

The wonderful strides which the Post Office of Canada has made towards perfection in the past few years, as indicated in the *Year Book*, must be regarded as an indication of the energy displayed by the heads of this Department.

The undermentioned additions will place the Canadian postal system on a par with that of the most advanced in other countries:—

1st—The free delivery of letters in cities and towns.

2nd—Interchange of Money Orders with the United States.

3rd—Compulsory prepayment by postage stamp.

4th—The acquisition of the telegraph. It is possible that one or more of these reforms may be made during the next session of Parliament.

The satisfactory working and large revenue derived from the system of Postal Telegraphs in the United Kingdom, will tend to increase the desire to have it applied to Canada. But the conditions in the two countries are not quite the same. And the

very effective and economic manner in which the Montreal Telegraph Company is at present worked, will be found to be a considerable bar to change of system.

A steady advance in the revenue is noticeable, but, on the other hand, the acceleration of mail travel by the opening of new routes of railway, the increased mileage caused by serving the New Provinces, and the more frequent service of the older portions of the Dominion, have made the expenditure more than keep pace with the receipts, so that there is still an excess of outlay over income.

Closed mails passing through the United States are regularly exchanged with the distant provinces of Manitoba and British Columbia, a fortnightly mail contract having been entered into between San Francisco and Victoria, B. C., the time now occupied between these two points being four days; a tri-weekly mail has been established by stage between Pembina, U. S., and Fort Garry, and the mails from the latter place for the capital are delivered in ten days.

LETTER RATE.

Within the Dominion of Canada and Prince Edward Island.

Prepaid 3 c. per ½ oz., unpaid 5 c. per ½ oz., if partially paid the unpaid portion will be charged on delivery; when re directed no

further charge; if forwarded from Dead Letter Office 3 c. additional, and 2 c. when delivered by carriers.

Table No. 1.—POSTAGE RATES for places in, and passing through the United States—prepayment is required in all cases.

Countries.	Letters, per ½ oz.			Countries.	Letters, per ½ oz.		
	Newsletters, each.	Printed Matter, per 4 oz.			Newsletters, each.	Printed Matter, per 4 oz.	
Australian Colonies.....	10	04	08	Hong Kong and dependant ports	13	04	14
Acapulco.....	13	05	10	†Japan.....	10	04	08
*Aspinwall.....	13	04	08	Mexico.....	13	05	12
Babamas.....	3	04	08	New Granada, except Aspinwall and Panama.....	21	06	14
Belize.....	21	04	10	Nicaragua.....	13	04	13
*Bolivia.....	25	06	14	New Zealand.....	15	04	08
Brazil.....	18	05	10	*Panama.....	13	04	08
British Columbia.....	03	02	01	*Peru—Calao and Lima.....	25	06	14
Buenos Ayers.....	21	06	14	Red River.....	03	02	04
*Colon.....	13	05	12	Sand wich Islands.....	09	04	08
Ecuador.....	23	04	08	‡United States.....	06	01	05
Central America.....	13	04	08	Venezuela.....	13	05	12
Costa Rica.....	13	04	08	†West Indies (British and Danish).....	10	04	08
*Chili—Valparaiso.....	25	06	14	West Indies (other).....	18	04
†China, except Hong Kong and dependant ports.....	10	04	08				
Cuba.....	10	03	06				
Honduras.....	13	04	10				

* Can be registered on pre-payment of an additional 10c. per letter.

† Letters can be registered to Shanghai, and Yokohama only, Fee 10c.

‡ 10 c. if forwarded unpaid.

† Letters for Bermuda, British and Foreign West Indies, when sent in the monthly mails from Halifax, Postage is 12 c. per ½ oz.

NOTE.—West India Mails are despatched for Havana and the West Indies every Thursday afternoon from New York, and for St. Thomas, West Indies and Brazil on the 23rd of every month.