

publication were carried at the rate of 1 cent per pound, and the number carried has, since that date, been estimated in the above table at nine newspapers to one pound. By an Act that came into operation on the 1st June, 1882, all such newspapers were entirely exempted from postage and have since been carried free of charge, and as no attempt is now made to ascertain the number so carried, the figures given for the years 1883 to 1885, inclusive, can only be considered as an approximate estimate, and the probability is that they are below the mark. The rearrangement of the returns of periodicals, books, &c., furnished by the Post Office Department unfortunately prevents any comparison with former years.

In proportion to land area, the post offices are distributed as follow :—

Prince Edward Island.....	1	post office to	6 sq. miles.
Nova Scotia.....	1	“	13 “
New Brunswick.....	1	“	23 “
Ontario.....	1	“	70 “
Quebec.....	1	“	142 “
Manitoba.....	1	“	178 “
British Columbia.....	1	“	1,553 “
The Territories.....	1	“	6,876 “

1137. The number of letters and post cards sent in the several provinces during the last eight years, as estimated in the official reports, is given in the following table :—

ESTIMATED NUMBER OF LETTERS AND POST CARDS, BY PROVINCES,
1888 TO 1895.

PROVINCES.	Year ended 30th June.	Number of Post Offices.	ESTIMATED NUMBER SENT.				
			Registered Letters.	Free Letters.	Total Letters Posted.	Post Cards.	No. of Letters per Head.
Ontario.....	1888	2,927	2,050,000	2,600,000	43,500,000	11,000,000	21·12
	1889	2,971	2,084,000	2,908,000	49,887,000	12,671,000	23·99
	1890	2,997	1,880,000	2,853,000	50,500,000	12,700,000	24·07
	1891	3,026	1,833,000	3,100,000	53,000,000	13,175,000	25·03
	1892	3,060	1,900,000	3,600,000	56,000,000	13,500,000	26·20
	1893	3,058	1,830,000	3,700,000	57,500,000	15,175,000	26·63
	1894	3,102	1,790,000	3,900,000	57,750,000	15,625,000	26·50
	1895	3,138	1,750,000	3,400,000	57,900,000	15,750,000	26·33
Quebec.....	1888	1,385	820,000	400,000	18,000,000	3,150,000	12·61
	1889	1,423	824,000	437,000	22,437,000	3,811,000	15·31
	1890	1,429	760,000	440,000	22,800,000	3,850,000	15·42
	1891	1,441	770,000	420,000	23,100,000	3,950,000	15·48
	1892	1,486	670,000	390,000	22,750,000	3,800,000	15·11
	1893	1,533	680,000	386,000	23,250,000	3,950,000	15·30
	1894	1,575	700,000	386,000	23,325,000	4,070,000	15·21
	1895	1,600	700,000	395,000	23,375,000	4,150,000	15·11
Nova Scotia.....	1888	1,372	193,000	128,000	6,200,000	1,000,000	13·85
	1889	1,399	198,000	146,000	6,721,000	1,266,000	14·98
	1890	1,403	160,000	170,000	6,900,000	1,280,000	15·34
	1891	1,431	166,000	165,000	7,100,000	1,330,000	15·75
	1892	1,481	180,000	164,000	7,600,000	1,500,000	16·82
	1893	1,534	180,000	168,000	7,850,000	1,440,000	17·34
	1894	1,562	185,000	160,000	7,900,000	1,550,000	17·41
	1895	1,589	185,000	162,000	7,950,000	1,600,000	17·49