

SESS. II.—1897.
NEW ZEALAND.

POST AND TELEGRAPH DEPARTMENT
(REPORT OF THE) FOR THE YEAR 1896.

Presented to both Houses of the General Assembly by Command of His Excellency.

MY LORD,—
I have the honour to submit to your Excellency the Report on the Post and Telegraph Department for the year 1896, with the usual statement of revenue and expenditure to the 31st March last.

General Post Office, Wellington, 13th September, 1897.
I have the honour to be,
Your Lordship's most obedient servant,
R. J. SEDDON,
Postmaster-General and Electric Telegraph Commissioner.

His Excellency the Governor of New Zealand.

REPORT.

A CONSIDERABLE expansion of business in all branches of the department during the year has again to be recorded.

The following statement shows the revenue and expenditure for the financial year ended 31st March, 1897:—

REVENUE.			EXPENDITURE.		
	£	s. d.		£	s. d.
Stamps used for postage (estimated) ..	225,000	0 0	Salaries	208,459	0 11
Money-order and postal-note commission collected in the colony ..	15,587	6 0	Conveyance of mails by sea ..	44,604	12 5
Money-order commission received from foreign offices ..	550	9 0	Conveyance of inland mails ..	34,056	5 2
Private box and bag fees ..	5,354	10 0	Conveyance of mails by railway ..	14,538	16 8
Miscellaneous receipts (postal) ..	15,990	0 6	Money-order commission credited to foreign offices ..	1,313	6 11
Ordinary and Press telegrams ..	97,452	18 7	Maintenance and repairs of telegraph-lines, and miscellaneous ..	46,755	4 3
Telephone exchanges ..	29,248	19 5	Telegraph cable subsidies ..	3,972	8 1
Miscellaneous receipts (telegraph) ..	2,932	17 6			
				353,699	14 5
			Balance of revenue over expenditure ..	38,417	6 7
	<u>£392,117</u>	<u>1 0</u>		<u>£392,117</u>	<u>1 0</u>

The increase in revenue was £26,389 14s. 7d., or 7·22 per cent.

There was a substantial increase under all heads excepting miscellaneous telegraph receipts, which show a decrease.

The expenditure was £353,699 14s. 5d., an increase of 6·43 per cent.

The balance of revenue over expenditure was £38,417 6s. 7d., as compared with £33,402 1s. 9d. the previous year.

The estimated postage value of official correspondence sent through the post was £81,609, and the value of Government telegrams £23,118 2s. 6d.—a total of £104,727 2s. 6d., representing the value of services performed by the department for which no payment was received—a sum equal to 26·71 per cent. of the cash receipts.

If to the balance of revenue over expenditure, £38,417 6s. 7d., the value of the official correspondence and Government telegrams be added, there is a balance of £143,144 9s. 1d. in favour of the department on the year's transactions.

27,874,353 letters were posted in the colony, an increase of 905,398.

The number of forwarded telegrams of all codes was 2,520,169, an increase of 395,958.

67 post-offices were established and 6 reopened. The number open at the close of the year was 1,464.

723 inland-mail services (excluding services by railway) were in operation during the year.

At the close of the year there were 6,284 miles of telegraph-line and 16,470 miles of wire.

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The net expenditure on telegraph construction was £36,791 8s. 11d.

269,566 money-orders, for £902,159 15s. 7d., were issued, and 203,084 orders, amounting to £794,309 0s. 6d., paid.

376,796 postal notes, for £129,011 18s., were sold.

The amount deposited in the Post-Office Savings-banks was £2,881,152 16s. 3d., and the sum withdrawn, £2,591,558 19s. 4d.

The total sum to the credit of depositors at the close of the calendar year was £4,311,634 13s. 5d., as compared with £3,895,543 0s. 3d. on 31st December, 1895.

There were 5,747 telephone-exchange connections on the 31st March last, a net increase of 604. The subscriptions received amounted to £29,248 19s. 5d.

The following table and return give the number of offices and officers of all classes on the 31st December last :—

Postal Districts.	Permanent Offices.										Non-permanent Country Offices.				Telephone Bureaux.		Telephone Exchanges.				P.O. Clerks, Tel. Counter Clerks, Tel. Ex. Clerks and Cadettes, Cadets in P.O. Cadets not principally engaged in Tel. Operating, Tel. Despatch Clerks, Tel. Distributors.				Tel. Operators, Clerks principally engaged in Operating, Cadets principally engaged in Tel. Operating (with or without delivery of Telegrams).				Postmasters and Officers in Charge on Permanent Staff.		Letter-carriers.		Telegraph Messengers.		Linenmen (not already shown).																
	Post-offices.		Tele-graph-offices.		Tele-graph-offices.		Combined Post- and Tele-graph-offices.		Post and Public Telegraph.		Post and Public Telephone.		And Post.		And Public Tele-graph.		And Public Tele-phone.		Post-offices (no Telephone in same town).		Post and Telephone (combined).		Post and Telephone (separate rate).		Telephone-offices (no Post-office in same town).		Receiving Offices only.		Telephone Exchanges.		Shown in other Columns.		Not already shown.			Town.		Country.		Town.		Country.		Post-office Messengers (including those performing other duties).		Town.		Country.			
	Separate Telegraph in same town.		No Telegraph in same town.		Separate Post-office in same town.		No Post-office in same town.		Combined Post- and Tele-graph-offices.		Post and Public Telegraph.		Post and Public Telephone.		And Post.		And Public Tele-graph.		And Public Tele-phone.		Post-offices (no Telephone in same town).		Post and Telephone (combined).		Post and Telephone (separate rate).		Telephone-offices (no Post-office in same town).		Receiving Offices only.		Telephone Exchanges.		Shown in other Columns.			Not already shown.		P.O. Clerks, Tel. Counter Clerks, Tel. Ex. Clerks and Cadettes, Cadets in P.O. Cadets not principally engaged in Tel. Operating, Tel. Despatch Clerks, Tel. Distributors.		Tel. Operators, Clerks principally engaged in Operating, Cadets principally engaged in Tel. Operating (with or without delivery of Telegrams).		Postmasters and Officers in Charge on Permanent Staff.		Letter-carriers.		Post-office Messengers (including those performing other duties).		Town.		Country.	
	Separate Telegraph in same town.		No Telegraph in same town.		Separate Post-office in same town.		No Post-office in same town.		Combined Post- and Tele-graph-offices.		Post and Public Telegraph.		Post and Public Telephone.		And Post.		And Public Tele-graph.		And Public Tele-phone.		Post-offices (no Telephone in same town).		Post and Telephone (combined).		Post and Telephone (separate rate).		Telephone-offices (no Post-office in same town).		Receiving Offices only.		Telephone Exchanges.		Shown in other Columns.			Not already shown.		Town.		Country.		Town.		Country.		Post-office Messengers (including those performing other duties).		Town.		Country.	
	Separate Telegraph in same town.		No Telegraph in same town.		Separate Post-office in same town.		No Post-office in same town.		Combined Post- and Tele-graph-offices.		Post and Public Telegraph.		Post and Public Telephone.		And Post.		And Public Tele-graph.		And Public Tele-phone.		Post-offices (no Telephone in same town).		Post and Telephone (combined).		Post and Telephone (separate rate).		Telephone-offices (no Post-office in same town).		Receiving Offices only.		Telephone Exchanges.		Shown in other Columns.			Not already shown.		Town.		Country.		Town.		Country.		Post-office Messengers (including those performing other duties).		Town.		Country.	
Auckland ..	1	..	1	..	23	12	5	..	1	..	182	99	3	7	5	1	22	2	78	16	50	..	44	21	7	4	24	22	12																						
Blenheim ..	..	..	..	..	6	..	..	..	..	..	23	7	1	5	..	1	12	..	7	..	5	2	6	2	1	..	2	2	3																						
Christchurch..	1	..	1	..	10	28	1	3	3	..	102	27	2	2	7	2	11	..	54	5	70	9	12	19	9	3	20	9	5																						
Dunedin ..	1	..	1	..	17	14	2	..	2	1	68	67	3	12	2	5	36	1	58	2	46	6	19	19	7	2	24	11	6																						
Gisborne ..	..	..	..	..	1	..	..	..	..	..	11	14	..	..	..	..	..	..	1	..	6	..	1	2	..	..	5	..	1																						
Greymouth ..	..	..	..	..	4	..	..	..	..	..	30	6	..	..	..	1	..	..	1	..	16	7	4	2	2	..	4	4	2																						
Hokitika ..	..	..	..	..	3	..	1	..	..	..	20	13	..	2	..	..	..	..	1	..	4	..	3	1	1	1	2	..	1																						
Invercargill ..	..	..	..	..	7	10	3	..	..	..	81	29	8	6	..	7	28	1	18	2	11	6	7	5	4	3	8	6	4																						
Napier ..	1	..	1	..	9	3	2	..	1	..	31	22	..	1	..	2	3	..	20	1	31	10	11	4	4	1	6	5	4																						
Nelson ..	..	..	1	..	4	3	..	..	..	..	17	22	..	2	..	1	..	..	7	1	11	..	6	3	..	1	5	1	1																						
New Plymouth ..	..	..	..	..	4	1	..	..	..	..	22	9	2	..	..	1	6	..	7	2	6	1	4	3	1	..	4	4	1																						
Oamaru ..	..	..	..	..	1	4	3	1	..	..	12	9	..	1	..	1	10	..	6	..	7	..	1	2	..	1	4	..	1																						
Thames ..	..	..	..	..	9	..	..	..	..	..	22	12	..	..	1	1	7	..	2	4	15	6	8	3	3	1	5	5	3																						
Timaru ..	..	..	..	..	4	11	..	..	1	..	32	4	..	..	..	1	..	..	1	..	8	2	4	3	3	1	4	3	1																						
Wanganui ..	..	..	..	..	7	6	1	..	..	..	41	16	..	1	..	1	3	..	6	1	27	10	15	3	2	3	6	7	3																						
Wellington ..	1	..	1	..	11	5	2	1	2	3	63	54	1	6	2	3	34	4	69	7	78	22	14	18	13	3	49	17	9																						
Westport ..	..	..	..	..	3	..	2	..	..	..	13	14	..	1	..	..	..	..	2	..	6	..	3	1	..	..	3	2	1																						
Totals ..	5	..	5	1	123	97	22	5	10	4	770	424	20	46	17	28	172	8	338	41	397	81	162	111	57	24	175	98	58																						

