from TELEGRAPH OFFICES in the UNITED KINGDOM in each of the last TEN YEARS.

Ycar.	England and Wales.			Scotland.	Ireland.	Total.	(+) Increase or (-) Decrease per Cent. per Annum.
	Provinces.	London.	Total.				
1894-95	36,099,000	24,118,000	60,217,000	7,334,000	4,038,000	71,589,000	+ 1·0
1895-96	39,411,000	27,025,000	66,436,000	8,096,000	4,308,000	78,840,000	+ 10·1
1896-97	40,305,000	26,645,000	66,950,000	8,094,000	4,379,000	79,423,000	+ ·7
1897-98	42,542,000	27,419,000	69,961,000	8,464,000	4,605,000	83,030,000	+ 4·5
1898-99	44,782,000	28,468,000	73,250,000	9,065,000	4,729,000	87,044,000	+ 4·8
1899-1900	46,145,000	29,971,000	76,116,000	9,388,000	4,911,000	90,415,000	+ 3·9
1900-01	46,029,000	29,355,000	75,385,000	9,289,000	4,903,000	89,577,000	- ·9
1901-02	46,858,000	28,924,000	75,782,000	9,730,000	4,930,000	90,432,000	+ 1·0
1902-03	47,673,000	30,103,000	77,777,000	9,566,000	5,128,000	92,471,000	+ 2·3
1903-04	47,341,000	28,216,000	75,557,000	9,302,000	5,138,000	89,997,000	- 2·7

APPENDIX H.—*continued.***Telegrams—*continued.***

STATEMENT showing the NUMBER of TELEGRAMS forwarded from TELEGRAPH OFFICES in the UNITED KINGDOM during the Years 1902-1903 and 1903-1904; and the Increase or Decrease in each Month of the latter Year as compared with the corresponding Month of the former Year.

Month.	1902-1903.	1903-1904.	(+) Increase.
			(-) Decrease.
April - - -	7,572,000	7,301,000	- 271,000
May - - -	8,131,000	7,930,000	- 201,000
June - - -	8,556,000	8,124,000	- 432,000
July - - -	9,050,000	8,887,000	- 163,000
August - - -	9,050,000	8,481,000	- 619,000
September - - -	8,293,000	8,048,000	- 245,000
October - - -	8,243,000	7,818,000	- 425,000
November - - -	6,984,000	6,817,000	- 167,000
December - - -	6,905,000	6,859,000	- 46,000
January - - -	6,709,000	6,365,000	- 344,000
February - - -	6,087,000	6,246,000	+ 159,000
March - - -	6,891,000	7,171,000	+ 280,000
	92,471,000	89,997,000	- 2,474,000

APPENDIX I.

TABLE showing the ESTIMATED VALUE of SERVICES rendered by the POST OFFICE on behalf of other GOVERNMENT DEPARTMENTS in each of the last TEN YEARS.

Year.	POSTAL.					TELEGRAPH.				Total.	Increase per Cent.
	Conveyance of Correspondence, &c.	Issue of Inland Revenue Licenses.	Issue of Inland Revenue Stamps.	Money Orders.	Postal Orders (for use on H.M. Ships).	Total.	Inland Telegrams forwarded.	Rentals, &c. on Wires provided.	Salaries, Wages, &c. of Telegraphists lent to Admiralty, War Office, &c.		
1894-95	£ 235,230	£ 10,388	£ 11,057	£ 18,699	£ 1,172	£ 277,446	£ 17,592	£ 25,470	£ 3,967	£ 324,875	5·84
1895-96	250,151	10,780	12,978	19,408	1,249	284,575	17,983	22,388	3,674	338,620	4·23
1896-97	137,800	10,947	11,217	19,593	881	230,438	18,474	22,861	3,570	275,343	Decrease, 18·69
1897-98	172,292	10,851	11,537	18,036	946	213,682	16,928	21,146	3,237	255,063	7·37
1898-99	165,504	11,348	11,775	18,305	986	207,918	18,146	34,149	3,454	263,667	Increase, 3·38
1899-1900	153,946	11,610	11,833	20,764	1,062	202,315	34,064	31,011	5,671	273,061	3·56
1900-01	166,207	11,845	11,819	27,421	1,193	218,584	28,104	32,524	18,136	297,343	8·80
1901-02	182,054	12,390	11,807	28,460	1,243	236,964	26,199	31,268	21,961	316,412	6·41
1902-03	102,013	12,720	12,062	26,343	1,410	244,688	46,022	31,017	13,592	336,689	6·41
1903-04	214,901	12,819	11,981	23,083	1,550	263,244	23,197	34,090	4,064	327,231	Decrease, 2·80

APPENDIX J.

Post Office Savings Bank.

APPENDIX J.

Post Office
STATEMENT of BUSINESS for

Year ended 31st Dec.	Number of Post Office Savings Bank Offices.	Deposits.*				Withdrawals.†		
		Number.	Amount.	Average Amount.	Number of Persons who deposited in Single Sums the Entire Amount allowed in the Year.	Number.	Amount.	Average Amount.
			£	£ s. d.			£	£ s. d.
1894	11,323	10,973,651	30,439,449	2 15 6	35,850	3,863,886	23,786,927	6 3 1
1895	11,518	11,384,977	32,078,680	2 16 4	48,500	4,102,059	25,698,296	6 5 3
1896	11,867	12,638,307	36,258,350	2 17 3	51,700	4,367,594	28,489,329	6 10 5
1897	12,212	13,012,935	35,757,476	2 14 11	53,400	4,670,483	30,624,995	6 11 2
1898	12,582	13,757,244	37,361,838	2 14 4	54,000	4,957,895	32,952,829	6 12 11
1899	12,995	14,654,809	39,122,160	2 13 5	51,700	5,094,033	35,171,475	6 18 1
1900	13,341	14,969,849	40,516,434	2 14 2	48,100	5,406,347	38,231,372	7 1 5
1901	13,672	15,018,645	41,452,051	2 15 2	48,900	5,748,624	39,890,043	6 18 9
1902	14,048	15,250,316	42,217,003	2 15 4	49,800	6,012,983	41,396,800	6 17 8
1903	14,362	15,325,618	40,857,206	2 13 4	46,200	6,180,419	42,786,025	6 18 5

* 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; (d) Deposits for purchase of Annuities and payment of Insurance premiums, and (e) amounts credited to Accounts in respect of sums payable to Annuitants and Insurants 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; (c) Withdrawals for purchase of Annuities and payment of Insurance premiums; and (d) amounts paid to Annuitants and Insurants and their representatives. For particulars, *see* statements of Government Stock business and Annuity and Insurance business.

APPENDIX J.

Savings Bank.

each of the last TEN YEARS.

