

Postal
operations
compared.

369. In 1868 the conveyance of mails over 10,622,216 miles cost per mile $5\frac{1}{10}$ cents, and the transmission of 36,984,800 letters, newspapers, &c., cost $1\frac{4}{10}$ cents apiece; in 1886 the conveyance of mails over 23,809,750 miles cost $6\frac{7}{10}$ cents per mile, and the transmission of 162,953,064 letters, newspapers, &c., $\frac{9}{10}$ of 1 cent apiece, so that there is a decrease in the cost of each article carried of $\frac{1}{2}$ of 1 cent; and it must not be overlooked that, if newspapers were carried now at the old rate of 1 cent per lb., about \$60,000 would thereby have been added to the revenue last year.

Revenue
from
stamps.

370. Almost the whole of the revenue is derived from the sale of postage stamps, the sum of \$2,406,501 having been realized in 1886, an increase of \$81,011 over 1885. The total number issued to postmasters during the year was 110,826,750.

Increase
in expen-
diture.

371. The increase in expenditure in consequence of increased mail service was principally—

Mail service.....	\$150,127
Salaries.....	150,103
	<u>\$300,230</u>

Free de-
livery.

372. The system of free delivery of letters by carriers in the principal cities was commenced in 1875, and it was estimated that the total number delivered in this manner in 1886 was: letters, 25,747,332, and newspapers, 9,138,636. The number of carriers employed was 268.

Revenue
and ex-
penditure
by Pro-
vinces.

373. The next table gives the postal revenue and expenditure in each Province, since 1882:—