COMPARATIVE RETURN of Officers of the Post Office and Telegraph Department for the Years 1895 and 1896.

	1895.	1896.		1895.	1896.
Postmaster-General	1	1	Chief Postmasters	16	16
Secretary	1	1	Postmasters and Officers in Charge on Permanent Staff	162	162
Superintendent of Electric Lines ..	1	1	Clerks (including Telephone Exchange) ..	768	862
Assistant Secretary and Inspector ..	1	1	Cadettes and Cadets in Post-offices ..	..	..
Assistant Inspectors of Post-offices ..	3	3	Operators (including Cadets in Telegraph-offices) ..	..	..
Controller of Money-orders and Savings-banks and Accountant	1	1	Country Postmasters and Telephonists ..	1,204	1,277
Telegraph Inspectors	3	3	Letter-carriers	159	168
Telegraph Sub-Inspector	1	1	Messengers (Post Office)	24	24
Electrician	1	1	Linenmen	63	58
Mechanicians and Cadet	5	5	Telegraph Message Boys	225	273
Clerks in General Post Office—	..	..	Nightwatchmen	2	2
Secretary's Office	11	12	Postmasters and Telegraphists or Telephonists who are Railway officers ..	139	138
Inspector's and Dead-letter Branch ..	5	6			
Money-order and Savings-bank Branch ..	23	27			
Sorters in Clearing-room	13	13			
Storekeeper and Assistants	4	4			
			Totals	2,836	3,060

The health of the staff has been good on the whole, although one or two cases of lengthened absence have raised the average absence of the women employed to 10·37 days, as against 5·5 days for last year. The average absence of male officers, however, declined from 3·8 days to 2·8 days. The summer months showed a very slight difference from the winter so far as the men were concerned, but the average absence of women increased during the summer to 6·26 days, as compared with 4·07 days in the winter. The usual table is shown below :—

	Numbers comprised.	Average Absence per Sick Officer.	Average Sick Absence per each Officer employed.
Men	897	Days. 6·32	Days. 2·80
Women	131	9·70	10·37

It is worthy of remark that as regards the four principal centres the average absence from sickness of postal officers is generally higher than that of telegraphists. It does not appear from the information to hand that the average sickness among the staffs in the principal towns varies greatly, although it would seem that the health of the staff in 1896–97 was best in Christchurch. There were six deaths.

The present time will perhaps be opportune to allude to the operations of the past six years in connection with the many concessions made to the public during that period, showing that the policy of the department has been to reduce rates and extend conveniences so long as there was a fair prospect of the gross profits not being unduly diminished. Had the department been conducted for revenue purposes only it would have been possible to have shown an increasing profit year by year.

To practically indicate the attitude of the department towards the public it may be well to show side by side what was charged for the following services in 1890 and 1896 :—

	1890.	1896.
Postage on letters to Great Britain ...	6d. ...	2½d.
" " foreign countries...	6d. to 1s. 2d. ...	"
" printed matter, foreign ...	1s. 4d. to 2s. 8d. per pound ...	4d. per pound.
" " inland ...	8d. per pound ...	"
Newspapers, foreign ...	1d. each, and 1s. 4d. to 2s. 8d. per pound	"
Parcels, inland ...	7d. first pound ...	6d. first pound.
" to Australia ...	1s. 2d. to 1s. 6d. first 2 lb., 7d. and 9d. each succeeding pound	8d. first pound, 6d. each succeeding pound.
Redirection fees on letters, inland ...	2d. ...	Free.
" " foreign ...	6d. to 1s. 2d. ...	"
Cable telegrams, international (Europe : cheapest route)	10s. 6d. per word ...	5s. 2d. per word.
Cable telegrams, intercolonial (N.S.W. : lowest charge)	9s. 6d. first ten words, and 1s. each additional word	3s. first ten words, and 5d. each additional word.
Inland telegrams (minimum rate) ...	1890: 1s. for ten words, and free address and signature up to ten words. Delayed telegrams, 6d. 1892: For twelve words, and free address and signature, ordinary telegrams, 1s.; delayed, 6d. Later in 1892 the number of words in text and signature made eighteen.	6d. for twelve words, including address and signature. (From 1/6/96.)
Telephone exchange connections ...	£10, £9, £8, £7 per annum ...	£5 per annum.

In addition, a number of minor concessions has been made, among which may be mentioned the abolition of the additional poundage on postal notes of over four months' currency, the introduction of letter-cards, &c.

It is difficult, if not impossible, in a department in which the several classes of business are so thoroughly fused as in the Post and Telegraph to determine exactly the loss under each separate heading. In some cases, as, for example, the introduction of the halfpenny rate for commercial and printed papers, an entirely new class of business was created, and for a time no undue pressure was felt by existing staffs. It is, however, doubtful whether the halfpenny rate leaves any appreciable margin above the actual cost of handling; but the convenience, especially to business-men, can scarcely be estimated.

In other cases the concessions have resulted in a direct loss of revenue, which can be closely approximated. For instance, the loss consequent upon the reduction of the British and foreign rates of postage, not taking into account the normal increase in business which might have been expected under the old rates, or the increased cost of handling, was as follows :—

	£
1891 ...	8,711
1892 ...	8,433
1893 ...	7,602
1894 ...	7,447
1895 ...	6,744
1896 ...	6,616

Total ... £45,553

From this it will be seen that the revenue is only slowly recovering itself. If, however, the whole of the postage reductions (including the British and foreign rates) are taken together, it will be found that the net loss was rapidly reduced until 1896, when it disappeared altogether. The figures are approximately as follow :—

	£
1891 ...	11,175
1892 ...	7,000
1893 ...	5,000
1894 ...	4,000
1895 ...	3,000
1896 ...	Nil*

Total loss to end of 1895 ... £30,175

* Net result, excess receipts about £300.

The loss caused by abolition of the redirection fees, which was a concession from which no indirect gain could result, was for the first year about £1,400. For 1896 it would have probably reached £1,650.

In connection with the reductions in the inland and foreign telegraph rates, the loss is somewhat difficult to gauge, but was, as accurately as can be estimated for the four years ended the 31st December, 1895, £27,486. In 1896 the sixpenny rate was introduced, the results of which are dealt with elsewhere.

The reduction in the inland parcel-post rates and in the telephone-exchange subscriptions has resulted in an annually-increasing saving to the public.

It is estimated that the result of the whole of the reductions, as compared with 1890, was that the public was relieved of payments amounting to £98,120 in 1896, notwithstanding which the department collected £56,788 more revenue than it did in 1890.