Interest credited to Depositors.	Amount, including Interest standing to credit of all open Accounts at close of the Year.	Number of Accounts.			Average Amount standing to credit of each open Account.	Expenses of Management.			Year ended 31st Dec.
		Opened.	Closed.	Remain- ing open at close of the Year.		Total.	Rate per Cent. to Total Amount standing to credit of Depositors.	Average Cost per Trans- action.	
£	£				£ s. d.	£	s. d.	d.	
2,015,903	89,286,066	1,135,525	775,001	6,108,763	14 12 3	414,557†	9 3‡	6·7‡	1894
2,222,543	97,868,975	1,153,236	808,402	6,453,597	15 3 4	414,625†	8 5‡	6·4‡	1895
2,460,645	106,096,641	1,261,178	852,740	6,862,035	15 15 1	429,627†	7 11‡	6·0‡	1896
2,665,664	115,896,786	1,269,995	892,269	7,239,761	16 0 2	450,938†	7 9‡	6·1‡	1897
2,838,304	123,144,099	1,333,395	942,654	7,630,502	16 2 9	450,641†	7 3‡	5·8‡	1898
3,023,821	130,118,605	1,373,799	957,621	8,046,080	16 3 5	473,877†	7 3‡	5·8‡	1899
3,145,978	135,549,645	1,376,171	982,868	8,439,963	16 1 3	487,025†	7 2‡	5·7‡	1900
3,291,263	140,392,916	1,376,946	1,029,154	8,787,075	15 19 6	506,063†	7 2‡	5·8‡	1901
3,390,960	144,605,088	1,386,962	1,041,476	9,133,161	15 16 8	526,007	7 3‡	5·9	1902
3,458,578	146,135,147	1,312,040	1,071,349	9,403,952	15 10 10	549,140	7 6	6·1	1903

† The charges of management in 1894, 1895, 1896, 1897, 1898, and 1900 include the sums of 33,631*l.*, 2,386*l.*, 1,807*l.*, 357*l.*, 31*l.*, and 150*l.* respectively for purchase of land, while the charges in 1894, 1895, 1896, 1897, 1898, 1899, 1900, and 1901 also include 1,774*l.*, 21,502*l.*, 17,911*l.*, 12,539*l.*, 1,371*l.*, 1,154*l.*, 420*l.*, and 2,785*l.* respectively for new buildings. Omitting these amounts, but adding interest at the rate of 5 per cent. thereon, the cost per transaction will be in 1894, 6·1*d.*, in 1895, 6*d.*, in 1896, 5·8*d.*, in 1897, 5·9*d.*, in 1898, 5·8*d.*, in 1899, 5·8*d.*, in 1900, 5·7*d.*, and in 1901, 5·8*d.*, and the percentage of expenses to capital 8*s.* 6*d.*, 8*s.* 7*s.* 7*d.*, 7*s.* 6½*d.*, 7*s.* 3½*d.*, 7*s.* 3½*d.*, 7*s.* 2½*d.*, and 7*s.* 2*d.* respectively. Prior to the passing of the Post Office Savings Bank Act, 1861, it was estimated (*see* Parliamentary Paper, No. 593, 1861) that the average cost of each transaction would be 7*d.*

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

GOVERNMENT STOCK.
 TABLE showing the Business done during the last TEN YEARS.

Y EAR.	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 realised 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.	Amount of Stock transferred to 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 each Stock Account at close of the Year.
1894	13,186	11,015	71,304	23,533	18,315	12	159	1,650,873	3,237	8 6 1	1,625,674	69 1 8	973,091	53 8 0	968,450	1,350	22,774	41,220	976	270,362	183,179	7,092,197	66 11 4
1895	9,725	12,060	68,949	18,090	19,606	17	164	1,185,730	2,837	0 3 2	1,112,568	61 10 0	1,105,960	59 7 2	1,285,491	3,100	27,611	4,477	653	282,099	193,605	6,949,946	100 16 0
1896	10,175	10,947	68,177	16,912	17,965	8	143	1,065,578	2,692	6 9 1	967,884	57 4 7	1,107,687	61 15 2	1,225,386	1,400	26,375	110,854	685	275,303	192,134	6,891,991	101 1 9
1897	9,189	8,203	69,113	16,835	13,769	10	144	1,078,549	2,237	12 3 1	967,142	57 2 2	796,468	57 16 11	891,927	1,700	28,311	1,710	493	273,502	191,684	7,083,564	101 15 4
1898	10,366	7,408	72,071	20,163	12,567	19	191	1,393,990	2,623	3 3 2	1,183,069	58 13 6	714,283	56 16 9	767,898	2,200	38,715	1,133	392	280,566	193,991	7,463,134	103 10 9
1899	13,933	7,011	73,998	26,331	11,789	23	225	1,770,170	2,267	8 6 4	1,670,854	63 19 2	686,133	58 4 0	735,721	4,950	46,639	3,543	1,094	294,186	212,362	8,397,213	106 5 11
1900	22,044	7,077	98,065	41,680	12,028	41	333	2,890,515	4,266	7 6 0	2,890,918	68 19 11	678,374	56 8 0	678,510	6,000	75,189	1,170	1,448	339,403	256,695	10,408,990	111 8 2
1901	23,383	7,789	102,509	46,550	13,574	44	507	3,065,596	4,364	13 6 2	3,192,154	68 11 6	761,029	56 2 2	729,531	6,100	107,631	2,063	727	368,597	316,088	12,798,190	116 15 2
1902	19,184	8,907	118,090	40,863	17,221	53	563	2,592,988	4,647	3 0 9	2,694,447	65 17 10	1,054,181	61 4 4	1,012,942	9,300	133,138	2,436	882	451,234	371,407	14,285,617	120 7 1
1903	22,912	10,365	131,243	47,726	17,742	69	684	2,921,499	5,246	1 3 14	8 0	65 12 2	1,065,578	61 3 9	1,012,238	14,400	151,948	2,650	2,165	467,145	400,381	16,165,546	123 1 6

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

ANNUITIES AND LIFE INSURANCES.

(1.) 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.		Amount of In- surances.		Amount of Claims on Death and Sur- render.			
	Amount of An- nuities.		Amount.		No.		Amount of Annuities.		No.		Amount.		No.		No.			
	No.	£	No.	£	No.	£	No.	£	No.	£	No.	£	No.	£	No.	£		
1894	-	1,505	41,405	540,277	20,418	275,243	164	3,772	1,253	17,202	600	9,130	1,128	56,010	20,107	18,239	291	9,641
1895	-	1,898	49,816	605,563	21,911	305,712	169	4,038	1,300	23,863	646	8,987	720	38,358	20,903	19,140	290	9,861
1896	-	2,203	60,965	825,713	23,920	347,126	208	4,178	1,317	25,336	719	8,746	1,323*	65,582	21,204	18,587	431	9,578
1897	-	2,051	53,237	756,433	26,037	392,285	207	4,009	1,383	24,112	827	10,997	849	48,017	21,512	20,439	321	10,050
1898	-	2,065	55,753	760,354	27,953	432,761	164	3,686	1,374	23,376	864	10,690	731	42,554	21,227	21,503	341	11,673
1899	-	2,031	54,044	719,419	29,747	472,532	147	3,085	1,347	23,617	942	11,891	827	43,723	21,256	21,575	342	10,663
1900	-	2,258	49,893	728,142	31,469	503,297	137	2,722	1,343	19,852	1,080	12,921	677	32,512	21,460	22,185	364	15,422
1901	-	1,764	42,268	562,159	33,269	527,371	142	3,066	1,385	23,630	1,075	14,175	920	44,996	21,972	22,647	380	12,992
1902	-	1,679	42,791	538,770	34,375	548,231	139	2,973	1,353	21,764	1,164	17,172	723	34,646	22,553	23,046	389	14,646
1903	-	1,763	43,973	537,981	35,463	571,904	157	3,424	1,366	24,489	1,210	14,689	692	31,413	22,672	23,063	387	13,126

* New Tables of Life Insurance Premiums introduced 1st February 1896.

APPENDIX J.—*continued.*Post Office Savings Bank—*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 1903, and the Number and Amount of CONTRACTS in existence on the 31st December 1903.

	CONTRACTS ENTERED INTO				TOTAL.	
	From 17 April 1865 to 31 December 1902.		From 1 Jan. 1903 to 31 December 1903.			
	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 1903, viz. :—						
Immediate Annuities - -	40,443	861,466 16 6	1,763	43,973 4 10	42,206	935,440 1 4
Deferred Annuities and Monthly Allowances, Money not returnable - -	1,267	22,449 8 2	72	1,512 0 0	1,339	23,961 8 2
Deferred Annuities and Monthly Allowances, Money returnable - -	2,442	53,773 6 0	85	1,912 0 6	2,527	55,685 6 6
Contracts for Sums payable at Death entered into from the commencement of business on the 17th April 1865 to the 31st December 1903 - - - - -	21,791	1,336,068 0 9	592	31,412 18 2	22,383	1,367,480 18 11
Contracts for Annuities in existence on the 31st December 1903, viz. :—						
Immediate Annuities - -	- -	- - - -	- -	- - - -	24,352	601,012 3 0
Deferred Annuities and Monthly Allowances, Money not returnable - -	- -	- - - -	- -	- - - -	1,090	18,850 14 6
Deferred Annuities and Monthly Allowances, Money returnable - -	- -	- - - -	- -	- - - -	1,307	28,563 11 0
Contracts for Sums payable at Death, in existence on the 31st December 1903 - - - -	- -	- - - -	- -	- - - -	12,90	762,193 8 5

APPENDIX J.—continued.

