

NUMBER OF POST OFFICES IN CANADA, AND ESTIMATED NUMBER  
AND NUMBER PER HEAD OF LETTERS AND POST CARDS SENT,  
1868 TO 1891.

YEAR ENDED 30TH JUNE.	Number of Post Offices.	ESTIMATED NUMBER SENT.				Number of Letters per Head.
		Registered Letters.	Free Letters.	Total Letters Posted.	Post Cards.	
1878.	5,378	1,980,000	1,250,000	44,000,000	6,455,000	10·78
1879.	5,606	1,940,000	1,384,000	43,900,000	6,940,000	10·59
1880.	5,773	2,040,000	1,464,000	45,800,000	7,800,000	10·86
1881.	5,935	2,253,000	1,838,000	48,170,000	9,640,000	11·11
1882.	6,171	2,450,000	2,390,000	56,200,000	11,300,000	12·82
1883.	6,395	2,650,000	2,600,000	62,800,000	12,940,000	14·17
1884.	6,837	3,000,000	2,824,000	66,100,000	13,580,000	14·74
1885.	7,084	3,060,000	2,960,000	68,400,000	13,800,000	15·08
1886.	7,295	3,400,000	3,310,000	71,000,000	15,109,000	15·48
1887.	7,534	3,560,000	3,160,000	74,300,000	16,356,000	16·03
1888.	7,671	3,580,000	3,500,000	80,200,000	16,586,000	17·12
1889.	7,838	3,649,000	3,872,000	92,668,000	19,355,000	19·57
1890.	7,913	3,280,000	3,870,000	94,100,000	19,480,000	19·65
1891.	8,061	3,292,000	4,078,000	97,975,000	20,300,000	20·23

Increase in  
number of  
letters, etc.

330. During the past year 148 new offices were opened, and the total number of offices is now considerably more than double the number at Confederation, there having been an increase of 4,423. As compared with 1890, there was an increase of 12,000 in the number of registered letters and of 208,000 in that of free letters, and 3,875,000 in the total number of letters sent. The number of registered letters was about the same as in 1890, but considerably less than in previous years, due no doubt to the increased registration fee. The increase in the total number of letters sent was not so large as on many previous occasions, but too much importance must not be attached to fluctuations in these figures, for as the total number is derived from an average struck four times a year, it may well be that the circumstances prevailing at the times of enumeration have a tendency to abnormally increase or diminish the figures then obtained. The total number sent was more than five times the number sent in the first year of Confederation. The number of letters per head of estimated population is now almost double what it was in 1879. Post cards, which were first issued in 1871, have now reached the large total of 20,300,000, the increase over 1890 being 820,000, as compared with an increase of 125,000 in 1890 over 1889.

Number  
of newspa-  
pers, etc.  
1868-1891.

331. The next table gives the number of newspapers, books, periodicals and parcels sent during the same period :—