The second meeting of the Appeal Board under "The Post and Telegraph Department Act, 1894," was held in June of last year. Forty appeals were considered, seventeen of which were favourably reported upon by the Board and twenty-three unfavourably. Effect has been given to the seventeen favourable recommendations, wholly or partially, in all cases except two.

The term of office of the two elected members having expired a new election was held in February last, when Mr. J. H. Stevens, Postmaster of Feilding, was elected by the officers of the Postal Branch as their representative, and Mr. W. McNickle was re-elected by the officers of the Telegraph Branch.

The new Board held its first sitting on the 7th June last.

During the year 1896 1,328 visits of inspection were made to post-offices in the colony. The distances travelled by the Inspectors were as follow:—On horseback, 5,079 miles; by coach or buggy, 7,430 miles; by rail, 11,021 miles; by water, 2,526 miles; on foot, 166 miles: total, 26,222 miles.

Notwithstanding the fact that notices are placed over every posting-box in the colony warning the public against enclosing money in unregistered letters the practice is still prevalent to a large extent. As the registration-fee is now merely a nominal one it is difficult to understand why money should continue to be sent without ordinary business precautions being taken to insure its safety. It is hardly to be credited by people who are careful in such matters that it is a common thing to find in the post-office letters crammed full of bank-notes, very often in the flimsiest of covers. Frequently the contents protrude from the envelopes, or are found loose in the mail-bags, having burst their envelopes, and often letters filled with notes are carelessly thrown into railway-vans for the guard to deliver with the mails. Many other cases could be instanced of carelessness on the part of the public in sending money by post.

The use of bicycles as a means for facilitating the delivery of letters and telegrams has been considerably extended in the past year. It is proposed to gradually apply the system to places where it is likely to be advantageous, either in the direction of accelerating or extending deliveries. The boom in the bicycle trade and the consequent high prices of machines has so far prevented the department from settling upon a standard pattern, but with the experience which has been gained there will be little difficulty in compiling a suitable specification for future orders.

But little progress has been made with the Pacific-cable question, as may be seen from papers submitted to Parliament. The Imperial Commission which met in London in June last year confirmed the resolutions of the Intercolonial Conference held at Sydney at the beginning of 1896, but the formal proceedings of the Commission have not yet been made public. Further consideration was given the question during the presence of the colonial Premiers in London.

No formal Intercolonial Post and Telegraph Conference has met since 1895, but there have been several meetings of representatives of the other colonies to consider matters of more or less urgency and importance, more particularly in connection with the renewal of the Federal mail-service.

There was also a special Conference of Postmasters-General held at Melbourne in March last, presided over by the Postmaster-General of this colony, to consider the appointment of a delegate and Ministerial representative of the Australasian Colonies to the Washington Postal Union Congress. The choice fell on the Hon. John Gavan Duffy, Postmaster-General of Victoria.

The Conference also passed the following resolution in reference to the Pacific cable:—

"That this Conference hereby expresses its great satisfaction that the Pacific-cable Commission has decided to recommend the adoption of the proposals formulated at the Sydney Conference, and, in view of the great importance to the Empire of the construction of the cable, expresses the hope that means may at an early date be found for its speedy realisation."

The quinquennial congress of the Universal Postal Union sat at Washington in May last. New Zealand was, in concert with the other Australian Colonies, represented by the Hon. John Gavan Duffy, Postmaster-General of Victoria, who was accompanied by Mr. James Smibert, late Deputy Postmaster-General of that colony, as postal expert. A brief preliminary report has been received from the representative of the colonies, from which it would appear that the principal change in the treaty affecting New Zealand is a reduction of the sea-transit rates. This will probably result in a saving to the colony. The weight of sample packets has been increased from 250 grammes (8 oz.) to 350 grammes (12 oz.), but the Congress refused by a large majority to accede to the demand that small packages of ordinary merchandise should be carried as samples. Among other matters, it was decided to permit vignettes or other illustrations on the address side of post-cards, provided sufficient space be left for the address, &c.; and that the postage-stamps of

the principal values used for international correspondence should be printed, as far as practicable, in uniform colours—namely, 5 centimes ($\frac{1}{2}$ d.) in green, 10 centimes (1d.) in red, and 25 centimes (2 $\frac{1}{2}$ d.) in blue. Mr. Duffy made a strenuous effort to induce the Congress to absolutely prohibit the transmission through the post of indecent or obscene matter, but, although strongly supported by Great Britain and the United States, it is regretted that his motion was lost by a majority of four. The opposition is stated to have been based on a disinclination to establish a regulation which might be regarded as approaching a post-office censorship. A large number of matters of detail was also dealt with. So soon as the new treaty is signed, the usual steps will be taken to advise the public of the changes and concessions.

The new issue of postage-stamps is now being engraved in London. Some delay has been occasioned owing to a discussion having arisen as to the respective merits of the surface and recess processes of printing, but it has been finally decided to adopt the latter process as the only one likely to do justice to such high-class designs. While it is more expensive and slower than surface printing, it is believed that the result will fully warrant the adoption of the recess printing.

Attention has during the year been given to the revision of the orthography of the Maori names of post-offices, and a considerable number of changes has been made. Many of the existing names were found to date back to a time when the spelling of the Maori language followed individual predilection, and, unfortunately, in some cases names were applied in their mutilated form to places which have since become of such importance that changes cannot well be carried out without an undue disturbance of business. Every precaution is now taken to verify the spelling of names offered for post-offices, and wherever possible native names are given the preference to others. The duplication of names is also receiving attention.

The new cable steamer "Tutanekai," which left Greenock on the 24th July, 1896, arrived at Wellington on the 30th September last.

The equipment for laying and repairing cables was found to be of the most modern and complete description, and to the entire satisfaction of the department. The "Tutanekai" has been employed wholly in the service of the Marine Department since her arrival, as the telegraph cables have fortunately required no attention.

Soon after the arrival of the "Tutanekai" the "Terranora," which had for four years been employed for cable-laying and repairing purposes, was sold.

In last year's report the introduction of a sixpenny rate for telegrams was announced as from the 1st June, 1896, and the department was able to give a return of the number and value of telegrams forwarded at the new rates for June and July, which showed an increase of 28·97 per cent. in number and 21·13 per cent. in value as compared with the corresponding months in 1895. The expectation that this increase was an abnormal one was verified by the returns for August, when the increase in number as compared with the corresponding month of 1895 was 16·04 and 3·36 per cent. in value. In the three following months the rate of increase was almost stationary, and the revenue scarcely varied from that received under the higher rates of the preceding year. In December, however, a marked upward tendency took place, and, although the business of the corresponding month in 1895 had been very satisfactory, the last month of 1896 was closed with 223,971 telegrams, or an increase of 35·91 per cent. over December, 1895. The increase in value was 9·8 per cent. Since then, as will be seen from the appended return, the traffic has been well maintained, so far as regards the number of telegrams despatched; but, as was only to be anticipated, experience has taught the users of the telegraph to so condense their telegrams that the average cost of a message which under the old rates was 1s. 1·51d., and which in the first month of the new tariff was 10·96d., fell to 9·29d. in March last. How marked has been the effect of this is shown by the fact that an increase in the number of telegrams of 30·42 per cent. in June, 1896, resulted in an increase in value of 20·28; while an increase of 32·57 in April, 1897, showed an increased value of 1·72 per cent. only. The increase of traffic for July, 1896, was 27·59 per cent. in number, and 19·01 in revenue. For March, 1897, there was an increase of 28·48 per cent. in number, but a loss of 1·14 per cent. in value as compared with the corresponding month of 1896.

Analysing the results of the business in this way, month by month, it appears probable that the revenue of 1897-98 will be less than that of the preceding year, although the telegraph work will be increased from 25 to 30 per cent. Under the old rates it could be reasonably assumed that under normal conditions the revenue from telegrams for 1897-98 would have reached about £100,000, as against an anticipated revenue of £95,000 only under the sixpenny tariff, to collect which will probably cost the department about £6,000 for additional salaries, as well as an increase of £1,000 for the maintenance of new telegraph-lines. The capital cost of new wires erected or in course of erection to meet the increased traffic is £9,900. It is therefore necessary to strongly emphasize the effect of concessions to the public, as the reduction of the telegraph minimum rates from 1s. to 6d. Such radical changes cannot be made without materially disturbing the revenue and involving a largely-increased expenditure for a number of years. That almost half a million additional telegrams were handled by the department for the year ended the 31st May at an extra cost for salaries of about £4,000 only is a fact which perhaps it is allowable to mention with some satisfaction. Such a result could only have been attained in a service where every lad in the non-clerical division and every telegraph messenger is given opportunities for acquiring a knowledge of telegraph work and constantly reminded that qualified boys already in the service are given preference when vacancies occur. About eighty cadets selected from lads in the non-clerical division and messengers' staffs, who had in their spare time qualified as telegraph operators, were appointed on the introduction of sixpenny telegrams, and, as a whole, they have performed their duties satisfactorily.