Post Office Savings Bank—continued.

STATEMENT of the NATURE and AMOUNT of the SECURITIES standing in the NAMES of the COMMISSIONERS for the REDUCTION of the NATIONAL DEBT on account of the POST OFFICE SAVINGS BANKS FUND on December 31st, 1903.

			£ s. d.						£ s. d.		
STOCKS:						ANNUITIES, &c.—cont.					
2½ per cent. Consols - - -	-	-	61,062,221	7	4	Barracks Annuities, expiring 1910, per 53 & 54 Vict. c. 25. - - -	-	-	110,283	6	0
2½ per cent. Annuities - - -	-	-	8,853,170	15	8	British Museum (Purchase of Land) Annuity, expiring 1949, per 57 & 58 Vict. c. 34. - - -	-	-	7,732	10	0
Local Loans 3 per cent. Stock - -	-	-	10,847,690	5	1	Indian Army Pension Deficiency Fund Annuities, expiring 1921-35, per 48 & 49 Vict. c. 67. s. 5 (2), and 59 & 60 Vict. c. 28. s. 37. -	-	-	354,691	15	4
2½ per cent. Annuities (1905) - -	-	-	402,000	0	0	Uganda Railway Annuities, expiring 1925, per 59 & 60 Vict. c. 38., and 63 & 64 Vict. c. 11. -	-	-	281,592	3	6
2½ per cent. Guaranteed Land Stock -	-	-	5,167,550	15	8	Public Offices (Acquisition of Site) Annuity, expiring 1948, per 59 Vict. c. 5. -	-	-	16,766	6	0
2½ per cent. War Stock - - -	-	-	555,000	0	0	Royal Niger Company Annuity, expiring 1928, per 62 & 63 Vict. c. 43. -	-	-	44,474	7	0
Transvaal 3 per cent. Guaranteed Stock - - -	-	-	25,000	0	0	Military Works Annuities, expiring 1926, per 60 Vict. c. 7., 62 & 63 Vict. c. 41., and 1 Edw. VII. c. 40. -	-	-	135,730	12	0
BILLS AND BONDS:						Naval Works Annuities, expiring 1924, per 58 & 59 Vict. c. 35., 62 & 63 Vict. c. 42., and 1 Edw. VII. c. 39. -	-	-	340,223	12	0
Treasury Bills - - - - -	-	-	40,000	0	0	Pacific Cable Annuity, expiring 1952, per 1 Edw. VII. c. 31. -	-	-	77,544	18	0
Exchequer Bonds (1904) - - -	-	-	750,000	0	0	Pensions Commutation Annuities, expiring 1904-12, per 34 & 35 Vict. c. 36. -	-	-	37,455	18	0
Exchequer Bonds (1905) - - -	-	-	1,074,000	0	0	ADVANCES, for which Annuities had not been granted at 31st December 1903:					
Egyptian Guaranteed 3 per cent. Bonds - - -	-	-	588,100	0	0	Under Telegraph Acts, 55 & 56 Vict. c. 59., 59 & 60 Vict. c. 40., 61 & 62 Vict. c. 33., and 62 & 63 Vict. c. 38. -	-	-	560,000	0	0
Greek Guaranteed 2½ per cent. Bonds -	-	-	1,210,400	0	0	" Uganda Railway Acts, 1896 to 1902, 59 & 60 Vict. c. 38., 63 & 64 Vict. c. 11., and 2 Edw. VII. c. 40. -	-	-	367,000	0	0
Irish Land Commission Bonds - -	-	-	750,000	0	0	" Military Works Acts, 1897 to 1901, 60 Vict. c. 7., 62 & 63 Vict. c. 41., and 1 Edw. VII. c. 40. -	-	-	450,000	0	0
Local Loans Bonds - - - - -	-	-	7,400,000	0	0	" Naval Works Acts, 1895 to 1903, 58 & 59 Vict. c. 35., 62 & 63 Vict. c. 42., and 1 Edw. VII. c. 39., and 3 Edw. VII. c. 22. -	-	-	2,117,000	0	0
2½ per cent. War Bonds - - -	-	-	21,000	0	0	" Public Buildings Expenses Act, 1903, 3 Edw. VII. c. 41. -	-	-	44,000	0	0
ANNUITIES FOR TERMS OF YEARS:						" Pensions Commutation Act, 34 & 35 Vict. c. 36. -	-	-	46,703	18	6
Savings Bank Annuities, expiring 1913-14 per 46 & 47 Vict. c. 54., 48 & 49 Vict. c. 43., 50 & 51 Vict. c. 16., 62 & 63 Vict. c. 9., 63 Vict. c. 7., and 1 Edw. VII. c. 7. -	-	-	153,173	0	0	Temporary Loans to Local Loans Fund -	-	-	650,000	0	0
Savings Banks Annuities, expiring 1924-25, per 62 & 63 Vict. c. 9., 63 Vict. c. 7., and 1 Edw. VII. c. 7. -	-	-	517,578	0	0	Cash balance in Banks of England and Ireland - - - - -	-	-	21,419	19	0
Converted Annuity, expiring 1906, per 46 & 47 Vict. c. 54. s. 5, 48 & 49 Vict. c. 43., 63 Vict. c. 7., and 1 Edw. VII. c. 7. -	-	-	321,918	0	0						
Red Sea and India Telegraph Annuity, expiring 1908, per 25 & 26 Vict. c. 39. -	-	-	3,100	0	0						
Russian - Dutch Loan Annuity, expiring 1906, per 54 & 55 Vict. c. 26. -	-	-	35,176	18	0						
Book Debt Annuity, expiring 1924, per 62 & 63 Vict. c. 9., 63 Vict. c. 7., and 1 Edw. VII. c. 7. -	-	-	584,633	0	0						
Light Railways (Ireland) Annuities, expiring 1904, per 54 & 55 Vict. c. 24. s. 4. -	-	-	24,733	18	0						
Telegraph Annuities, expiring 1912-17, per 55 & 56 Vict. c. 59., 59 & 60 Vict. c. 40., 61 & 62 Vict. c. 33., and 62 & 63 Vict. c. 38. -	-	-	284,879	0	0						

APPENDIX K.

Money Orders.

MONEY ORDER BUSINESS in each of the last TEN YEARS.

