

321. The following comparative statement shows, not only the extended operations, but also the increased efficiency of the service since 1868, inasmuch as a much larger quantity of mail matter is carried at the same expense :—

Postal operations 1868-1890. compared

POSTAL OPERATIONS IN CANADA COMPARED, 1868 AND 1890.

YEAR	Number of Offices.	Number of Money Order Offices.	Miles of Post Route.	Miles Travelled.	Amount paid for conveyance of Mails.	Number of Letters, &c.	Number of Newspapers, &c.	Total Cost per Head.
1868. . . .	3,638	515	27,674	10,622,216	\$ 543,109	18,100,000	18,884,800	\$ cts. 0 31
1890. . . .	7,913	1,027	58,138	26,498,497	1,844,077	113,580,000	88,251,621	0 76

322. In 1868 the conveyance of mails over 10,622,216 miles cost per mile  $5\frac{1}{10}$  cents, and the transmission of 36,984,800 letters, newspapers, &c., cost  $1\frac{4}{10}$  cents apiece ; in 1890 the conveyance of mails over 26,498,497 miles cost  $6\frac{9}{10}$  cents per mile, and the transmission of 201,831,621 letters, newspapers, &c.,  $\frac{9}{10}$  of 1 cent apiece, so that there is a decrease in the cost of each article carried of about  $\frac{1}{2}$  of 1 cent ; and it must not be overlooked that, if newspapers were carried now at the old rate of 1 cent per lb., a sum not less than \$100,000 would be added to the revenue each year.

Cost of transmission 1868 and 1890.

323. The system of free delivery of letters by carriers in the principal cities was commenced in 1875, and it was estimated that the total number delivered in this manner in 1890 was : letters, 31,702,236, and newspapers, 11,293,152. The number of carriers employed was 327. There was an increase in the number of letters of 2,198,924, and of newspapers of 578,292.

Free delivery of letters etc.

324. The next table gives the Postal Revenue and Expenditure in each Province since 1886 :—

Postal revenue and expenditure, by Provinces, 1886-1890.