

number of dead letters, 112,080 originated in Canada and were returned as undelivered from other countries.

The money order system, 1868-1891.

347. The following statement shows the general operations of the money order system, year by year, from 1st July, 1868, to 30th June, 1891. It will be seen that there has been a steady and satisfactory increase.

OPERATIONS OF THE MONEY ORDER SYSTEM IN CANADA,
1868 TO 1891.

YEAR ENDED 30TH JUNE.	Number of Offices.	Number of Orders Issued.	Amount of Orders Issued.	Amount of Orders issued in other Countries, payable in Canada.	Losses sustained.
			\$	\$	\$
1868	515	90,163	3,352,881	90,579	2,355
1869	550	96,627	3,563,645	100,823	3,170
1870	558	110,021	3,910,250	117,914	1,585
1871	571	120,521	4,546,434	126,694
1872	634	136,422	5,154,120	147,230	478
1873	644	161,096	6,239,506	160,695	2,037
1874	662	179,851	6,757,427	177,502	118
1875	687	181,091	6,711,539	181,091	797
1876	736	238,668	6,866,618	359,314	4,239
1877	754	253,962	6,856,821	408,286	6,166
1878	769	269,417	7,130,895	458,745	657
1879	772	281,725	6,788,723	505,833	147
1880	775	306,088	7,207,337	698,651	286
1881	786	338,238	7,725,212	1,002,735	209
1882	806	372,248	8,354,153	1,194,029	110
1883	826	419,613	9,490,900	1,236,275	59
1884	866	463,502	10,067,834	1,262,867	882
1885	885	499,243	10,384,211	1,185,751	4,295
1886	910	529,458	10,231,189	1,245,957	25
1887	933	574,899	10,328,984	1,495,674	1,179
1888	944	630,968	10,916,618	1,726,011	3,113
1889	993	673,813	11,265,920	1,756,945	*
1890	1,027	780,503	11,997,862	1,851,059	*
1891	1,080	855,619	12,478,178	1,984,360	*

* No returns available.

Decrease in average amount of orders.

348. There was an increase in the number of orders sent of 75,116, and there was also an increase in the amount sent of \$480,316, 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; in 1888, \$17.30; in 1889, \$16.72; in 1890, \$15.37, and in 1891, \$14.58. It may be argued from this, that as the country progresses, the business and wealthier classes avail themselves of the increase in banking facilities, while the money order system is used principally by the working classes, who keep no banking accounts; and the large increase in the volume of business done may be taken as an indication of the improved condition of the people.