YEAR.	INLAND ORDERS.			COLONIAL ORDERS.			FOREIGN ORDERS.			GRAND TOTAL.		
	Number.	Amount.	Increase per cent. on Number.	Number.	Amount.	Increase per cent. on Number.	Number.	Amount.	Increase per cent. on Number.	Number.	Amount.	Increase per cent. on Number.
1894-95	9,190,304	24,963,532	1.7	518,562	1,711,818	.5	976,340	2,257,777	Decrease. 5.0	10,685,206	28,923,127	1.5
1895-96	9,394,206	25,582,236	1.5	539,786	1,778,570	4.0	1,028,881	2,566,002	Increase. 4.7	10,900,963	29,726,917	2.0
1896-97	9,314,022	25,919,853	Decrease. 2	573,135	1,905,661	6.1	1,034,460	2,423,573	.7	10,921,617	30,249,087	1.7
1897-98	9,419,609	27,404,145	Increase. 1.2	567,315	1,942,871	Decrease. 1.0	1,131,334	2,777,563	9.3	11,128,258	32,114,579	1.8
1898-99	9,721,647	28,604,078	3.1	593,414	1,958,307	Increase. 4.6	1,160,140	2,816,132	2.5	11,476,901	33,273,517	3.1
1899-1900	10,295,800	30,505,351	5.8	617,340	1,876,411	4.0	1,177,229	2,819,560	1.4	12,087,469	35,301,262	5.3
1900-01	11,375,518	34,454,859	10.5	680,370	2,074,466	10.2	1,207,679	2,946,311	2.5	13,263,567	39,374,665	9.7
1901-02	11,592,333	36,600,120	4.5	784,733	2,463,714	15.3	1,296,342	3,046,367	6.5	13,968,410	42,169,201	5.3
1902-03	12,161,861	38,990,696	2.2	980,462	3,124,351	24.9	1,399,071	3,357,348	8.8	14,531,494	45,462,496	4.1
1903-04	11,261,745	36,430,349	Decrease. 7.3	1,186,073	3,008,333	21.2	1,614,355	3,077,604	8.2	13,964,173	42,716,206	Decrease. 3.9
			9.0			15.5			9.5			Decrease. 5.9

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

YEAR.	ENGLAND AND WALES.					SCOTLAND.					IRELAND.				
	Number.	Amount. £	Increase		Number of Money Orders issued to each 100 of population.	Number.	Amount.	Increase		Number of Money Orders issued to each 100 of population.	Number.	Amount.	Increase		Number of Money Orders issued to each 100 of population.
			per cent.	on				per cent.	on				per cent.	on	
			Number.	Amount.				Number.	Amount.				Number.	Amount.	
1894-95	7,658,756	21,040,022	2·3	1·9	25·4	904,834	£ 2,549,597	Decrease. 1·3	·5	23·9	536,714	£ 1,363,013	·09	·04	11·6
1895-96	7,778,115	21,539,006	1·5	2·3	25·3	1,017,320	2,571,839	2·2	4·7	24·2	538,861	1,371,391	·4	·5	11·8
1896-97	7,784,344	21,851,293	·08	1·4	25·1	902,426	2,606,071	2·4	·1	23·5	537,252	1,401,889	·2	2·2	11·8
1897-98	7,914,255	23,211,225	1·6	6·2	25·2	967,740	2,772,746	2·4	3·9	22·7	547,614	1,510,174	1·9	7·7	12·0
1898-99	8,169,871	24,121,276	3·1	3·9	25·9	1,003,138	2,911,860	Inc. 3·6	5·0	23·6	558,638	1,570,942	2·0	4·0	12·3
1899-1900	8,656,871	25,697,064	6·0	6·5	27·1	1,047,134	3,119,470	4·3	7·1	24·4	588,885	1,688,787	5·4	7·5	13·0
1900-01	9,638,474	29,213,745	11·3	13·6	29·9	1,094,431	3,344,691	4·5	7·2	25·3	645,613	1,896,423	9·1	12·2	14·2
1901-02	10,067,038	31,006,654	4·4	6·1	30·7	1,141,433	3,556,429	4·2	6·3	25·4	683,862	2,097,037	6·4	10·5	15·3
1902-03	10,262,129	32,746,980	1·9	5·6	31·0	1,179,571	3,839,940	3·3	7·8	26·0	710,161	2,340,697	3·8	11·6	16·0
1903-04	9,545,033	29,845,359	7·0	8·9	28·5	1,094,260	3,600,062	Decrease. 7·2	6·1	23·9	622,438	1,984,928	Decrease. 12·4	15·2	14·1

APPENDIX K.—continued.

Money Orders—continued.

STATEMENT showing the NUMBER and AMOUNT of MONEY ORDERS issued by and for other GOVERNMENT DEPARTMENTS, and by the METROPOLITAN POLICE, in each of the last TEN YEARS.

Year.	Admiralty.	Board of Education, England.	Board of Public Works, Ireland.	Board of Trade.	Civil Service Commission.	India Office.	Inland Revenue.	Metropolitan Police.	Office of Works.	Scotch Education Department.	War Office.	Total.
1894-95 { Number Amount £	313,979 1,188,353	7,315 82,355	556 887	90,213 58,914	1,318 5,171	2,215 10,206	580,224 1,919,620	9,507 126,471	9,829 25,978	357 3,893	639,917 2,353,597	1,661,580 5,770,583
1895-96 { Number Amount £	369,762 1,308,597	10,835 101,200	911 183	78,452 50,712	1,077 4,197	2,106 9,065	629,438 2,011,597	10,461 140,722	9,771 29,071	375 4,143	641,639 2,379,326	1,764,147 6,036,113
1896-97 { Number Amount £	398,900 1,386,775	11,289 103,627	143 78	78,968 50,067	964 3,931	1,897 8,049	635,850 2,012,300	11,812 162,310	9,576 26,526	383 4,563	627,579 2,347,510	1,777,794 6,086,126
1897-98 { Number Amount £	487,760 1,491,322	11,964 106,617	286 323	73,542 45,782	1,067 3,838	1,718 7,059	625,621 2,037,317	12,923 179,648	9,692 24,218	390 4,044	680,113 2,341,145	1,803,986 6,241,353
1898-99 { Number Amount £	511,961 1,542,615	11,893 104,414	255 374	76,794 48,194	1,129 3,776	1,573 6,503	632,644 2,012,310	14,054 197,156	4,635 17,073	474 4,707	632,144 2,315,134	1,877,586 6,282,066
1899-1900 { Number Amount £	534,102 1,533,155	12,163 106,664	165 54	76,216 80,178	1,264 4,292	1,413 5,573	630,228 2,054,326	16,272 214,715	4,410 18,074	437 4,634	797,234 2,769,798	2,102,904 6,841,371
1900-01 { Number Amount £	554,656 1,639,434	12,630 106,644	293 403	77,906 49,766	1,391 4,515	1,392 4,893	679,085 2,230,242	22,729 235,644	4,329 20,561	375 4,310	1,368,653 4,897,446	2,718,328 8,692,767
1901-02 { Number Amount £	569,718 1,663,596	11,693 103,218	126 41	76,572 47,516	1,390 4,426	1,233 4,621	746,063 2,725,598	18,533 240,165	6,544 36,351	467 4,748	1,329,518 4,909,301	2,761,936 9,089,890
1902-03 { Number Amount £	583,432 1,702,009	11,900 105,831	317 578	79,403 49,018	1,396 4,279	1,233 4,512	701,237 3,040,569	17,793 246,963	6,322 33,967	478 4,892	1,149,963 3,096,583	2,646,464 8,960,296
1903-04 { Number Amount £	614,097 1,766,885	7,681 42,298	396 343	76,428 46,864	1,203 4,072	1,161 4,291	836,446 3,102,144	17,814 239,897	7,252 40,906	979 5,346	948,893 2,881,701	2,512,290 8,304,276

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

STATEMENT showing the NUMBER and AMOUNT of INLAND TELEGRAPH
MONEY ORDERS issued in each of the last TEN YEARS.

Year.	Number.	Amount.	Increase per cent. on Number.	Increase per cent. on Amount.
1894-95	132,457	£ 456,731	23·9	24·5
1895-96	153,318	515,304	15·7	12·8
1896-97	160,470	528,316	4·7	2·5
1897-98	205,754	698,944	28·2	32·3
1898-99	257,650	878,072	25·2	25·6
1899-1900	311,943	999,086	21·1	13·8
1900-01	369,165	1,128,661	18·3	13·0
1901-02	411,952	1,240,619	11·6	9·9
1902-03	462,885	1,459,496	12·4	17·6
1903-04	475,738	1,384,925	2·8	Decrease. 5·1

1st February 1897.—Rates of Commission reduced.

