

272. There was an increase in the number of orders sent of 56,069, being 10,628 more than the increase in 1887, and there was also an increase in the amount sent of \$587,634, 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; in 1887, \$17.96; and in 1888, \$17.30. 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.

273. The number of money order offices in operation increased by 11. They are distributed among the Provinces in the following order:—

Ontario.....	505	British Columbia	24
Quebec.....	148	Manitoba.....	19
Nova Scotia	132	The Territories.....	14
New Brunswick.. ..	92	Prince Edward Island.....	10

274. The revenue from fees, profit on exchange, &c., amounted to \$81,077, and the expenditure for salaries, &c., in connection with the system, to \$83,309, being an excess of expenditure of \$2,232.

275. Of the total amount of orders issued in Canada, \$8,520,776 were payable in Canada and \$2,395,842 were payable in other countries, being an increase in each case of \$426,889 and \$160,745, respectively; and of the total transactions with other countries, \$2,395,842, were sent out of the country and \$1,726,011 came in.

276. The next table shows the money order transactions between the Dominion and other countries since Confederation.