The following tables show the operations of the old and new tariffs in detail :—
Return showing the Number of Telegrams forwarded, the Revenue derived therefrom, and the Rate of Increase during the last three Financial Years.

Financial Year.	Number of Tele-grams forwarded.	Rate of Increase.	Revenue.	Rate of Increase.
1894-95... ..	1,802,182	...	£ 85,388 s. 0 d. 0	...
1895-96... ..	1,899,632	5·41 per cent.	92,289 0 0	8·08 per cent.
1896-97... ..	2,285,001	20·29 per cent.	97,453 0 0	5·60 per cent.

Return showing the Number of Telegrams forwarded and the Revenue derived therefrom for the Ten Months ended 31st March, 1897, as compared with the Corresponding Ten Months of the previous Financial Year.

Period.	Number of Tele-grams forwarded.	Rate of Increase.	Revenue.	Rate of Increase.
June, 1895, to March, 1896...	1,593,607	...	£ 78,461 s. 0 d. 0	...
June, 1896, to March, 1897...	1,970,872	23·67 per cent.	81,557 0 0	3·95 per cent.

Return showing the Number of Telegrams forwarded and the Revenue derived therefrom for the Twelve Months ended 31st May, 1897, as compared with the Twelve Months ended 31st May, 1896.

Period.	Number of Tele-grams forwarded.	Rate of Increase.	Revenue.	Rate of Increase.
June, 1895, to May, 1896 ...	1,907,736	...	£ 94,357 s. 0 d. 0	...
June, 1896, to May, 1897 ...	2,373,876	24·43 per cent.	97,177 0 0	2·99 per cent.

Return showing the number of Telegrams forwarded and the Revenue derived therefrom, Month by Month, for the Twelve Months ended 31st May, 1897, as compared with the Twelve Months ended 31st May, 1896.

Month.	Number of Telegrams forwarded.		Increase Per Cent.	Revenue.				Increase Per Cent.	Decrease Per Cent.		
	1895-96, Old Rates.	1896-97, New Rates.		1895-96, Old Rates.		1896-97, New Rates.					
June	139,188	181,532	30·42	£ 6,720	s. 6	d. 4½	£ 8,082	s. 10	d. 1	20·28	...
July	146,134	186,446	27·59	6,890	5	2	8,199	10	8	19·01	...
August	155,370	180,297	16·04	7,535	16	7	7,789	5	1	3·36	...
September	155,453	183,095	17·78	7,712	1	1½	7,705	2	2	...	0·09
October	167,527	194,618	16·17	8,282	9	6	8,225	19	9½	...	0·68
November... ..	163,748	192,162	17·35	7,901	14	5	7,951	11	11	0·63	...
December... ..	164,789	223,971	35·91	8,103	15	8	8,897	18	3½	9·80	...
January	164,749	205,220	24·73	8,256	7	1½	8,051	13	4	...	2·47
February	163,426	200,977	22·98	8,179	1	3½	8,038	9	3	...	1·72
March	173,223	222,554	28·48	8,879	18	2	8,615	5	9	...	1·14
Totals for ten months ended 31st March, 1897	1,593,607	1,970,872	23·67	78,461	15	5	81,557	6	4	3·95	...
April	158,622	210,286	32·57	8,019	11	11½	8,158	5	7	1·72	...
May	155,507	192,718	23·93	7,876	0	3½	7,461	9	8½	...	5·27
Totals for twelve months ended 31st May, 1897 ..	1,907,736	2,373,876	24·43	94,357	7	8½	97,177	1	7½	2·99	...

Return showing the Number of Telegrams forwarded and the Revenue derived therefrom, in the several Postal Districts, for the Ten Months ended 31st March, 1897, as compared with the Corresponding Ten Months of the previous Financial Year.

District.	Number of Telegrams forwarded.		Increase per Cent.	Revenue.			Increase per Cent.			
	1895-96, Old Rates.	1896-97, New Rates.		1895-96, Old Rates.	1896-97, New Rates.					
				£	s.	d.	£	s.	d.	
Auckland	299,463	386,360	...	15,002	10	2	16,703	18	11	...
Blenheim	22,971	30,459	...	1,249	5	9½	1,364	7	7	...
Christchurch	162,849	194,254	...	9,108	11	2½	9,127	4	8	...
Dunedin	197,991	236,392	...	9,970	13	7½	10,119	15	0½	...
Gisborne	30,813	34,996	...	1,719	3	4½	1,690	7	1½	...
Greymouth	39,744	45,876	...	2,253	12	3½	2,189	15	2	...
Hokitika	15,155	20,356	...	862	4	9	974	12	1½	...
Invercargill	89,061	106,789	...	3,944	3	1	4,124	12	4½	...
Napier	87,412	108,411	...	4,873	4	3	4,928	16	7½	...
Nelson	37,057	62,809	...	1,719	8	0	1,505	0	5	...
New Plymouth	37,925	46,572	...	2,024	1	2	1,940	3	6½	...
Oamaru	21,312	24,915	...	1,364	2	1	1,299	15	8	...
Thames	66,878	108,462	...	3,603	10	6½	4,701	3	8	...
Timaru	31,957	39,650	...	1,904	5	6	1,799	4	11	...
Wanganui	75,824	92,196	...	4,064	7	0	3,816	19	4½	...
Wellington	351,653	397,436	...	13,466	14	8	13,767	16	5½	...
Westport	25,542	34,939	...	1,331	17	11	1,503	12	8	...
Totals	1,593,607	1,970,872	23·67	78,461	15	5	81,557	6	4	3·95

The number and value of cable messages forwarded during 1896 are shown in the following statement:—

Destination.	Ordinary.			Press.		
	No. of Messages.	Value.		No. of Messages.	Value.	
		£ s. d.			£ s. d.	
International	9,814	42,148 15 1		1	4 10 0	
New Caledonia	27	23 6 2		...	...	
New South Wales	19,590	4,282 18 1		904	472 11 10	
Queensland	1,135	382 11 7		10	2 16 9	
South Australia	1,046	324 9 9		2	0 12 2	
Tasmania	1,543	559 9 0		...	...	
Victoria	12,393	3,299 6 0		152	50 14 0	
Western Australia	1,688	661 3 5		...	...	
Total for 1896	47,236	51,681 19 1		1,069	531 4 9	
Total for 1895	38,936	35,685 5 5		1,168	433 13 0	

STATEMENT of TRAFFIC over the NEW ZEALAND-SYDNEY CABLE for the Year from the 1st May, 1896, to the 30th April, 1897, and Amounts payable by Guaranteeing Colonies.

Amount guaranteed to Cable Company	£ 20,000
Actual receipts during the above period	16,144
Showing a loss to the Cable Company of	<u>£3,856</u>
Apportioned as follows:—	
New Zealand, one-third	1,285
Contributing colonies, including New Zealand, two-thirds	2,571
	<u>£3,856</u>

And the contributing colonies' proportions, on the basis of population :—

Colony.					Population (Census, 1891).	Amount.		
						£	s.	d.
Victoria	...	...	...	...	1,140,405	859	18	8
New South Wales	...	...	...	...	1,132,234	853	15	5
New Zealand	...	...	...	...	620,030	467	10	9
South Australia	...	...	...	...	320,431	241	12	6
Tasmania	...	...	...	...	146,667	110	11	11
Western Australia	...	...	...	...	49,782	37	10	9
Totals	...	...	...	...	3,409,549	£2,571	0	0

Queensland joined the guarantee fund on the 8th July last, from which date the minimum rates were applied to messages to and from that colony.

The colony's outward international and intercolonial cable business, not including Press, for the years 1895 and 1896 was as follows :—

International,—				Messages. Number.		Value.		
						£	s.	d.
1895	...	...	...	7,135	...	27,484	10	3
1896	...	...	...	9,814	...	42,148	15	1
Increase				2,679	Increase	14,664	4	10
				or 37·45 per cent.		or 53·34 per cent.		
Intercolonial,—				Messages. Number.		Value.		
						£	s.	d.
1895	...	...	...	31,801	...	8,200	15	2
1896	...	...	...	37,422	...	9,536	10	8
Increase				5,621	Increase	1,335	15	6
				or 17·67 per cent.		or 16·29 per cent.		

