

was, according to the above figures, a little over 18. Post cards, which were first issued in 1871, have now reached the large total of 19,355,000, the increase over 1888 being 2,769,000, as compared with an increase of 230,000 in 1888 over 1887. There was an increase of 372,000 in the number of free letters sent.

Number of newspapers, &c., 1868-1889. 306. The next table gives the number of newspapers, books, periodicals and parcels sent during the same period :—

NEWSPAPERS, PERIODICALS, BOOKS, CIRCULARS, PARCELS, &c.,
1868 TO 1889.

YEAR ENDED 30TH JUNE	Newspapers and Periodicals posted otherwise than from Office of Publication.	Newspapers and Periodicals posted from Office of Publication.	Books, Circulars, Samples and Patterns, &c.	Parcels.	Total.	Number per Head.
1868.....	18,860,000	.....	.....	24,800	18,884,800	5·60
1869.....	18,700,000	.....	.....	38,720	18,738,720	5·49
1870.....	20,150,000	.....	.....	51,844	20,201,844	5·85
1871.....	22,250,000	.....	.....	64,160	22,314,160	6·34
1872.....	24,400,000	.....	.....	95,200	24,495,200	6·78
1873.....	25,480,000	.....	.....	112,300	25,592,300	6·98
1874.....	29,000,000	.....	.....	102,800	29,102,800	7·61
1875.....	31,300,000	.....	.....	131,352	31,431,352	8·08
1876.....	38,549,000	.....	4,539,912	70,724	43,159,636	10·09
1877.....	39,000,000	.....	4,638,000	90,000	43,728,000	10·09
1878.....	6,252,740	33,483,672	5,090,000	107,800	44,934,212	11·02
1879.....	5,610,000	36,769,086	5,054,000	206,600	47,637,686	11·49
1880.....	5,870,000	39,250,062	5,224,000	217,000	50,561,062	11·99
1881.....	5,980,000	42,709,068	6,000,000	331,500	55,020,568	12·66
1882.....	7,150,000	43,695,000	7,186,000	394,000	58,425,000	13·19
1883.....	7,402,000	45,737,266	8,724,000	463,200	62,326,266	13·80
1884.....	8,210,000	47,779,532	10,160,000	541,000	66,690,532	14·48
1885.....	8,760,000	49,821,798	10,500,000	600,000	69,681,798	14·84
1886.....	9,200,000	51,864,064	15,140,000	640,000	76,844,064	16·03
1887.....	10,340,000	53,906,326	20,000,000	820,000	85,066,326	17·45
1888.....	10,850,000	55,948,591	17,810,000	763,900	85,372,491	17·17
1889.....	12,269,000	57,990,856	17,053,000	519,400	87,832,256	17·30

Postal rates on newspapers.

307. 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 other-