

268. Out of 3,580,000 registered letters estimated to have been sent in 1888, only 197 containing money failed altogether to reach their destination. The contents of 74 were made good by the officials held responsible for the loss, 6 were accidentally destroyed in transit, 31 were stolen, in 39 the contents were said to be missing, and 25 were contained in mails which were said never to have arrived. The increase in the total number sent was 20,000, a smaller increase than for many years, and the number that miscarried increased by 31. One letter in every 18,172 letters registered miscarried, a much larger proportion than in 1887, when it was one in 21,446 letters.

Registered letters that miscarried.

269. The numbers of letters and other articles sent to the Dead Letter Office in each year, since Confederation, are given below :—

Number of letters sent to the Dead Letter Office 1868-1888.

LETTERS, POST CARDS, CIRCULARS, BOOKS, PARCELS, &c.,
RECEIVED AT THE DEAD LETTER OFFICE IN CANADA
DURING THE YEARS 1868 TO 1888.

YEAR.	Total Number.	HOW DISPOSED OF.						
		Returned to other Countries.	Delivered or Forwarded to Address.	Returned to Writers.	Remaining in Office or with Postmaster.	Failed of delivery, contained no Value, destroyed.	Returned to printed Address	Returned to Government Department.
1868.....	312,220							
1869.....	307,889							
1870.....	324,291							
1871.....	335,508							
1872.....	380,810							
1873.....	426,886							
1874.....	508,160							
1875.....	572,127							
1876.....	587,376							
1877.....	563,484							
1878.....	630,847							
1879.....	540,429	49,952	12,645	195,689	558	262,464	19,119	
1880.....	592,385	63,755	12,546	219,728	1,380	270,764	19,622	4,590
1881.....	617,712	69,857	14,387	235,686	1,454	270,621	18,259	7,448
1882.....	658,762	76,820	12,083	279,566	2,258	264,122	19,166	4,744
1883.....	717,271	88,553	13,198	284,771	2,480	298,478	21,909	7,881
1884.....	764,731	106,843	24,124	275,497	2,269	321,229	25,254	9,515
1885.....	787,110	111,681	25,111	268,725	2,000	343,838	26,239	9,516
1886.....	753,489	97,556	25,744	258,491	14,155	320,953	26,769	9,821
1887.....	833,742	96,396	29,507	274,734	11,414	383,319	29,109	9,263
1888.....	916,929	95,184	31,601	358,213	10,680	380,404	30,968	9,879