A total increase in 1896 of 8,300 messages and £16,000 0s. 4d. in value.

The forwarded and received cable Press business for the past six years has been :—

Year.	Forwarded.			Received.		
	Number of		Value.	Number of		Value.
	Messages.	Words.		Messages.	Words.	
1891	837	45,285	£ 932 15 8	2,828	198,935	£ 2,739 6 0
1892	791	44,263	898 3 9	2,884	197,477	2,796 9 4
1893	796	57,390	504 9 9	2,883	202,170	1,540 17 10
1894	994	103,366	899 4 9	3,033	203,326	1,179 13 7
1895	1,168	68,682	433 13 0	3,926	314,136	1,782 13 5
1896	1,069	92,946	531 4 9	2,946	285,369	1,576 1 3

NOTE.—The intercolonial cable Press rate was reduced from 3d. to 1d. per word on the 1st April, 1893.

POST OFFICE.

The number of articles posted in the colony, and received from places outside the colony, during 1896, as compared with the number in 1895, was as under :—

		1896.	1895.	Increase.
Letters—				
Posted in the colony	..	27,874,353	26,968,955	
Received from places outside the colony	..	1,913,410	1,980,981	
		29,787,763	28,949,936	837,827
Letter-cards posted in the colony	..	654,290	637,013	17,277
Post-cards—				
Posted in the colony	..	1,226,550	1,196,156	
Received from places outside the colony	..	5,285	5,477	
		1,231,835	1,201,633	30,202
Books and pattern-packets—				
Posted in the colony	..	10,048,597	8,337,680	
Received from places outside the colony	..	2,598,674	2,509,444	
		12,647,271	10,847,124	1,800,147
Newspapers—				
Posted in the colony	..	9,521,525	8,964,111	
Received from places outside the colony	..	3,694,996	3,711,862	
		13,216,521	12,675,973	540,548
Parcels—				
Posted in the colony	..	166,702	156,752	
Received from places outside the colony	..	19,909	19,454	
		186,611	176,206	10,405

The letters increased 2·89, the books and pattern packets 16·60, newspapers 4·27, parcels 5·91, letter-cards 2·71, post-cards 2·51 per cent.

The increase in 1895 was: Letters, 4·74; books, &c., 15·22; newspapers, 2·78; and parcels, 1·11 per cent. Post-cards decreased 4·16 per cent.

The average number of letters posted per head of population was estimated to be 39·43, or 40·36, including letter-cards. The averages in 1895 were 38·95 and 39·87 respectively.

The Post-Office receipts for the financial year amounted to £262,482 5s. 6d.—an increase of £19,867 5s. 11d., or 8·19 per cent.

The expenditure was £196,242 19s. 8d., as against £183,855 5s. 5d. for the previous year—an increase of £12,387 14s. 3d., or 6·74 per cent.

There was therefore a balance of revenue over expenditure of £66,239 5s. 10d.

The estimated value of official correspondence was £81,609. The gross earnings of the Post Office for the year were therefore £344,091 5s. 6d., and the credit balance £147,848 5s. 10d.

Customs duties amounting to £7,693 11s. 2d. were collected on articles received through the post from places beyond the colony, and £1,300 11s. 5d. on account of ordinary Customs work.

The sum of £1,356 was collected in connection with the sale of game-licenses.

Premiums amounting to £26,626 14s. 4d. were collected from policyholders on behalf of the Government Insurance Department.

On publications of the Government Printer sold by him through the Post Office £404 16s. 1d. was collected.

Income-tax amounting to £50,840 19s. 5d., and land-tax £200,818 15s. 6d., were received at post-offices.

Fees were collected under the Live-stock Acts amounting to £17,131 2s.

The sum of £3,594 5s. was collected for machinery-fees.

The receipts from the sale of miners' licenses amounted to £1,487 13s.

£7,570 2s. was lodged at post-offices for investment in New Zealand Consols.

Receipts on behalf of the Public Trust Office amounted to £205,731 11s. 8d., and payments to £202,664 7s., as compared with £157,855 16s. and £160,113 2s. 2d. the previous year.

Railway receipts amounting to £12,343 15s. 10d. were also accounted for through the Post Office Account.

The fees collected for the registration of births, deaths, and marriages amounted to £2,029 12s.

Advances to Settlers Office receipts reached £608,943 2s. 9d., and payments £597,241 9s. 6d., a very considerable increase on the £314,288 9s. 10d. and £308,746 5s. 7d. for the previous year.

Fees, &c., were also collected on account of the Audit Office, Hospitals and Charitable Aid, Industrial Schools, Lunacy Department, public baths, totalisator-tax, Factories Act, gum-licenses, Alcoholic Liquors Act, Licensing Act, auctioneers' licenses, fishing licenses, Education Department, and the Treasury.

The payments made by the Post Office on behalf of the Treasury amounted to £415,017 9s. 4d.

The gross receipts dealt with during the year were: Departmental, £6,031,581 11s. 6d.; on account of other departments, £1,612,808 17s. 2d.: total, £7,644,390 8s. 8d., as compared with £6,090,922 3s. 2d. for the previous year.

The payments were: Departmental £5,980,989 19s. 8d.; on behalf of other departments to individuals, £1,214,923 5s. 10d.; to Government accounts, £333,273 16s. 3d.: in all, £7,529,187 1s. 9d., as against £6,106,403 11s. 3d. during the former year.

The gross receipts and payments were therefore £15,173,577 10s. 5d., as against £12,197,395 14s. 5d. for the year 1895-96.

Deliveries by letter-carriers were established at: Dunedin—Outram; Invercargill—Riverton; New Plymouth—Stratford; Thames—Waihi; Wellington—Karori.

Deliveries were extended at: Auckland—Coromandel; Christchurch—Rangiora, to include the whole of the borough; Invercargill—Gore, to take in Denton, Ardwick, Crewe, Broughton, Eccles, Oldham, and Salford Streets, also East Gore; Thames—Waihi, to a distance of a mile and a half from the post-office, and to include Bull Town.

An additional delivery has been established at Ashburton to provide for the prompt distribution of correspondence by the express-train from Christchurch at 1 p.m.

The delivery was changed at Lyttelton to enable the letter-carriers to take their half-holiday on Thursday instead of Saturday.

The designations of offices were changed as follow: Auckland—Alexandra to Pirongia, Henderson's Mill to Henderson; Dunedin—Glenoamaru to Ahuriri Flat; Invercargill—Oteramika Gorge to Gorge Road; Napier—Port Ahuriri to Spit, Victoria to Papatawa; Wellington—Campbelltown to Rongotea, Palmer's to Raumai, Tutaekara to Hamua. Names were corrected as follow: Auckland—Mongonui to Mangonui, Tangawahine to Tangowahine, Wangarei to Whangarei, Wangarei Heads to Whangarei Heads, Wangaroa to Whangaroa; Christchurch—Motonau to Motunau; Dunedin—Clarkesville to Clarksville; Wanganui—Utika to Utiku; Wellington—Ohonga to Aohanga.

Twenty-two newspapers were registered for transmission by post, and eighteen ceased publication.

Twenty-three receiving-boxes were established at: Auckland—City, 1; Avondale, 1; Coromandel, 1. Christchurch—City, 2; Ashburton, 1; Sydenham, 1. Greymouth—Brunnerton (Taylorville, 1; Wallsend, 1, reopened), 2. Thames—Te Aroha, 1; Waihi, 2; Waitekauri, 1. Timaru—Town, 1. Wanganui—Town, 1. Wellington—City, 5; Eketahuna, 1; Hutt, 1; Petone, 1.

Five receiving-boxes were closed: Christchurch—City, 2; Greymouth—Brunnerton (Wallsend), 1; Oamaru—Town, 1; Wanganui—Town, 1.

Sixty-seven post-offices were established, six reopened, and thirteen closed, as under :—

Opened.

