

countries are : 5 cents per $\frac{1}{2}$ ounce and under for letters, 2 cents for postal cards, and 1 cent per 2 ounces for newspapers, books, &c. The registration fee is 5 cents.*

1317. The development of the country has required, and will require, for some years continued development of postal facilities. From Cape Breton Island across the widest part of the continent to Vancouver Island is a long distance, and from York Factory, on Hudson Bay, to Pelee Island, in Lake Erie, is 10 degrees of north latitude. Yet over distances so enormous, for the most part sparsely peopled, the postal department has to transport letters for three cents an ounce. If transportation were as easy, or letters as frequent, over great stretches of prairie or mountain as they are in the western peninsula of Ontario, the postal revenues would no doubt closely approximate to the expenditures.

The postal administrators in the United States find similar obstacles confronting them. In only ten of the States are the postal revenues in excess of the expenditure. In all the Pacific States, all the Southern States and all but two of the Western States the receipts are behind the cost of carrying the mails.

In the year ended 30th June, 1894, it cost nearly \$708,000 more to do the work than the department received for doing it.

The total expenditure by cheque last year was \$3,517,261, and the total net revenue was \$2,809,341, although the actual revenue, before percentage to postmasters, discounts for stamps and other deductions were made, was \$3,734,418.

The following sums were expended for carrying mails :—

By Rail.....	\$ 1,215,728
Land	820,369
Steamers.....	77,235

The development of the business in the last ten years is as follows :—

	1884.	1894.
Number of post offices in Canada.....	6,837	8,664
Number of miles of post route.....	47,131	64,072
Number of letters sent by post.....	66,100,000	107,145,000
Number of miles of railway over which mails are carried.....	8,932	14,170
Revenue.....	\$2,330,741	\$3,734,418
Value of money orders issued.....	\$6,441,439	\$7,524,286
Post cards sent.....	13,580,000	23,695,000

1318. By provinces, the (1) miles of annual travel on the post routes, the (2) number of transient newspapers and periodicals, books, circulars, samples, patterns, &c., the (3) number of packets of printer's copy, photographs, deeds, insurance policies, the (4) number of packets of fifth class matter,

**Almanach de Gotha*, 1895.