

ordinary merchandise open to examination, and the (5) number of parcels by parcel post, are as follows:—

PROVINCES.	1.	2.	3.	4.	5.
Ontario	20,088	14,750,000	1,080,000	550,000	203,000
Quebec	12,545	4,200,000	405,000	160,000	58,000
Nova Scotia	8,807	830,000	85,000	62,000	24,000
New Brunswick	5,623	750,000	80,000	43,000	16,000
Prince Edward Island	1,364	188,000	13,000	6,000	3,100
British Columbia	6,368	485,000	76,000	27,000	11,800
Manitoba	9,277	1,150,000	90,000	38,000	26,000
North-west Territories					
Total	64,072	22,353,000	1,829,000	886,000	341,900

1319. The department has postal contracts with 47 railways, whose combined length is 14,170 miles, being an increase of 467 miles in the year. It uses 152 postal cars, of which 54 are on the Grand Trunk, 48 on the Canadian Pacific and 16 on the Intercolonial. The daily distance travelled is 29,256 miles, an increase of 569 miles a day. The total distance travelled in 1894 was 15,579,488 miles.

1320. The mail service of Canada has assumed such dimensions that a considerable increase can be afforded in postal facilities without any great addition to the cost. As evidence of this, attention is called to the fact that in opening 254 post offices in 1894, the new mail routes necessary aggregate only 1,005 miles, or an average of less than four miles for each office.

1321. The correspondence passing between Canada and Japan and China shows satisfactory increase. The letters carried between Vancouver and Yokohama, Hong Kong, Shanghai, Tokio, and Amoy numbered 163,314 in 1894 against 143,878 in 1893, the newspapers numbered 50,890 against 42,800, parcels 442 pounds against 400, and miscellaneous matter numbered 43,178 against 39,997.

In addition to the above, through bags were forwarded as follows:—Yokohama, 1,082; Hong Kong, 125; Shanghai, 149; Tokio, 308; Kobe, 116; Hakodate, 57; Nagasaki, 71.

With Australian colonies the mail communication resulted in the transmission of 125,675 letters, 224,526 newspapers, 92,851 books and samples; 48,317 of the letters, and 75,428 of the newspapers reached or left Sydney, Melbourne coming next, with 29,957 letters and 58,808 newspapers.

A direct mail service between Canada and the West Indian Islands was established in January, 1890, the steamers being subsidized by the Canadian Government. The number of letters carried for year ended 30th November, 1894, was 11,203; of books, papers, &c., 3,182; and of parcels, &c., 135.