

patterns, &c., the (3) number of packets of printers' copy, photographs, deeds, insurance policies, the (4) number of packets of fifth class matter, ordinary merchandise open to examination, and the (5) number of parcels by parcel post are as follows:—

PROVINCES.	1.	2.	3.	4.	5.
Ontario	20,274	15,000,000	1,120,000	590,000	210,800
Quebec	12,637	4,300,000	425,000	170,000	61,500
Nova Scotia	8,949	840,000	100,000	65,000	25,200
New Brunswick	5,680	760,000	80,000	44,000	16,100
Prince Edward Island.....	1,401	190,000	13,000	6,000	3,160
British Columbia.....	6,640	460,000	70,000	27,000	13,200
Manitoba and North-west Ter- ritories.....	9,744	1,180,000	100,000	43,000	27,800.
Total.....	65,325	22,730,000	1,908,000	945,000	357,760

1130. The department has postal contracts with 48 railways, whose combined length is 14,463 miles, being an increase of 293 miles in the year. It uses 157 postal cars, of which 53 are on the Grand Trunk, 50 on the Canadian Pacific and 18 on the Intercolonial. The daily distance travelled is 30,436 miles, an increase of 1,180 miles a day. The total distance travelled in 1895 was 14,836,735 miles.

1131. 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 168 post offices in 1895, the new mail routes necessary aggregate only 1,253 miles, or an average of less than eight miles for each office.

1132. 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 179,993 in 1895 against 163,314 in 1894, the newspapers numbered 77,488 against 50,890, parcels 652 pounds against 442, and miscellaneous matter numbered 61,049 against 43,178.

In addition to the above, through bags were forwarded as follows: Yokohama, 1,123; Hong Kong, 160; Shanghai, 156; Tokio, 499; Kobe, 127; Hakodate, 53; Nagasaki, 70.

With Australian colonies the mail communication resulted in the transmission of 148,729 letters, 313,525 newspapers, 206,916 books and samples; 56,219 of the letters and 91,217 of the newspapers reached or left Sydney, Melbourne coming next with 32,212 letters and 64,526 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, 1895, was 9,499; of books, papers, &c., 5,117, and of parcels, &c., 149.