

Increase
in number
and de-
crease in
average
amount.

354. There was an increase in the number of orders sent of 45,441, being 15,226 more than the increase in 1886, and there was also an increase in the amount sent of \$97,795, but the average value of each order has been still further reduced. In 1868 it was \$37.18; in 1885, \$20.79; in 1886, \$19.32; and in 1887, \$17.96. It may be argued from this, that as the country progresses and banking facilities increase for the business and wealthier classes, the money order system is used almost entirely by the working classes, who keep no banking accounts, and the large increase in the volume of business done is a significant sign of the improved condition of the people.

Money
order
offices by
Provinces.

355. The number of money order offices in operation increased by 23; they are distributed among the Provinces in the following order:—

Ontario.....	502	British Columbia.....	21
Quebec.....	146	Manitoba.....	17
Nova Scotia.....	134	The Territories.....	11
New Brunswick.....	93	Prince Edward Island.....	9

Excess of
revenue.

356. The revenue from fees, profit on exchange, &c., amounted to \$79,326, and the expenditure for salaries, &c., in connection with the system to \$76,845, being an excess of revenue of \$2,481.

Orders
payable in
Canada
and else-
where.

Of the total amount of orders issued in Canada, \$8,093,887 were payable in Canada, and \$2,235,097 were payable in other countries, being a decrease in the first amount of \$52,208, and an increase in the second amount of \$150,004; and of the total transactions with other countries \$2,235,097 were sent out of the country, and \$1,495,673 came in.

357. The large increase in the amount of losses sustained was caused by the absconding of a clerk in the Winnipeg money order office, the loss incurred thereby amounting to \$902; of the remainder \$239 were stolen from various post offices, and \$35 were lost in transmission.