1st October 1898.—Private messages allowed in Telegrams of advice, and compulsory repetition abolished.

APPENDIX K.—continued.

Money Orders—continued.

TABLE showing the AMOUNT of MONEY ORDER TRANSACTIONS between the UNITED KINGDOM and the COLONIES in each of the last Ten Years.

YEAR.	Australia.		British America.		India.		New Zealand.		South Africa.		West Indies.	Other Colonies and Postal Agencies.				TOTAL.	
	Issued in the U.K.	£	Issued in the U.K.	£	Issued in the U.K.	£	Issued in the U.K.	£	Issued in the U.K.	£	Issued in the U.K.	Issued in the U.K.	£	Issued in the Colonies.	£	Issued in the Colonies.	£
1894-95	124,682	228,454	102,887	183,274	89,405	143,257	30,368	72,688	42,956	325,191	11,496	207,409	25,454	114,227	427,288	1,884,530	
1895-96	117,599	222,797	100,671	176,498	96,345	163,525	31,585	72,988	46,539	355,478	12,748	193,973	28,555	138,600	435,820	1,542,759	
1896-97	112,874	242,083	102,705	163,225	92,537	182,764	31,268	76,785	53,396	453,733	14,085	193,475	33,609	163,172	430,414	1,475,247	
1897-98	111,906	255,880	107,938	171,722	136,699	201,562	32,040	88,802	48,191	346,521	14,773	156,369	32,388	138,080	463,935	1,353,986	
1898-99	113,908	243,516	106,370	178,263	135,069	207,907	31,809	96,642	56,022	355,777	16,463	144,561	35,968	131,013	467,629	1,360,678	
1899-1900	114,408	244,132	107,786	197,034	103,155	209,104	32,209	112,761	64,641	365,057	14,779	145,104	39,183	127,498	476,631	1,399,780	
1900-01	113,131	250,757	107,139	218,653	71,863	218,239	31,206	108,966	70,445	636,622	14,977	142,876	40,722	146,910	446,463	1,625,012	
1901-02	113,066	238,616	111,574	252,502	75,973	237,104	32,370	106,959	60,107	788,967	19,069	136,280	45,712	166,985	466,901	2,006,813	
1902-03	117,167	257,001	126,740	313,244	97,649	292,663	34,398	130,816	107,224	1,274,496	19,969	131,632	57,494	174,769	559,941	2,564,610	
1903-04	116,332	237,569	153,339	452,514	86,572	296,902	36,421	133,347	132,446	1,085,608	17,064	128,000	50,778	189,429	534,964	3,093,399	

APPENDIX K.—*continued.*

Money Orders—*continued.*

TABLE showing the AMOUNT OF MONEY ORDER TRANSACTIONS between the UNITED KINGDOM and FOREIGN COUNTRIES in each of the last TEN YEARS.

YEAR.	Austria.		Belgium.		Denmark.		Egypt.		France.		Germany.		Holland.		Hungary.		Italy.	
	Issued in the U.K.	Issued in Aust.	Issued in the U.K.	Issued in Bel.	Issued in the U.K.	Issued in Den.	Issued in the U.K.	Issued in Egypt.	Issued in the U.K.	Issued in France.	Issued in the U.K.	Issued in Ger.	Issued in the U.K.	Issued in Holland.	Issued in the U.K.	Issued in Hun.	Issued in the U.K.	Issued in Italy.
1891-95	£ 27,815	20,259	£ 31,045	40,101	£ 15,134	15,020	£ 4,654	20,211	£ 122,597	157,531	£ 170,558	144,550	£ 21,323	27,010	£ 5,844	5,646	£ 38,256	16,707
1895-96	32,054	24,561	32,991	51,277	15,562	15,354	4,370	26,237	129,064	164,355	178,087	140,108	20,390	30,327	5,838	7,757	47,751	21,213
1896-97	40,684	26,516	34,098	53,426	16,565	15,290	4,738	28,020	137,261	180,080	190,090	148,716	42,635	32,525	8,052	7,525	55,157	17,703
1897-98	52,704	28,961	39,162	56,301	17,193	16,014	5,000	31,563	140,109	164,664	203,751	160,222	50,616	31,085	11,445	7,524	69,753	16,929
1898-99	68,586	34,131	35,612	58,254	17,355	19,351	5,985	50,675	155,206	175,382	201,124	160,896	47,798	32,039	15,002	9,812	71,275	16,325
1899-1900	85,680	33,774	40,440	59,766	19,787	21,220	6,094	49,874	155,418	170,180	205,117	172,568	30,654	32,665	20,394	9,545	76,176	16,132
1900-01	91,822	34,619	42,220	58,232	20,496	21,617	6,227	43,725	167,579	185,300	205,319	175,387	33,735	34,427	25,060	11,540	84,819	16,556
1901-02	83,290	38,798	42,691	60,562	22,212	18,380	6,897	41,919	179,874	176,901	219,231	192,552	40,625	35,973	36,960	12,261	94,330	18,897
1902-03	110,524	41,153	50,963	62,964	25,695	23,603	8,788	46,106	188,417	190,659	238,816	202,818	46,533	37,210	45,723	15,074	111,966	20,171
1903-04	150,988	46,002	50,809	66,076	27,177	20,180	9,272	48,005	208,004	212,488	238,039	216,251	60,749	36,119	59,210	19,163	133,699	23,486

APPENDIX K.—*continued.***Money Orders—*continued.***TABLE showing the AMOUNT of MONEY ORDER TRANSACTIONS between the UNITED KINGDOM and FOREIGN COUNTRIES in each of the last TEN YEARS—*continued.*

YEAR.	Japan.		Norway.		Portugal.		Sweden.		Switzerland.		United States.		Other Countries.		Total.	
	Issued in the U.K.	Issued in Japan.	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 the U.K.	Issued in Switzerland.	Issued in the U.K.	Issued in U.S.	Issued in the U.K.	Issued in Other Countries.	Issued in the U.K.	Issued Abroad.
1894-95	£ 1,063	£ 1,180	£ 27,774	£ 9,374	£ 967	— †	£ 29,243	£ 11,802	£ 34,873	£ 24,509	£ 244,177	£ 952,510	£ 2,380	£ 9,355	£ 798,983	£ 1,470,894
1895-96	1,084	2,224	28,891	10,651	916	— †	31,783	11,842	36,079	26,512	221,873	1,015,187	2,846	10,815	798,582	1,567,420
1896-97	1,366	2,060	36,901	11,782	729	— †	37,633	12,496	34,650	26,908	247,853	973,637	3,925	12,503	803,558	1,539,015
1897-98	1,211	2,413	44,164	12,501	765	— †	42,023	14,209	39,161	28,964	251,965	958,576	15,770	263,646	993,901	1,783,662
1898-99	1,351	2,327	42,139	14,622	1,124	251	43,262	14,397	38,964	30,065	255,367	952,589	13,991	230,446	1,015,170	1,900,062
1899-1900	1,561	2,344	43,252	15,282	1,116	653	45,752	15,425	41,846	31,58	248,312	1,039,444	8,881	110,121	1,039,469	1,780,911
1900-01	2,011	2,700	48,380	21,327	1,529	1,223	52,602	17,829	42,964	30,704	259,762	1,116,617	8,639	12,653	1,089,975	1,764,336
1901-02	2,375	3,046	50,703	18,094	2,033	1,854	55,329	16,498	46,481	33,796	281,887	1,189,877	7,634	11,507	1,175,142	1,570,225
1902-03	2,267	4,286	56,542	18,617	2,158	2,340	64,356	17,527	52,569	36,018	369,524	1,294,104	7,102	13,815	1,329,582	2,027,765
1903-04	2,451	4,224	58,571	19,057	2,394	3,043	73,946	18,095	54,325	39,288	391,969	1,440,414	7,442	14,479	1,446,665	2,231,849

† The issue of Money Orders in Portugal on the United Kingdom was suspended.

