

POST OFFICE.

RETURNS to Two ORDERS of the Honourable The House of Commons,
dated 18 February and 22 March 1841;—for,

RETURNS of the Number of CHARGEABLE LETTERS which have passed through the London General Post (Inwards and Outwards) since the first general Reduction of Postage on the 5th day of December 1839, dividing the Time, as far as practicable, into Periods of four complete Weeks each, and distinguishing, as regards each Period, the Unpaid, Paid, Stamped, and Total Number of Letters; also, a similar Return of the estimated Numbers of Letters for the Year immediately preceding the Reduction:—Of the Number of LETTERS which have passed through the LONDON DISTRICT POST (exclusive of all General Post Letters) for the same Periods, where practicable, and distinguished in the same manner as in the last Return:—COMPARATIVE STATEMENT of the Number of LETTERS (including Franks during the existence of the Franking Privilege) delivered in the United Kingdom in One Week of each Calendar Month, beginning with November 1839, and ending with the present Time:—RETURNS showing the GROSS and NET POST-OFFICE REVENUE, and the Cost of Management, for each of the Years ending the 5th day of January 1839, 1840, and 1841; distinguishing the Revenue of Great Britain from that of Ireland:—Of the AMOUNT paid by the Post-office in respect of the TRANSIT of the MAILS in Great Britain during the Years ending the 5th day of January 1839, 1840, and 1841; distinguishing in each Year the Amount paid in respect of the Mails conveyed by Railways:—Of the Amount of MONEY ORDERS issued in London, and of the Poundage received thereon, in each of the Three Months ending the 5th day of February 1839, 1840, and 1841; also, a Return of the Amount of Money Orders paid in London in each of the same Three Months.

(*Mr. Tufnell.*)

AN ACCOUNT of the NET AMOUNT of POST-OFFICE REVENUE derived from Foreign and Colonial Postage in the Year ending the 5th day of January 1841.

(*Mr. Goulburn.*)

Ordered, by The House of Commons, to be Printed,
5 April 1841.

— 1. —

LONDON GENERAL POST.

RETURN of the Number of CHARGEABLE LETTERS which have passed through the London General Post (Inwards and Outwards), since the first general Reduction of Postage, on the 5th December 1839, dividing the Time (as far as practicable) into Periods of four complete Weeks each, and distinguishing, as regards each Period, the Unpaid, Paid, and Stamped, and Total Number of Letters; also, a similar Return of the estimated Numbers of Letters for the Year immediately preceding the Reduction.

Four Weeks ending	1839.			1840.			1841.						
	Unpaid.	Paid.	Total.	Four Weeks ending	Unpaid.	Paid.	Stamped.	Total.	Four Weeks ending	Unpaid.	Paid.	Stamped.	Total.
5 January -	1,299,789	201,127	1,500,916	4 January -	1,596,434	505,847	-	2,102,281	2 January	333,483	1,974,684	2,047,120	4,855,287
2 February -	1,326,304	217,071	1,543,375	1 February (a) -	787,139	2,217,127	-	3,004,266	30 Ditto -	370,080	2,204,919	2,108,074	4,683,073
2 March -	1,345,725	212,175	1,557,880	29 February -	462,647	2,875,427	-	3,338,074	27 February	406,173	2,349,958	2,275,321	5,031,452
30 March -	1,387,315	217,041	1,604,356	28 March -	386,150	2,986,517	-	3,372,667	27 March -	435,388	2,240,080	2,375,659	5,060,127
27 April -	1,429,775	226,541	1,656,316	25 April -	423,930	2,980,970	-	3,404,900					
25 May -	1,383,053	236,712	1,619,765	23 May -	410,399	2,630,895	419,984	3,461,278					
22 June -	1,383,706	265,314	1,649,020	20 June -	307,831	2,354,932	942,430	3,665,193					
20 July -	1,365,343	339,634	1,704,977	18 July -	337,176	2,288,040	1,188,229	3,813,445					
17 August -	1,317,668	302,745	1,620,413	15 August -	351,234	2,181,296	1,439,334	3,971,864					
14 September -	1,412,277	299,994	1,712,271	12 September -	291,973	2,229,952	1,535,137	4,057,062					
12 October -	1,344,819	298,941	1,642,860	10 October -	308,686	2,201,756	1,671,736	4,182,178					
9 November -	1,307,244	285,597	1,592,831	7 November -	267,743	2,119,278	1,910,581	4,297,602					
7 December -	1,359,439	323,473	1,682,912	5 December -	296,285	2,096,097	1,992,219	4,385,301					

The Fourpenny Rate came into operation on 6th December 1839.
 The Penny Rate - - - - - 10th January 1840.
 Stamps - - - - - 6th May 1840.

