

Postal  
rates on  
news-  
papers.

336. In the figures in the first column for the years 1868 to 1877 inclusive, are included all newspapers and periodicals sent by mail, whether from the office of publication or otherwise. In 1877 a change was made in the regulations, and all newspapers, periodicals, &c., sent from the office of publication were carried at the rate of 1 cent per lb., and the number carried has, since that date, been estimated in the above table at nine newspapers to one pound. By an Act that came into operation on the 1st June, 1882, all such newspapers were entirely exempted from postage, and have since been carried free of charge, and as no attempt is now made to ascertain the number so carried, the figures given for the years 1883 to 1887, inclusive, can only be considered as approximate. The increase in the number of books, circulars, &c., carried in 1887, as compared with the previous year, was very large, amounting to no less than 4,860,000.

Proportion of  
post offices  
to area.

337. In proportion to area the post offices are distributed as follows:—

Prince Edward Island.....	1 post office to	7 sq. miles.
Nova Scotia.....	1 “	16 “
New Brunswick.....	1 “	26 “
Ontario.....	1 “	63 “
Quebec.....	1 “	138 “
Manitoba.....	1 “	183 “
British Columbia.....	1 “	2,917 “
The Territories.....	1 “	6,296 “

Number  
of letters,  
&c., by  
Provinces  
1883-1887.

338. The number of letters and post cards sent in the several Provinces during the last five years, as estimated in the official reports, are given below:—