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

STATEMENT showing the NUMBER and AMOUNT of TELEGRAPH MONEY ORDER TRANSACTIONS between the UNITED KINGDOM and FOREIGN COUNTRIES since the establishment of the FOREIGN TELEGRAPH MONEY ORDER SYSTEM.

Year.	Austria.	Belgium.	Egypt.	France.	Germany.	Hungary.	Italy.	Luxem- bourg.	Nether- lands.	Norway.	Rou- mania.	Sweden.	Switzer- land.	Total.
1898-9 { Number . . . Amount . . . £	—	—	—	—	933	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	933 5,102
1899-1900 { Number . . . Amount . . . £	26 138	176 941	—	—	3,101 16,894	2 11	—	1 10	403 1,430	21 113	7 43	—	37 219	3,774 19,789
1900-1 { Number . . . Amount . . . £	431 2,345	758 4,787	—	—	3,811 20,940	80 485	231 1,687	—	922 3,340	243 1,558	57 267	19 135	268 1,610	6,827 37,172
1901-2 { Number . . . Amount . . . £	562 2,855	1,040 6,304	20 195	2,227 13,471	4,606 24,637	139 1,689	456 3,252	10 71	1,643 7,194	373 2,355	53 326	137 880	403 2,634	11,678 65,733
1902-3 { Number . . . Amount . . . £	701 3,705	1,199 7,739	38 319	3,340 19,198	5,094 26,867	197 1,031	552 3,471	11 70	2,372 9,783	351 1,973	57 360	199 1,323	410 2,503	14,511 78,361
1903-4 { Number . . . Amount . . . £	910 4,845	965 5,531	31 294	4,537 26,700	5,643 30,728	229 1,337	614 4,379	11 32	2,683 10,066	398 2,177	80 461	233 1,479	507 3,353	16,891 91,435

APPENDIX L.

Postal Orders.

APPENDIX L.

Postal Orders.

TABLE showing the NUMBER and VALUE of POSTAL ORDERS issued in each of the last TEN YEARS.

cat.	NUMBER, IN THOUSANDS, OF EACH CLASS OF POSTAL ORDERS ISSUED ('000 OMITTED).																													
	1884-85			1885-86			1886-87			1887-88			1888-89			1889-1900			1900-01			1901-02			1902-03			1903-04		
	d.	s.	d.	d.	s.	d.	d.	s.	d.	d.	s.	d.	d.	s.	d.	d.	s.	d.	d.	s.	d.	d.	s.	d.	d.	s.	d.	d.	s.	d.
1884-85	—	4,848	3,542	4,311	3,940	3,361	1,968	3,901	1,674	8,949	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
1885-86	—	5,280	3,785	4,578	4,288	3,523	2,123	4,091	1,776	9,349	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
1886-87	—	5,562	4,041	4,944	4,516	3,706	2,248	4,304	1,903	9,792	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
1887-88	—	6,207	4,413	5,217	4,855	3,935	2,388	4,582	2,047	10,310	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
1888-89	—	7,601	4,967	5,843	5,116	4,217	2,535	4,943	2,152	10,917	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
1889-1900	—	8,921	5,094	6,267	5,432	4,599	2,678	5,428	2,239	11,719	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
1900-01	—	8,245	5,305	6,564	5,730	5,030	2,966	5,662	2,303	12,401	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
1901-02	—	7,889	5,688	6,928	6,142	5,241	3,146	5,943	2,556	13,167	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
1902-03	—	8,259	5,922	7,223	6,478	5,462	3,145	6,266	2,670	13,673	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
1903-04	381	6,671	4,420	6,538	6,431	5,067	2,544	4,844	1,984	10,913	737	1,069	740	1,143	2,774	1,218	512	732	442	9,667	2,014	305	214	593	411	—	—	—	—	—

* These Orders were not issued prior to 1 July 1903.

APPENDIX L.—*continued.*Postal Orders—*continued.*TABLE showing the NUMBER and VALUE of POSTAL ORDERS issued in each of the last TEN YEARS—*continued.*

Year.	NUMBER, IN THOUSANDS, OF EACH CLASS OF POSTAL ORDERS ISSUED ('000 OMITTED).																				Total.		Increase per cent.	
	s. d.		s. d.		s. d.		s. d.		s. d.		s. d.		s. d.		s. d.		s. d.		s. d.		Number.	Value.	Number.	Value.
	13	0	13	6	14	0	14	6	15	0	15	6	16	0	16	6	17	0	17	6				
1894-95	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	60,910,000	£ 22,907,000	6·0	4·6
1895-96	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	64,323,000	24,052,000	5·6	5·0
1896-97	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	67,444,000	24,997,000	4·9	3·9
1897-98	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	71,357,000	26,196,000	6·2	4·8
1898-99	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	77,046,000	27,403,000	7·5	4·6
1899-1900	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	82,423,000	29,834,000	7·0	5·2
1900-01	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	85,741,000	30,106,000	4·0	4·4
1901-02	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	91,053,000	32,960,000	6·2	9·5
1902-03	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	93,868,000	32,990,000	2·4	dec. '2
1903-04	267	174	281	120	2,424	113	289	91	123	121	118	79	142	12,416	594	—	—	—	—	—	90,571,000	34,301,000	dec. 2·9	inc. 4·3

* These Orders were not issued prior to 1 July 1903.

APPENDIX M.

Telephone Trunk Wires.

STATEMENT showing the NUMBER of CIRCUITS, MILES of WIRE, and CALLS, together with the CAPITAL EXPENDITURE and the REVENUE in each Year since the TRUNK LINES of the NATIONAL TELEPHONE COMPANY were acquired by the State.

Year.	Circuits.	Increase.	Miles of Wire.	Increase.	Capital Expenditure.	Increase.	Calls.	Increase.	Revenue.	Increase.
1897-98	877	73	55,721	7,866	£ 1,185,518	£ 187,611	5,888,247	648,416	£ 134,066	£ 30,710
1898-99	953	76	63,109	7,388	1,327,997	141,779	7,066,609	1,178,362	168,614	34,548
1899-1900	1,029	76	69,713	6,604	1,500,610	173,313	8,091,631	1,025,022	198,071	24,457
1900-01	1,116	87	76,831	7,118	1,632,780	132,170	8,980,733	889,102	214,545	21,474
1901-02	1,165	49	83,302	6,471	1,866,431	213,651	10,080,716	1,099,983	240,656	26,111
1902-03	1,309	144	93,473	10,171	2,091,417	224,986	11,574,229	1,493,513	274,885	34,179
1903-04	1,418	109	102,799	9,326	2,300,024	108,607	13,467,975	1,898,746	325,525	50,690

Private Wires and Provincial Telephone Exchange Wires.

STATEMENT showing the NUMBER of CONTRACTS, MILES of WIRE, and INSTRUMENTS, and the RENTALS in each of the last Ten Years.

Year.	Contracts.	Increase.	Miles of Wire.	Increase.	Instruments.	Increase.	Rentals.*	Increase.
1894-95	-	-	23,209	106	10,341	107	£ 140,088	£ 1,319
1895-96	-	Inc. 4	21,581	Dec. 1,628	10,385	44	†194,312	Dec. 5,776
1896-97	-	122	22,380	Inc. 799	10,401	16	135,379	Inc. 1,067
1897-98	-	Dec. 10	27,114	4,734	10,825	424	‡180,109	Dec. 5,270
1898-99	-	Inc. 92	30,198	3,084	11,396	571	142,602	Inc. 12,493
1899-1900	-	125	32,096	1,898	12,020	624	148,250	5,648
1900-01	-	114	34,356	2,260	13,037	1,017	§155,694	7,444
1901-02	-	389	41,307	6,851	15,432	2,895	182,143	26,449
1902-03	-	1,610	43,953	2,746	17,645	2,218	194,429	12,386
1903-04	-	1,232	49,210	5,257	20,377	2,732	206,786	12,357
	-	1,201						

* These amounts include rentals for certain lines leased to Cable Companies.

