

The number of stamps, post bands, letter cards, post cards, &c., issued to postmasters during the year was 171,706,450, as compared with 171,673,770 in 1896, being an increase of 32,680, and almost the whole postal revenue is derived from this source, the amount received from the sale of stamps, post cards, letter cards, &c., in 1897 having been \$4,232,701.

REGISTERED LETTERS IN CANADA, 1868 TO 1897.

YEAR.	Estimated Number of Registered Letters.	Number per Head.	Failed to Reach Destination.	Sent to Dead Letter Office.	HOW DISPOSED OF.			
					Delivered to Address.	Returned to Writers or Offices of origin.	Remaining in Office or with Postmaster for delivery.	Failed of Delivery and found to contain no value.
1868.	704,700	0.21	58					
1869.	805,000	0.24	41					
1870.	1,000,000	0.29	50					
1871.	1,100,000	0.31	115					
1872.	1,277,000	0.35	38	2,500				
1873.	1,377,000	0.37	30	3,089				
1874.	1,562,000	0.41	100	3,557				
1875.	1,750,000	0.45	52	3,270				
1876.	1,774,000	0.45	54	3,856				
1877.	1,842,000	0.46	64	5,888				
1878.	1,980,000	0.49	65	6,767				
1879.	1,940,000	0.47	57	9,682	477	7,810	98	1,295
1880.	2,040,000	0.48	70	9,132	364	7,695	93	980
1881.	2,253,000	0.52	29	10,216	755	8,825	95	541
1882.	2,450,000	0.56	113	9,182	616	8,138	93	333
1883.	2,650,000	0.60	148	10,706	1,004	9,125	146	431
1884.	3,000,000	0.67	105	12,948	4,025	8,192	220	511
1885.	3,060,000	0.67	229	16,340	4,277	11,072	246	745
1886.	3,400,000	0.74	160	17,856	2,878	13,963	119	896
1887.	3,560,000	0.76	166	21,612	4,833	15,525	122	1,132
1888.	3,580,000	0.76	197	19,618	6,345	11,788	664	821
1889.	3,649,000	0.77	243	23,091	*	20,933	847	1,311
1890.	3,280,000	0.68	149	19,994	*	13,171	1,109	5,714
1891.	3,202,000	0.68	155	11,120	*	9,334	261	1,525
1892.	3,286,700	0.67	147	24,691	*	13,479	259	10,953
1893.	3,254,000	0.66	149	13,344	*	11,552	396	1,396
1894.	3,237,200	0.64	222	13,324	*	11,825	397	1,192
1895.	3,183,200	0.63	164	28,858	*	15,189	1,339	12,330
1896.	3,505,500	0.63	133	11,550	*	10,250	397	903
1897.	2,509,500	0.68	125	12,076	*	10,406	1,026	644

* Included in letters returned to writers or offices of origin.

† This large number is accounted for by the fact that an immense number of franchise notices were returned N.C.F. and were refused by the sender and were destroyed.

Of 3,509,500 registered letters estimated to have been sent in 1897 only 125 containing money failed to reach their destination. The contents, or a portion thereof, of 46 were made good by the officials or others held responsible for the loss; 32 were stolen, 8 lost or misdelivered, and in 33 cases no evidence could be obtained to account for discrepancies. There was an increase in the total number sent, as compared with 1896, of 4,000, and a decrease in the number that miscarried of 8.