

the returns of periodicals, books, &c., furnished by the Post Office Department, unfortunately prevents any comparison with former years. There was a further decrease in the number of parcels sent of 45,540.

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

Proportion of post offices to area of provinces.	Prince Edward Island.....	1 post office to	6 sq. miles.
	Nova Scotia.....	1	15 "
	New Brunswick.....	1	26 "
	Ontario.....	1	73 "
	Quebec.....	1	159 "
	Manitoba.....	1	190 "
	British Columbia.....	1	2,295 "
	The Territories.....	1	8,765 "

334. The number of letters and post cards sent in the several provinces during the last five years, as estimated in the official reports, are given on the following page :—

ESTIMATED NUMBER OF LETTERS AND POST CARDS, BY PROVINCES, 1887 TO 1891.

PROVINCES.	Year ended 30th June.	Number of Post Offices.	ESTIMATED NUMBER SENT.				
			Register'd Letters.	Free Letters.	Total Letters Posted.	Post Cards.	No. of Letters per Head.
Ontario.. . . .	1887	2,891	2,100,000	2,300,000	41,000,000	11,000,000	20·09
	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	12,709,000	24·07
	1891	3,026	1,833,000	3,100,000	53,000,000	13,175,000	25·03
Quebec.. . . .	1887	1,372	810,000	360,000	17,000,000	3,100,000	11·82
	1888	1,385	820,000	400,000	18,300,000	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
Nova Scotia.. . . .	1887	1,345	164,000	140,000	5,600,000	950,000	12·53
	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
N. Brunswick.. . . .	1887	1,048	123,000	110,000	4,150,000	740,000	12·02
	1888	1,070	140,000	125,000	4,750,000	756,000	14·78
	1889	1,085	146,000	127,000	5,173,000	813,000	16·10
	1890	1,089	133,000	147,000	5,200,000	840,000	16·18
	1891	1,101	129,000	142,000	5,300,000	860,000	16·50