† The decrease is due to certain lines leased by Cable Companies having been given up, and to the receipts for Telephone Trunk Lines being no longer brought to account as rental.

‡ The rates for Private Wires and Telephone Exchange Wires were reduced in 1897 and existing rentals were reduced accordingly.

§ The rates for Exchange Wires were reduced in 1900 and Subscribers were given the option of renting their circuits at Inclusive or at Toll Rates.

GENERAL CAPITAL ACCOUNT to 31st March 1904.

The amount of the capital advanced by the Treasury to 31st March 1904 was 4,300,000*l.* Repayment by the Post Office is effected by means of Terminable Annuities charged against Subhead B of the Telegraph Vote. The amount so charged up to the 31st March 1904 was 1,105,722*l.* 7*s.*, being 788,723*l.* 3*s.* 4*d.* in repayment of capital, and 316,999*l.* 3*s.* 8*d.* for interest.

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APPENDIX O.

Post Office Telephone Service—London Area.

AN ACCOUNT OF THE ABOVE SERVICE FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31st MARCH 1904.

RECEIPTS.		EXPENDITURE.	
Subscribers' Rentals :—			£
Proportion of Subscriptions paid in 1902-3 but proper to 1903-4	31,934	Maintenance of System	26,316
Paid in the year 1903-4 :—	£	Salaries, Wages, &c. of Staff, including provision for Pensions of Established Staff	22,495
At Flat Rates	20,645	Rent, Rates, Fuel and Light, including estimated Rental Value of Premises already belonging to the Department	6,546
At Toll Rates	79,695	Miscellaneous Expenses (Stationery, Travelling, &c.)	2,050
Less proportion proper to 1904-5	100,340		
	52,522		
Message Fees, in addition to fixed minimum of 1 <i>l.</i> 10 <i>s.</i> per subscriber	46,818		
Call Office Fees	5,117		
Rentals of wires leased to National Telephone Co.	1,580		
Miscellaneous receipts	3,192		
Value of services rendered to Government Departments without payment	421		
	1,820	Balance available towards meeting Depreciation, Interest, &c. (<i>vide notes</i>)	33,515
	90,822		£ 90,822

NOTES.—(1) The estimated amount required to provide for depreciation of plant, inclusive of spare wires, is 39,921*l.*, and interest at 3 per cent. on the capital expenditure of 1,514,300*l.* is 45,429*l.*, making together 85,350*l.*

(2) Terminable annuities have been created, payable from the vote for the Telegraph Service, to provide for the repayment, with interest at 3 per cent., of capital raised for telephone purposes under the Telegraph Act of 1899. The proportions proper to the London Telephone Service of the annuity payments already made are as follows :—payment on 1 April 1901, 24,406*l.* 2*s.* 6*d.* ; payment on 1 April 1902, 57,772*l.* 14*s.* ; payment on 1 April 1903, 95,001*l.* 15*s.* 2*d.*

(3) The annuities provide for the repayment of the capital in 12-15 years, while the estimated life of the plant averages 36 years. The annuity required for interest and sinking fund on a capital expenditure of 1,514,300*l.*, repayable in 30 years with interest at 3 per cent., would be 77,259*l.*

APPENDIX P.

Inland Revenue Licenses.

NUMBER and DESCRIPTION of LICENSES issued by the Post Office in each of the last TEN YEARS.

YEAR.	Brewers.	Dogs.	Male Servants.	Carriages.	Armorial Bearings.	Guns.	Game-keepers.	Motors.	Total Number.	Revenue. £
1894-95	15,901	1,152,590	114,512	294,911	36,470	169,712	3,632	—	1,927,098	1,098,866
1895-96	15,007	1,205,615	117,176	314,954	36,794	161,892	3,746	—	1,906,834	1,078,994
1896-97	13,940	1,238,921	118,968	308,014	35,553	172,857	3,908	—	1,932,708	1,094,494
1897-98	13,717	1,254,907	102,797	304,918	32,715	176,008	3,902	—	1,936,963	1,083,388
1898-99	13,089	1,287,504	118,094	321,777	36,083	179,986	4,019	—	2,007,350	1,134,810
1899-1900	11,893	1,306,557	119,896	321,325	36,153	199,947	4,174	—	2,049,614	1,161,066
1900-01	11,611	1,343,913	132,494	328,896	36,549	215,591	4,296	—	2,113,949	1,194,586
1901-02	11,153	1,404,283	133,976	334,601	36,516	228,273	4,368	—	2,196,823	1,239,061
1902-03	10,960	1,462,049	137,425	340,379	37,273	230,006	4,442	123	2,265,987	1,272,052
1903-04	10,623	1,492,025	123,754	348,266	37,060	225,386	4,302	373	2,306,313	1,261,867

APPENDIX Q.

RETURN showing, for each YEAR from 1894-95, the REVENUE, EXPENDITURE, and NET REVENUE of the POSTAL SERVICES.

YEAR.	REVENUE.			EXPENDITURE.											Percentage of Total Expenditure to Total Revenue.	Net Revenue.	Net Revenue after deducting Expenditure on Sites and Buildings from Total Expenditure.	
	Postal Receipts.	Extra Receipts.	Estimated Value of Services to other Departments.	Total.	Sites and Buildings.		Superannuations and other non-effective Charges.	Salaries, Wages, &c.	Percentage of Salaries, &c. to Total Revenue.	Conveyance of Mails.	Percentage of Conveyance of Mails to Total Revenue.	Packet Service.	Other Expenditure.					Total Expenditure.
					Purchase.	Erection.							Under Post Office Vote.	Under other Votes.				
1894-95	10,746,014	—	277,446	11,025,460	12,697	175,390	188,919	4,544,657	41.22	1,447,980	13.13	729,813	677,534	178,464	7,955,344	73.15	3,070,116	3,258,103
1895-96	11,465,370	—	294,575	11,759,945	49,847	170,075	198,336	4,680,171	39.80	1,446,467	12.32	714,332	625,074	199,980	8,069,272	68.76	3,673,673	3,893,596
1896-97	11,876,656	39,841	230,438	12,146,935	8,842	162,501	207,529	4,874,069	40.13	1,433,517	11.97	722,585	619,298	197,985	8,246,356	67.94	3,900,579	4,071,922
1897-98	12,306,694	—	213,682	12,420,376	52,784	183,309	224,324	5,174,114	41.66	1,512,605	12.18	746,757	638,836	200,688	8,683,317	69.91	3,737,069	3,923,152
1898-99	12,841,369	—	207,918	13,049,317	37,127	186,760	249,443	5,532,771	42.40	1,533,261	11.77	821,370	671,078	206,196	9,190,006	70.42	3,869,311	4,033,198
1899-1900	13,192,020	—	292,315	13,391,335	115,294	169,096	269,092	5,899,550	44.05	1,537,987	11.48	769,307	719,944	213,747	9,683,999	73.29	3,710,336	3,994,728
1900-01	13,779,886	—	218,584	13,998,470	78,789	186,373	286,255	6,213,073	44.30	1,575,540	11.26	764,805	732,271	234,478	10,041,584	71.74	3,963,886	4,186,048
1901-02	14,226,906	—	238,964	14,465,870	106,340	160,382	300,980	6,469,896	44.72	1,640,959	11.34	770,431	756,561	259,852	10,465,101	72.84	4,000,769	4,257,491
1902-03	14,760,694	—	244,568	15,005,262	112,038	205,630	311,232	6,704,201	44.68	1,665,298	11.10	770,395	761,107	270,057	10,819,938	72.11	4,185,324	4,502,992
1903-04 (Estimated)	15,539,100	—	263,294	15,802,394	160,321	214,844	334,995	6,902,065	43.62	1,728,138	10.92	794,649	763,550	286,025	11,180,087	70.65	4,644,307	5,019,372

RETURN showing, for each YEAR from 1894-95, the REVENUE, EXPENDITURE, and NET REVENUE of the POST OFFICE TELEGRAPHS.