Aicken's, Hokitika	Kohi, Wanganui	Redwood's Valley, Nelson
Bainham, Nelson	Kohinui, Wellington	Ruahine, Wellington
Birchfield, Westport	Koiterangi, Hokitika	Ruakaka, Auckland
Blandville, Christchurch	Kokoamu, Oamaru	Ruatoki, Thames
Bromley, Christchurch	Komako, Wellington	St. Albans, Christchurch
Cameron's, Greymouth	Little Rakai, Christchurch	Spotswood, Christchurch
Caroline, Invercargill	Makomako, Wellington	Taneatua, Thames
Chatto Creek, Dunedin	Mangamuka, Auckland	Te Kao, Auckland
Crushington, Greymouth	Mangarimu, Wellington	Te Ngae, Auckland
East Tamaki, Auckland	Mangatoro Valley, Napier	Te Rau-a-Moa, Auckland
Flat Creek, Blenheim	Manukau Heads, Auckland	Ti-tree Point, Napier
Ferguson's, Hokitika	Matapu, Wanganui	Tiriraukawa, Wanganui
Forsyth, Dunedin	Meremere, Wanganui	Umawera, Auckland
Glade House, Invercargill	Middlevale, Invercargill	Upper Riccarton, Christchurch
Glenomaru, Dunedin	Omoho, Auckland	Utika, Wanganui
Glenwood, Wellington	Otawhao, Napier	Wairere, Wellington
Golden Cross, Thames	Papatowai, Dunedin	Waikino, Thames
Goodwood, Dunedin	Parkeston, Nelson	Waitaki South, Timaru
Haldane, Invercargill	Pori, Wellington	Wangapeka, Nelson
Hawainga, Wanganui	Poru-o-Tarao, Auckland	Wekaweka, Auckland
Hinau, Wellington	Progress Junction, Greymouth	Western Spit, Napier
Huiroa, New Plymouth	Pukepoto, Auckland	Whakapara, Auckland
Ihuraia Valley, Wellington	Rakaunui, Wellington	Whenuakura, Wanganui
Kakepuku, Auckland	Redvale, Auckland	Worser Bay, Wellington
Kawatau, Wanganui		

Closed.

Birdling's Flat, Christchurch	Owen's Junction, Nelson	Waihakeke, Wellington
Cricklewood, Napier	Pendarves, Christchurch	Waikawa, Invercargill
East Tamaki, Auckland	Puketutu, Auckland	Whakahara, Auckland
Marobema, Wanganui	Te Rori, Auckland	Whangape, Auckland
Matapu, Wanganui		

The total number of post-offices open at the close of the year was 1,464.

PARCEL-POST.

The following table shows the total number and the weight of inland, intercolonial, United Kingdom, and foreign parcels dealt with during the years 1890, 1894, 1895, and 1896 :—

Postal Districts.	1890.		1894.		1895.		1896.	
	Number.	Weight.	Number.	Weight.	Number.	Weight.	Number.	Weight.
		lb. oz.		lb. oz.		lb. oz.		lb. oz.
Auckland	24,582	65,907 2	34,480	98,202 8	35,631	107,729 14½	37,317	117,815 8½
Thames	1,677	4,102 2	2,103	5,702 8	2,235	6,134 10	2,808	8,052 4
New Plymouth	1,131	3,034 8	2,567	6,705 10	2,543	6,780 8	2,857	7,306 11
Gisborne	1,046	2,862 12	1,362	4,140 11½	1,136	3,581 8½	1,480	4,447 8
Napier	7,059	19,422 1	8,778	26,362 15	8,865	25,672 1	9,189	27,025 10
Wanganui	4,531	10,731 12	5,543	15,795 9	5,722	18,139 5	6,230	19,609 8
Wellington	29,093	83,998 11	43,035	143,652 3	43,591	158,124 1	44,824	193,053 6
Nelson	5,323	15,123 4	5,697	17,815 7	5,771	17,860 6	5,529	17,698 6
Westport	1,201	2,688 12	1,696	4,332 6	1,707	4,382 13	1,952	4,138 6
Greymouth	2,819	7,128 5	2,627	7,278 2	2,553	6,319 13	2,653	7,075 15
Hokitika	1,587	4,882 8	1,722	5,598 5	1,816	5,904 8	1,611	5,691 3
Blenheim	2,050	4,941 15	2,260	6,162 8	2,133	5,967 13½	1,902	4,854 1
Christchurch	21,819	65,881 6	26,523	87,776 10	27,053	96,386 9	29,033	108,748 15
Timaru	2,261	5,515 6	2,120	5,542 15½	1,908	5,060 9	2,129	5,259 14½
Oamaru	955	2,415 11	1,010	2,618 4	988	2,563 8	1,048	3,337 11
Dunedin	25,301	73,616 10	28,316	90,554 9	28,132	99,186 10	31,427	106,561 1
Invercargill	3,892	8,768 11	4,425	12,074 5	4,422	12,598 15	4,622	13,657 13
Totals	136,327	380,521 8	174,264	540,315 8	176,206	582,193 8½	186,611	654,333 13

The following table shows the number and weight of parcels exchanged with the United Kingdom, and Foreign Countries *via* London, and the Australian Colonies and the South Sea Islands, during the years 1895 and 1896 :—

Country.	Received.				Despatched.			
	1895.		1896.		1895.		1896.	
	Number.	Weight.	Number.	Weight.	Number.	Weight.	Number.	Weight.
		lb. oz.		lb. oz.		lb. oz.		lb. oz.
United Kingdom and foreign offices (<i>via</i> London)	13,681	46,339 0	13,730	46,750 0	3,524	9,113 8	3,446	8,223 0
Victoria	2,558	7,629 0	2,579	7,491 0	1,457	2,773 5½	1,457	2,580 0
New South Wales	2,504	7,850 12	2,853	8,014 6	1,345	3,128 1	1,568	3,537 11½
South Australia	238	765 0	206	759 13	176	474 15	149	414 15
Queensland	159	394 6	187	489 6	196	474 3½	225	583 12½
Tasmania	133	382 5	113	351 2	246	505 0	280	589 1
Western Australia	64	201 11	122	363 6	181	472 14	198	580 5
Samoa	26	81 11½	5	22 6	109	388 0½	84	213 10
Rarotonga	14	31 1	10	43 12	39	168 15	54	185 9
Hawaiian Islands	15	25 9	38	57 5	3	2 8	28	87 3
Ceylon	47	77 6	44	79 8	11	22 4	33	64 13
Straits Settlements	15	35 13	22	51 2½	8	23 8	..	..
Totals	19,454	63,813 10½	19,909	64,473 2½	7,298	17,547 2½	7,522	17,060 0

The declared value of parcels received from places outside the colony was £36,438 0s. 1d. The Customs duty collected amounted to £7,693 11s. 2d. In 1895 the declared value was £26,668 14s. 9d. The declared value of parcels despatched to places beyond the colony was £7,703 9s. 10d., as against £6,374 19s. 11d. in 1895.

The most notable alteration in connection with parcel-post exchanges has been the reduction of the rates to and from the United Kingdom from 1s. 6d. for the first 2lb. and 9d. for each succeeding lb. to 1s. for the first lb. and 6d. for each succeeding lb. The reduction has only been in operation since the 1st January last, and its effect cannot as yet be accurately gauged. It is anticipated, however, that the number of received parcels from the United Kingdom will materially increase.

Negotiations are now in progress for the establishing of a system under which, for a small fee, the senders of parcels from the United Kingdom to New Zealand and *vice versa* may, by guaranteeing the payment of Customs duty, &c., insure the free delivery of dutiable parcels.

Under an agreement with Sydney, parcels are now exchanged with Canada by way of that office and Vancouver in lieu of London.

Parcel exchanges, *via* London, have been extended to Paraguay, Venezuela, Cape Verd Islands, and the more important places in Portuguese West Africa.

The maximum weight of parcels transmissible to Sweden, Portugal, Madeira, and Azores has been increased from 7 lb. to 11 lb.

The rates of postage on parcels to the following countries, *via* London, have been reduced: Seychelles, Portugal, Madeira, Azores, Natal (for places other than Durban and the Point), Chili, and Mexico.

Negotiations for direct exchanges with the South African countries, *via* Melbourne, are almost completed. At present parcels are sent through London.

OFFICIAL CORRESPONDENCE

The estimated volume and value of official and other free correspondence posted during the year is given in the statement below:—

District.	Letters.	Packets.	Registered Articles.	Newspapers.	Value of Official Correspondence.
					£
Auckland	551,817	41,999	18,842	229,546	14,535
Thames	58,695	4,471	4,016	21,086	1,546
New Plymouth	95,706	7,291	3,499	31,781	2,532
Gisborne	30,277	2,306	1,101	8,992	791
Napier	129,480	9,864	7,681	56,097	3,400
Wanganui	157,248	11,979	5,163	44,710	4,142
Wellington	907,751	332,900	20,158	440,347	23,953
Nelson	63,128	4,809	2,451	17,100	1,662
Westport	22,867	1,732	2,043	12,982	607
Greymouth	42,991	3,268	2,626	22,273	1,134
Hokitika	19,643	1,492	1,259	10,345	501
Blenheim	45,851	3,483	1,455	13,833	1,213
Christchurch	359,021	27,316	15,026	209,674	10,091
Timaru	63,141	4,811	1,749	17,687	1,670
Oamaru	31,603	2,466	1,143	12,831	844
Dunedin	368,875	28,108	11,091	178,526	9,137
Invercargill	145,873	11,113	5,737	64,274	3,851
Totals	3,093,467	499,408	105,040	1,392,084	£81,609

The estimated value for 1895 was £65,348.

