

Packages can be registered for 5 cents extra.

Between Canada and the United Kingdom and Foreign Countries via the United Kingdom.

For rates see Table Page 00.

They must be prepaid by Postage Stamp, must be sent in covers easy of examination, no writing allowed except the address, trade mark or number and price of the articles.

They must not be of intrinsic value or dangerous to the mails, such as knives, scissors, &c. There are some prohibitions to France and Germany, for which see Post Office. Limit of weight to United Kingdom 5 lbs.

To all other European countries 8½ oz.

Size must not exceed 24 inches in length, or 12 in breadth and depth.

PARCEL POST.

Parcels closed at the ends and sides not exceeding 5 lbs. in weight, may be mailed to places within the Dominion of Canada, except those in B. Columbia and Manitoba via the United States, in which case the parcels cannot exceed in weight the postal union limit, namely 2 lbs. 3 oz.

Rates as follow—

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| Not more than 8 oz. | 12½ cts. |
| 8 oz. to 1 lb. | 25 |
| 1 oz. to 1½ lbs. | 37½ |
| 1 oz. to 2 lbs. | 50 |
| 2 oz. to 2½ lbs. | 62½ |
| 2½ oz. to 3 lbs. | 75 |
| 3 oz. to 3½ lbs. | 87½ |
| 3½ oz. to 4 lbs. | \$1.00 |
| 4 oz. to 4½ lbs. | 1.12½ |
| 4½ oz. to 5 lbs. | 1.25 |

They must be prepaid by stamps. No letters must be enclosed, and no liquid or explosive substance likely to injure the mails, size not to exceed two feet in length and one in breadth and thickness.

The words "By Parcel Post" must be plainly written over the address. The name and address of the sender should be written on the parcel, and in case of failure to deliver from any cause, the parcel will be sent back to him from the Dead Letter Office on payment of a second parcel rate. If the parcel is insufficiently prepaid, the amount deficient will be rated unpaid with a fine of 12½ cents. Parcel may be registered for a fee of 5 cents prepaid by stamp.

Parcels may contain books, daguerreotypes, phot graphs, written or printed matter, deeds, returns, legal documents, &c., not being strictly letters.

Enclosing a letter or letters, or any writing intended to serve as a letter in a parcel, is a misdemeanor.

If it is ascertained that a parcel posted contains a letter or letters, the stamps affixed will be cancelled and parcel charged full letter rates.

REPORT OF OPERATIONS OF THE POST OFFICE OF DOMINION.

In the number of letters passing through the post in 1877, there was a slight decrease as compared with 1876. In all other postal operations there was an increase. Three-fourths of the distance from the Atlantic to the Pacific is now served by the Canadian Mails. The two gaps are between Thunder Bay and Fort Francis

and between Fort Edmonton and the post routes of British Columbia. The following table shows the extent of the Postal service of Canada for 1877, at January 1st.

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| Number of Post Office..... | 5,161 |
| Miles of Post route..... | 38,526 |
| Annual rate of mail travel in miles..... | 15,126,676 |
| Number of Letters..... | 41,510,000 |
| " of Post Cards..... | 5,460,000 |
| " of Registered Letters..... | 1,842,000 |
| " of Free Letters..... | 1,098,000 |
| " of Newspapers and Periodicals..... | 39,000,000 |
| " of Books and Miscellaneous articles..... | 4,638,000 |
| " of Parcels..... | 90,000 |

By an arrangement concluded with the Post Office of Germany, Closed mails have for the past year been exchanged between Canada and Germany, the rates and regulations being those of the Postal Union. The postage on Newfoundland letters has been reduced from 6 cents to 5, and the charge on registered letters to and from the United Kingdom from 8 cents to 5. The landing the mails at Rimouski in summer and Halifax in winter proved a very satisfactory arrangement. The No. of Letters conveyed between Canada and the United Kingdom in the year ending 30th Nov., 1877, was 2,287,743; of Newspapers 2,744,044; of Books, 32,370; and of Samples, 36,341. These figures do not include Letters, &c., sent from United States through Canada.

The Free Delivery System shows a large increase. The weekly average of letters delivered in December, 1876, was 120,796, and in 1877, 49,468, an increase of 23½ per cent. The free delivery of newspapers increased from 163,322 to 202,268. The No. of carriers was increased by 14, making a total of 144 employed in the service at the close of the year 1877. The revenue derived from the "City Letters" delivered by the carriers is estimated at \$26,000.

There was no material variation in the Railway Mail Service. There was an increase of 90½ in the No. of miles of railway on which mails were carried, but only 6 miles increase of daily service, 14,512½ miles of railway being passed over daily.

REGISTERED LETTERS.

Out of the 1,842,000 registered letters which passed through the mails in 1877, 64 miscarried from various causes, and 72 were stated not to have the amounts when received said to have been enclosed.

DEAD LETTERS.

563,484 letters, circulars and post cards were received at the Dead Letter Office, 53,811 were returned from Great Britain, U.S., and other places as having failed in delivery. 5,888 of these dead letters were registered, and in the unregistered, 8,920 contained valuable inclosures. 131,485 letters were returned to the writers, but only 99,970 were taken out by the persons to whom they were so returned.

POSTAGE STAMPS, POST BANDS AND POST CARDS.

The following Tables show the number of these issued during the fiscal year