[illegible]

APPENDIX S.

STATEMENT showing for each YEAR from 1894-95 the combined REVENUE, EXPENDITURE, and NET REVENUE of the POSTAL and TELEGRAPH SERVICES.

YEAR.	Revenue.			Expenditure.										Per-centage of Total Expenditure to Total Revenue.	Net Revenue.
	Receipts.	Estimated Value of Services to other Departments.	Total.	Salaries, Wages, &c.		Superannuations and other Non-Effective Charges.		Sites and Buildings.		Other Expenditure.					
				Amount.	Per-centage to Total Revenue.	Amount.	Per-centage to Total Expenditure.	Amount.	Per-centage to Total Expenditure.	Amount.	Per-centage to Total Expenditure.				
1894-95	£ 13,346,999	£ 324,875	£ 13,671,374	£ 6,378,341	46·05	59·37	£ 228,710	2·13	£ 244,756	2·28	£ 3,891,589	36·22	£ 2,923,478		
1895-96	14,301,119	338,620	14,639,739	6,375,590	44·92	59·74	240,774	2·19	303,632	2·81	3,880,597	35·26	3,633,126		
1896-97	14,838,946	275,343	15,114,289	6,843,570	45·28	61·25	254,908	2·24	266,013	2·34	3,903,675	35·16	3,756,153		
1897-98	15,237,046	255,053	15,492,099	7,255,123	46·83	61·15	285,735	2·37	275,500	2·28	4,245,750	35·20	3,429,041		
1898-99	16,045,705	263,667	16,309,462	7,704,289	47·24	60·80	322,982	2·55	255,016	2·01	4,389,833	34·64	3,637,442		
1899-1900	16,581,766	273,061	16,854,827	8,179,272	48·53	61·80	330,125	2·61	361,050	2·69	4,541,738	33·81	3,481,744		
1900-01	17,157,475	297,348	17,454,823	8,536,942	49·02	61·83	372,630	2·69	305,212	2·21	4,903,894	33·27	3,616,545		
1901-02	17,719,504	316,412	18,035,916	8,846,249	49·27	61·50	397,374	2·71	348,528	2·37	5,064,879	34·42	3,348,868		
1902-03	18,392,439	336,639	18,729,128	9,213,435	49·19	60·83	414,976	2·74	402,917	2·66	5,114,187	33·77	3,583,613		
1903-04 (Estimated)	19,233,238	327,251	19,560,500	9,464,355	48·39	59·52	446,660	2·81	516,308	3·25	5,472,560	34·42	3,660,696		

APPENDIX T.

**Extract from the Finance Accounts for the
Year ended 31st March 1904.**

*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.

	£	s.	d.	£	s.	d.
Gross Receipts :						
From Postage Stamps sold by Postmasters in the United Kingdom -	16,099,697	1	2½			
From Postage Stamps sold by Stamp Distributors of Inland Revenue -	242,355	5	2	16,342,052	6	4½
From Postage collected in cash by Country Postmasters -	148,175	17	3½			
From Postage collected in cash in the Metropolis -	247,729	13	2			
				395,935	10	5½
From Postage collected for credit of Imperial Post Office by Foreign Offices, &c. -	113,202	2	9			
From Postage collected by Colonial Offices and Postmasters and Agents Abroad -	52,948	0	10½			
				166,150	3	7½
From Commission on Money Orders -	155,922	19	8			
Ditto Postal Orders -	392,141	15	2½			
				548,064	14	10½
From Miscellaneous Receipts -	-	-	-	38,601	13	4
				17,490,774	8	8½
Payments out of Receipts :						
For Postage, &c., refunded -	23,129	5	10½			
To Inland Revenue Department -	568,860	0	0			
To Railway Companies, &c., on account of Parcel Post -	963,186	9	0			
For Postage collected for credit of Colonial Offices -	182,194	4	8½			
For Postage collected for credit of Foreign Offices, &c. -	194,804	12	8			
				1,931,674	12	3
Net Receipts	-	-	£	15,559,099	16	5½
Payments into Exchequer	-	-	-	£15,450,000	0	0

General Post Office, }
June 1904.

CHARLES A. KING.
Comptroller and Accountant-General.

APPENDIX T.—*continued.*

TELEGRAPH SERVICE.

	£	s.	d.	£	s.	d.
Gross Receipts :						
For transmission of Telegrams, &c., in						
Cash - - - - -	1,464,992	3	10½			
For transmission of Telegrams, &c., in						
Stamps - - - - -	2,743,434	12	3½			
				4,208,426	16	2
Payments out of Receipts :						
To Cable Companies, &c. - - -	529,520	4	9			
To Telegram Moneys refunded, &c. -	4,748	13	4			
				534,268	18	1
Net Receipts -	£			8,674,157	18	1
Payments into Exchequer -				£3,700,000	0	0

General Post Office, }
June 1904.

CHARLES A. KING,
Comptroller and Accountant-General.

APPENDIX U.

SUMMARY of STATISTICS for the YEAR 1903-04 compared with
the PREVIOUS YEAR.

	1902-03.	1903-04.	Increase per Cent.	For details see pages.
Postal.				
Postal packets delivered - -	4,053,600,000	4,206,500,000	3·77	35-38
Parcels delivered - -	90,300,000	94,400,000	4·54	39
Registered Letters and Parcels -	20,081,528	20,073,041	Dec. 0·04	40-43
Express Delivery Services - -	1,107,106	1,290,833	Inc. 16·60	44
Undelivered Postal Packets, &c. -	25,683,216	26,707,983	3·99	65
Foreign and Colonial Mails, Letters, &c. :-				
Despatched (Weight) -	* Lb. 23,054,500	† Lb. 24,355,000	5·64	} 46-47
Received (Weight) -	* Lb. 10,356,500	† Lb. 10,803,500	4·32	
Parcels :-				
Despatched (Number) -	2,109,755	2,213,819	4·93	} 48 51
Received (Number) -	1,244,850	1,295,484	4·07	
Savings Bank transactions :-				
Deposits :-				
Number - - - -	* 15,250,316	† 15,325,618	0·49	} 70
Amount - - - -	* £42,217,003	† £40,857,206	Dec. 3·22	
Withdrawals :-				
Number - - - -	* 6,012,983	† 6,180,419	Inc. 2·78	} 70
Amount - - - -	* £41,395,800	† £42,786,025	3·36	
Money Orders :-				
Number - - - -	14,531,424	13,964,173	Dec. 3·90	} 76-84
Amount - - - -	£45,402,495	£42,716,206	Dec. 5·92	
Postal Orders :-				
Number - - - -	93,268,000	90,571,000	Dec. 2·89	} 86-87
Amount - - - -	£32,900,000	£34,301,000	Inc. 4·26	
Telegraph.				
Telegrams - - - -	92,471,000	89,997,000	Dec. 2·68	} 66-67
Telephone Trunk Calls - -	11,574,229	13,467,975	Inc. 16·36	
Postal and Telegraph Combined.				
Gross Revenue - - - -	£18,729,128	£19,560,509	4·44	} 93-97
Gross Expenditure - - - -	£15,145,515	£15,899,883	4·98	
Net Revenue - - - -	£3,583,613	£3,660,626	2·15	} 59-60
Staff (all classes) - - - -	183,595	188,031	2·42	

* Year 1902.

† Year 1903.

CANCELLED

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