

revised and embodied in a convention which came into force on 1st April, 1879.

Admission
of Canada
into Postal
Union.

300. At this meeting 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.

Third
meeting of
Postal
Union.

301. The third Congress was held at Lisbon, in February, 1885, and Canada was represented by the delegates of the British Post Office. No material change was made in the Convention of 1879.

Countries
compris'ng
the Union.

302. All the States of Europe and America, some countries of Asia and Africa, and all the British Colonies and possessions, except the Australasian Colonies and South Africa, are now included in the Union.

New
Postal
agreement
with the
United
States.

303. A new agreement between the United States and Canada was signed at Washington on 12th January, 1888, to come into effect on the following 1st March and to supersede the agreement of February, 1875. The principal change in the agreement was the establishment of a parcel post between the two countries, subject to certain regulations for the protection of Customs with respect to articles liable for duty. All the principal provisions of the agreement of 1875 were retained.

Number
of letters,
&c., 1868-
1889.

304. The following table gives the number of post offices in the Dominion, and the estimated number, and number per head, of letters and post cards sent in each year, from 1st July, 1867, to 30th June, 1889 :—