

## CHAPTER V.

## POST OFFICE AND TELEGRAPHS.

Transfer  
of Post  
Office to  
Colonial  
Govern-  
ments.

325. By an Act of the Imperial Parliament, 12-13 Vic., chap. 66, the management of the Postal systems in the Colonies of British North America was transferred to the various Provincial authorities, and up to the time of Confederation each Province controlled its own system, under its own laws and regulations.

Post Office  
Act 1868.

326. After Confederation, these various laws were allowed to remain in force until the 1st April, 1868, when the Post Office Act, 31 Vic., chap. 10, came into effect, establishing uniform rates and regulations for the Dominion.

Postal  
agree-  
ment with  
United  
States.

327. In 1875 an agreement was made with the United States, by which a common rate of postage between the two countries was adopted, each country retaining all money collected, and no accounts being kept between the two post offices in regard to International correspondence.

Admis-  
sion of  
Canada  
into Postal  
Union.

328. At the Second Congress of the General Postal Union, held at Paris in May 1878, Canada was admitted a member from the following 1st July, and letters, newspapers and other printed matter, samples and patterns, became subject to uniform postage rates and regulations for all places in Europe, and for all other countries that were members of the Union. The existing postal arrangements with the United States were allowed to remain undisturbed, being of a more liberal and advantageous character than the ordinary regulations of the treaty.

Forma-  
tion of  
Postal  
Union.

329. The Universal Postal Union was formed at a meeting held at Berne in 1874, and the first treaty was signed on 9th October in that year; the countries represented being the