(a) Of this period part of the first week was during the operation of the Fourpenny Rate. The last three weeks of the period give an average of 811,501 letters per week. The corresponding period of 1841 gives an average of 1,166,003 letters per week, showing an increase of $35\frac{1}{4}$ per cent.

Inland Office, 11 March 1841.

W. Bohenham.

LONDON DISTRICT POST.

RETURN of the Number of Letters which have passed through the London District Post (exclusive of all General Post Letters), for the same Periods (as far as practicable), and distinguished in the same manner as the last Return.

	1839.				1840.				1841.			
	Total.	Four Weeks ending	Paid.	Unpaid.	Stamped.	Total.	Four Weeks ending	Paid.	Unpaid.	Stamped.	Total.	
Total Number of Letters for four weeks, ended												
1 January 1839	970,953	4 January	825,282	477,273	-	1,302,555	2 January	810,052	140,328	619,166	1,569,546	
Ditto for four weeks, ended 29 ditto	1,067,358	1 February	1,207,985	831,589	-	1,539,574	30 Ditto	926,264	157,242	752,134	1,835,640	
Ditto for two weeks, ended 12 February 1839	572,742	29 Ditto	1,312,379	812,757	-	1,625,186	27 February	884,822	207,265	771,041	1,863,128	
Ditto for two weeks, ended 4 May 1839	577,273	28 March	1,308,100	214,863	-	1,522,963	27 March	833,849	142,766	789,543	1,766,158	
Ditto for two weeks, ended 30 November 1839	510,693	25 April	1,368,100	202,390	-	1,570,490						
		23 May	1,198,613	197,922	285,079	1,681,614						
		20 June	1,001,088	182,914	518,342	1,702,344						
		18 July	920,157	175,927	565,145	1,661,229						
		15 August	814,873	159,153	536,197	1,510,223						
The above returns are all that can be furnished for 1839, and these are partly taken from the returns dated 13th March 1840, and from some weekly accounts that were kept in May and November 1839.		12 September	752,423	152,441	458,658	1,363,522						
		10 October	790,919	151,106	501,069	1,443,094						
		7 November	830,235	150,429	577,598	1,558,262						
		5 December	812,559	148,632	596,997	1,557,918						

The Penny Rate came into operation as respects this Post on 5th December 1839.

Stamps 6th May 1840.

R. Smith, Superintending President.

9 March 1841.

UNITED KINGDOM.

A COMPARATIVE STATEMENT of the Number of Letters (including Franks during the existence of the Franking Privilege) delivered in the United Kingdom in One Week of each Calendar Month, beginning with November 1839 and ending with the present Time.

Week ending	ENGLAND AND WALES.				TOTAL IRELAND.	TOTAL SCOTLAND.	GROSS TOTAL United Kingdom.
	Country Offices.	London, Inland, Foreign and Ship.	London District Post.	Total England and Wales.			
24 November 1839	764,938	229,292	258,747	1,252,977	179,931	153,065	1,585,973
22 December -	963,616	279,457	340,693	1,583,766	225,889	199,032	2,008,687
23 January 1840	not ascertained.						
23 February -	1,658,002	431,298	406,476	2,495,776	349,928	353,933	3,199,637
22 March -	1,607,431	416,887	380,689	2,411,007	321,163	337,326	3,069,496
26 April (a) -	1,505,609	410,270	390,989	2,306,868	328,074	319,924	2,954,866
24 May -	1,588,809	449,338	418,926	2,457,068	338,407	342,560	3,138,035
21 June -	1,629,123	454,376	441,848	2,525,347	343,761	352,098	3,221,206
19 July -	1,674,410	452,448	400,753	2,527,611	338,495	356,817	3,222,923
23 August -	1,746,257	461,689	343,347	2,551,293	345,831	369,436	3,266,560
20 September -	1,811,213	450,871	340,232	2,602,316	350,318	366,419	3,319,053
25 October -	1,821,711	472,802	387,848	2,682,361	369,297	366,121	3,417,779
22 November -	1,805,325	492,574	387,282	2,685,181	385,672	385,262	3,456,115
20 December -	1,782,579	491,264	405,153	2,678,996	381,306	375,024	3,435,326
24 January 1841	1,929,661	519,625	467,940	2,917,226	386,555	380,242	3,684,028
21 February (b) -	2,133,197	547,621	504,147	3,184,965	460,380	444,819	4,090,164
21 March -	1,950,501	531,960	447,766	2,930,227	389,877	401,351	3,721,455

(a) Easter week.

(b) The increase in this week is owing to the Valentines.

W. L. Maberly.

— 4. —

AN ACCOUNT showing the Gross and Net Post Office Revenue, and the Cost of Management, for each of the Years ending 5 January 1839, 1840, and 1841, distinguishing the Revenue of Great Britain from that of Ireland.

