

415. From the above table it is seen that the principal money order business with other countries is transacted with the United States, the United Kingdom and Newfoundland. Since the year 1876, inclusive, the amount of money sent by this system to the United Kingdom has exceeded the amount payable in Canada by \$7,501,476; during the same period the amount sent to the States has exceeded the amount received by \$1,236,751, while the amount received from Newfoundland has exceeded that sent to the island by \$488,390. With the exception of Newfoundland, it will be seen that more money is sent from this to other countries than is received.

Excess of money sent over amount received.

416. The contract with the Montreal Ocean Steam-ship Company (Allan line) for the carriage of mails across the Atlantic expired in April, 1891. An agreement for the season of navigation was afterwards made, and in December another contract with the Allan line was made for the resumption of the direct service, it being stipulated that only the very best boats of the Allan and Dominion lines should carry the mails. One or two of the steamers have made fairly quick passages, notably the "Parisian" of the Allan line, and the "Vancouver" and "Labrador" of the Dominion line, but the service is very considerably slower than that between New York and Liverpool. The present contract expires in December, 1893. The efforts of the Dominion Government to establish a direct fast service between England and Canada have not yet been successful. The Allan line boats have carried the mails almost continuously since May, 1856.

Atlantic ocean mail service.

417. The mail service between Canada and China and Japan by the Canadian Pacific Railway Company's steamers is rapidly assuming respectable proportions, 109,411 letters and 34,900 newspapers having been carried during the year ended in November, 1892, being an increase of 48,036 and 14,788 respectively. Mails have been actually delivered in London by this route within 21 days from leaving Yokohama. By the Suez Canal the usual time is six weeks.

Pacific ocean mail service.

418. A direct mail service between St. John, N.B., and Demerara and other West India islands, was established in January, 1890, the steamers being subsidized by the Canadian Government. The amount of business done is not yet very large.

West Indian mail service.

419. The following table gives the numbers and number per head of letters and post cards sent in the principal countries of the world. The figures have been taken from the best available sources and the calculations have been made in this office. The extraordinary quantity of mail matter sent in the Australasian colonies is very remarkable. The Australasian trade is undoubtedly very large in proportion to population, and the correspondence may be expected to be equally great, but it does not seem likely that it should, to such an extent, exceed and be out of all proportion to that of any other civilized country, and the high figures are probably caused by some defect in the system of enumeration, by which duplication occurs, or, it may be, by a more perfect system than is in use elsewhere. The system adopted in

Number of letters sent in various countries.