DEAD LETTERS.

The following comparative table shows the number of unclaimed letters, letter-cards, and post-cards dealt with during the under-mentioned years:—

Manner of Disposal.	1884.	1885.	1886.	1887.	1888.	1889.	1890.	1892.	1894.	1895.	1896.
Opened and returned to the writers ..	68,942	66,592	66,729	62,847	55,118	62,654	60,540	63,483	61,745	61,065	63,112
Returned unopened to other countries ..	9,134	8,115	8,359	7,287	6,892	6,220	7,779	7,751	8,941	12,929	7,546
Reissued	107	185	251	96	88	92	141	128	130	199	148
Destroyed	3,986	2,872	6,600	5,974	5,246	4,340	2,660	2,092	4,725	3,617	4,069
Returned unopened by Chief Postmasters ..	17,593	19,187	21,144	20,185	19,963	21,164	21,931	19,909	22,042	25,980	26,414
Totals	99,762	96,951	103,083	96,389	87,307	94,470	93,051	93,363	97,583	103,790	101,289

The proportion of dead or unclaimed letters, letter-cards, and post-cards to the total number dealt with in the colony was 0.32 per cent.

43,662 book-packets and circulars were returned to foreign countries, 48,445 were returned to senders through the Dead-letter Office, 10 were reissued, and 26,986 were returned by Chief Postmasters: a total of 119,103 book-packets and circulars, as compared with 94,079 in 1895.

302 letters were wrongly addressed. 36 letters were discovered to have been posted with previously-used stamps.

The under-mentioned articles of value were found in letters opened in the Dead-letter Office, and returned to the senders where practicable:—

	£	s.	d.
201 Post-office orders	573	16	5
40 bank drafts	3,233	2	7
154 cheques	1,019	19	4
3 dividend warrants	117	16	11
10 promissory notes	211	9	9
Postal notes	76	15	3
Stamps	21	9	9
Bank-notes	160	0	0
Gold	15	10	0
Silver and copper	2	19	3
Representing a total of	£5,432	17	3

In addition, 1 gentlemen's gold watch, 3 gentlemen's silver watches, 1 ladies' gold watch, 3 metal watches, 1 gold-mounted hair chain, 1 patent silver watch-key, 1 silver pendant, 1 greenstone pendant, 1 gold brooch, 4 silver brooches, 1 greenstone brooch, 1 gold bracelet, 1 silver bracelet, 4 gold rings, 1 combination diamond stud and gold pin, 1 gold pin, 2 scarf-pins, 1 old naval war-medal, 1 purse containing coin and tram-tickets, 2 purses containing coin, 1 packet containing purse and butterfly-belt, 1 small packet of rough diamonds, 3 silk handkerchiefs, 1 blue pocket-book containing cheque and ticket Feilding to Wanganui, 1 card-case, 1 steerage ticket Gisborne to Napier, 1 second-class railway-ticket Wanganui to Wellington, 2 pawn tickets, 1 savings-bank warrant for 2s. 6d., 1 deposit receipt for £100, 1 packet old New Zealand stamps, 4 sheets of foreign postage-stamps.

1,556 unclaimed registered letters were dealt with.

1,919 newspapers and 1,080 books and other articles without addresses were received, many of which were subsequently applied for and delivered.

770 newspapers were returned to the publishers.

290 letters were posted without addresses—at the rate of 9 per million.

123 letter-cards were posted without addresses—at the rate of 187 per million.

30 letters with libellous addresses were intercepted.

The number of inland, intercolonial, and international unclaimed articles received and disposed of during the years 1895 and 1896 was as under:—

	1895.					1896.				
	Letters.	Letter-cards.	Post-cards.	Packets.	News-papers.	Letters.	Letter-cards.	Post-cards.	Packets.	News-papers.
<i>Inland.</i>										
Returned, delivered, &c., through Dead-letter Office	48,631	1,202	2,212	34,314	722	51,117	1,086	2,118	47,478	770
Returned by Chief Postmasters direct	25,380	..	600	24,764	..	22,724	..	3,690	26,986	..
Destroyed in accordance with law	2,871	71	131	2,121	5,071	3,265	81	148	978	42,264
<i>Intercolonial.</i>										
Originally addressed to other colonies:—										
Returned to writers	5,148	..	14	452	..	4,509	..	12	461	..
Destroyed in accordance with law	304	..	1	24	..	290	..	1	9	..
Returned to other colonies as unclaimed	8,379	..	24	3,950	..	3,335	..	9	18,848	..
<i>International.</i>										
Originally addressed to other countries:—										
Returned to writers	4,046	..	11	510	..	4,406	..	12	516	..
Destroyed in accordance with law	238	..	1	27	..	283	..	1	11	..
Returned to other countries as unclaimed	4,513	..	13	81,051	..	4,190	..	12	24,814	..
Totals	99,510	1,273	3,007	97,213	5,793	94,119	1,167	6,003	120,101	43,034

Seven hundred and fifty inquiries for letters and 587 for other articles which were stated to have been posted and not delivered were received during 1896. In 375 of the inquiries for letters and 298 for other articles—over one-half of the total number—the investigations by the department resulted in the missing articles being traced. The result may be summarised as follows:—

Number of "Traced" Cases.		Found to have been
Letters.	Other Articles.	
21	17	Missent or misdelivered by post-office.
18	15	Delayed in delivery through fault of post-office.
31	24	Delayed in delivery through fault of addressees.
43	34	Posted later than advised, or delayed in transit through accident to mail-steamers, &c.
77	61	Defectively or wrongly addressed.
58	46	Mislaid or lost after delivery.
21	18	Returned through Dead-letter Office as unclaimed, &c.
3	2	Delivered to persons of same name as addressees and retained by them until recovered by post-office.
103	81	Delivered. Reason for inquiry not indicated, but probably in most cases omission by addressees to acknowledge receipt.
375	298	

REGISTERED LETTERS.

The number of registered articles dealt with in 1896, compared with the numbers in 1885, 1890, and 1895, is shown below :—

Postal Districts.	1885.			1890.			1895.			1896.		
	From Places beyond the Colony.	Registered in the Colony.	Totals.	From Places beyond the Colony.	Registered in the Colony.	Totals.	From Places beyond the Colony.	Registered in the Colony.	Totals.	From Places beyond the Colony.	Registered in the Colony.	Totals.
Auckland ..	5,890	22,124	28,014	7,119	34,398	41,517	11,042	47,350	58,392	7,396	56,550	63,946
Thames ..	205	2,879	3,084	130	4,781	4,911	226	7,955	8,181	1,536	12,052	13,588
New Plymouth ..	675	2,876	3,551	341	3,372	3,713	505	8,576	9,081	1,323	10,503	11,826
Gisborne ..	108	922	1,030	118	2,120	2,238	228	3,812	4,040	422	3,316	3,738
Napier ..	892	5,453	6,345	999	10,911	11,910	1,195	16,917	18,112	2,944	23,051	25,995
Wanganui ..	283	4,500	4,783	211	6,060	6,271	397	16,300	16,697	1,970	15,495	17,465
Wellington ..	4,757	19,218	23,975	6,129	30,369	36,498	10,055	50,900	60,955	7,780	60,497	68,277
Nelson ..	559	2,432	2,991	322	3,430	3,752	1,239	6,956	8,195	916	7,356	8,272
Westport ..	45	1,438	1,483	112	3,254	3,366	194	4,409	4,603	768	6,136	6,904
Greymouth ..	125	2,835	2,960	102	8,879	8,981	365	4,989	5,954	1,024	7,883	8,907
Hokitika ..	173	1,907	2,080	95	2,579	2,674	206	3,624	3,830	512	3,779	4,291
Blenheim ..	181	1,413	1,594	92	3,193	3,285	120	4,447	4,567	576	4,368	4,944
Christchurch ..	3,717	13,678	17,395	3,659	20,404	24,063	4,465	28,302	32,767	5,760	45,069	50,829
Timaru ..	440	3,153	3,593	312	3,551	3,863	1,510	4,514	6,024	640	5,253	5,893
Oamaru ..	316	1,947	2,263	278	2,505	2,783	1,252	2,569	3,821	426	3,433	3,859
Dunedin ..	5,645	12,737	18,382	4,615	19,696	24,311	5,520	28,188	33,708	4,255	33,288	37,543
Invercargill ..	1,614	6,661	8,275	1,740	9,819	11,559	2,579	14,507	17,086	2,176	17,218	19,394
Totals ..	25,625	106,173	131,798	26,374	169,321	195,695	41,098	254,315	295,413	40,424	315,247	355,671

INLAND MAIL-SERVICES.