Year ending	GROSS BRITAIN.			IRELAND.			UNITED KINGDOM.		
	Gross Revenue.	Cost of Management.	Net Revenue.	Gross Revenue.	Cost of Management.	Net Revenue.	Gross Revenue.	Cost of Management.	Net Revenue.
5 Jan. 1839	£. s. d. 2,116,798 - 1	£. s. d. 585,458 1 1½	£. s. d. 1,531,339 18 11½	£. s. d. 229,480 - 8½	£. s. d. 101,310 2 5½	£. s. d. 128,169 18 8	£. s. d. 2,346,278 - 9½	£. s. d. 686,768 8 6½	£. s. d. 1,659,509 17 2½
— 1840	2,162,914 19 9	647,257 1 -	1,515,657 18 9	227,848 10 4½	109,742 0 4	118,106 4 -½	2,390,763 10 1½ (g)	756,999 7 4	1,633,764 2 9½
— 1841	1,245,447 13 5½ (b)	{ 741,840 11 4½ 27,000 - - (d) 18,000 - - (e)	458,598 2 1½	124,156 11 8½ (f)	116,827 9 1	7,329 2 7½	1,869,604 5 2	903,677 - 5½	465,927 4 8½

(a) Namely, the gross receipts after deducting the returns for "Refused Letters," &c.

(b) This includes the receipts by the Stamp Office for postage stamps in Ireland as well as in Great Britain; the amount for Ireland was 15,029 l. 5 s. 5 d.

(c) Cost of management. These sums include the charges other than those of management.

(d) Advance to Ireland.

General Post Office, 2 April 1841.

(e) Advance to the Money-order Office in London.

(f) This sum includes 27,000 l. received from England, and is included in charges other than management for Great Britain, but it does not include the proceeds of postage stamps sold by the Stamp Office in Ireland, which amount to 15,029 l. 5 s. 5 d.

(g) This includes one month of the Fourpenny Rate.

C. T. Court, Accountant General.

— 5. —

AN ACCOUNT of the AMOUNT paid by the Post Office in respect of the TRANSIT of the MAILS in Great Britain, during the Years ending the 5th day of January 1839, 1840, and 1841; distinguishing in each Year the Amount paid in respect of the Mails conveyed by Railways.

Years ending	Amount paid for Conveyance by Mail-coaches, including Tolls and other Mail-coach Expenses. (a)		Amount paid for Conveyance by Railway.		Total Amount paid for the Transit of Mails.	
	£.	s. d.	£.	s. d.	£.	s. d.
5th January 1839	-	-	105,107 11 10	9,883 4 6	114,990 16 4	-
— 1840	-	-	109,246 9 8	39,724 15 7	148,971 5 3	-
— 1841	-	-	130,352 13 2	51,125 1 4	181,477 14 6	-
Total	-	-	£. 344,706 14 8	100,733 1 5	445,439 16 1	-

(a) "Mail-coach Expenses" includes guards' wages and the hire of the mail-coaches.

General Post Office, 6 March 1841.

C. T. Court, Accountant-General.

— 6. —

A RETURN of the AMOUNT of MONEY ORDERS issued in London, and of the POUNDAGE received thereon, in each of the Three Months ending the 5th day of February 1839, 1840, and 1841; also, a Return of the Amount of Money Orders paid in London in each of the same Three Months.

Month ending	Amount of Money Orders issued.		Poundage.		Amount of Money Orders paid.	
	£.	s. d.	£.	s. d.	£.	s. d.
Month ending 5th February 1839	2,623 11 5	5	53 13 -	-	3,343 - 5	-
Month ending 5th February 1840	5,854 8 5	5	123 15 6	6	8,141 - 3	-
Month ending 5th February 1841	26,524 1 8	8	215 13 9	9	59,422 19 3	-

Note.—On the 20th November 1840, the poundage on Money Orders was reduced from 6 d. to 3 d. on sums not exceeding 2 l.; and from 1 s. 6 d. to 6 d. on sums exceeding 2 l. and not exceeding 5 l.

W. L. Maberly.

— 7. —

AN ACCOUNT of the NET AMOUNT of POST-OFFICE REVENUE derived from Foreign and Colonial Postage, in the Year ending the 5th day of January 1841.

As no distinct account is kept of the foreign letters, the Post-office is unable to furnish this return.

General Post-Office, }
31 March 1841. }

W. L. Maberly, Secretary.

POST OFFICE.

RETURNS of LETTERS passed through the London Post Office; Revenue; Management; Conveyance of Mails; and, Revenue derived from Foreign and Colonial Postage.

(Mr. Tufnell.)

(Mr. Goulburn.)

Ordered, by The House of Commons, to be Printed,
5 April 1841.

231.

Under 1 oz.