The number of contracts for inland mails in operation in 1896 was 723, as compared with 707 in 1895.

The length of inland postal routes by road (counted one way only) was 8,683½ miles, and the total number of miles travelled 1,893,428, at an average cost of 3·44d. per mile. In 1895 the respective mileages were 8,255½ and 1,860,816, and the average cost 3·47d.

Ordinary trains with mails travelled 2,512,881 miles, as against 2,396,533 in 1895.

The estimated sum payable to the Railway Department for the conveyance of mails by ordinary trains was £29,849 5s., being an average of 2·85d. per mile.

The following mail-services were established during the year :—

Auckland—

Weekly: Awhitu Central—Manukau Heads; Coromandel—Whangapoua—Kuaotunu; Ormsby's Farm (Pirongia—Te Rau-a-Moa Road)—Kakepuku; Pirongia—Te Rau-a-Moa; Rangiahua—Umawera—Mangamuka; steamer landing and post-office—Te Kao; Waimamaku—Wekaweka.

Christchurch—

Twice daily: Christchurch—Blandville (by train).
Daily: Christchurch—Bromley; Christchurch—Upper Riccarton.
Thrice weekly: Southbridge—Little Rakaia.
Weekly: Cheviot—Port Robinson; Cheviot—Spotswood.

Dunedin—

Daily: Kaihiku Post-office and Railway-station; Miller's Flat Post-office and Coach Road.

Greymouth—

Daily: Reefton—Black's Point—Crushington (Reefton—Black's Point not previously subsidised).
Thrice weekly: Mawheraiti Post-office and Railway-station.

Hokitika—

Weekly: Hokitika—Koiterangi.

Invercargill—

Twice weekly: Otara—Haldane.
Weekly: Te Anau—Glade House (re-established, 1st November—31st December, 1896).

Napier—

Daily: Napier—Spit (delivery of letters from Spit instead of Napier).
Weekly: Dannevirke—Mangatoro Valley.

Nelson—

Weekly: Collingwood—Bainham; Collingwood—Parkeston; Sherry River—Wangapeka.

New Plymouth—

Weekly: Toko—Huiroa.

Oamaru—

Daily: Borton's (railway siding)—Kokoamu; Waitaki South Post-office and Railway-station.
Weekly: Omarama—Lake Pukaki (new service, extending Kurow—Omarama service).

Thames—

As required : Paeroa Post-office and Railway-station ; Te Aroha Post-office and Railway-station.

Four times weekly : Waitekauri-Golden Cross.

Thrice weekly : Paeroa-Te Aroha (making, with train service, a daily mail).

Weekly : Whakatane-Taneatua-Ruatoki.

Wanganui—

Daily : Clearing town-receivers 5 a.m. ; Whenuakura Post-office and Railway-station.

Thrice weekly : Eltham-Mangatoki-Kaponga (making daily service).

Twice weekly : Mangaonoho-Watershed Road-Lambert's-Murray's Track-Tiriraukawa (letter delivery and clearance service) ; Manutahi-Whakamara-Meremere-Mokoia Block).

Weekly : Mangaweka-Hawainga-Kawatau ; Waverley-Kohi ; Normanby-Matapu.

Wellington—

Daily : Wellington-Worser Bay.

Thrice weekly : Pemberton-Hinau.

Twice weekly : Mauriceville-Ihuraua Valley-Wairere ; Rangiwhahia-Ruahine.

Weekly : Alfredton-Pori.

The frequency of the following services was increased :—

Auckland—

Twice to four times weekly : Kuaotunu-Upper Kuaotunu.

Weekly to twice weekly : Tuakau-Onewhero.

Christchurch—

Additional daily mail by train : Christchurch-Springston ; Lyttelton-Christchurch.

Five times weekly to daily (train service) : Courtenay-Kirwee (inwards).

Twice weekly to daily (1st November to 30th April) : Culverden-Upper Waiau Ferry-Hammer Plain.

Dunedin—

Daily to twice daily : Henley Post-office-Railway-station.

Weekly to twice weekly : Tuapeka Mouth-Rongahere.

Napier—

Weekly to twice weekly (for three months from 1st January, 1896) : Napier-Pohui-Tarawera-Taupo-Tokaanu.

New Plymouth—

Twice weekly to daily : Lepperton Post-office-Railway-station.

Weekly to twice weekly : Urenui-Pukearuhe-Tongaporutu-Mokau-Awakino.

Thames—

Twice to thrice weekly : Thames-Waiomo-Tapu.

Wanganui—

Four times weekly to daily : Hurleyville-Alton-Ball Road Railway-station.

Thrice weekly to daily : Eltham-Mangatoki-Kaponga.

Weekly to twice weekly : Hunterville-Pukioire-Watershed Road-Mangamako-Sandon Block ; Wanganui-Jerusalem-Pipiriki (twice from 1st November to 31st March).

Wellington—

Thrice weekly to daily : Eketahuna-Tawataia-Pleckville-Alfredton.

Westport—

Daily to twice daily : Westport-Waimangaroa (by train).

Westport-Granity Creek (from thrice weekly)-Mokihinui (from five times weekly)-Coal Creek (from thrice weekly), to daily (by train).

The frequency of the following services was diminished :—

Wellington—

Daily to thrice weekly : Eketahuna-Pleckville (section of Eketahuna-Alfredton service).

The following services were abolished :—

Auckland—

Clevedon-Maraetai ; Kumeu Flat-Riverhead ; Morrinsville-Piako-Waihou-Te Aroha (mails now carried by train) ; Pahi landing service.

Blenheim—

Blenheim-Lower Awatere (horse service ; Blenheim-Molesworth service now takes in Lower Awatere) ; Picton-Port Underwood.

Dunedin—

Glenomaru-Owaka.

Invercargill—

Edendale-Gorge Road ; Clifden-Papatotara ; Winton-Hokonui Railway Terminus ; Waikawa Township-Waikawa ; Te Anau-Glade House (till 1st November, 1896).

Napier—

Ongaonga-Makaretu ; Patangata-Tamumu (section of service from Kaikora North) ; Waimarama-Mangakuri (section of service from Hastings).

Thames—

Paeroa-Te Aroha (coach service superseded by train).

Wanganui—

Normanby-Matapu.

The mail-services throughout the colony were again let by tender from the 1st January, 1897. With a view to securing more satisfactory services, it was decided to make the contract period three years instead of two as formerly, and expectations in this respect have been realised. While the normal increase had taken place in the number and cost of services between the 1st January, 1895, and the 31st December, 1896, the new services have been let at an actual reduction on the aggregate sum required for mail-carriage for the former term. The cost of the Wanganui River service, which up to the present has been subsidised almost entirely for trade and not postal purposes, has been paid by the Department of Lands and Survey, but for the current term half the subsidy will be borne by this department.

BUILDINGS.

The new offices at Kuaotunu, Macetown, Marton, Martinborough, and Waihi, and the rebuilding of the office at Hawera have been completed.

The following general repairs, additions, &c., were carried out during the year: Painting office, Alexandra South; general repairs, additions, &c., at Amberley; additions to fire-prevention appliances, alterations, &c., at Auckland; additions and repairs at Bealey; painting, &c., at Balclutha and Bull's; repairs and painting, Brunnerton; repairs and painting at Charleston and Collingwood; additions and repairs, and additional fire-prevention appliances at Christchurch; repairs, fire-prevention appliances, extra lighting, &c., Dunedin; repairs, painting, &c., at Gore and Greymouth; alterations and additions at Greytown; additions, painting, and alterations, Geraldine; painting office at Herbertville; fire-prevention service, additions to outbuildings, Invercargill; painting and repairs at Kamo; additions, concrete tank, &c., at Kawakawa; additions to post- and telegraph-offices, &c., Napier; erection of sound-proof room, Ngapara; fire-prevention appliances, &c., alterations and painting, Nelson; additions, repairs, and alterations, Ohaeawai; painting, Opotiki; additions and alterations, Port Chalmers; additions and alterations at Riverton; additions to office at Riversdale; repairs, painting, &c., at Ross and Russell; painting, &c., Sydenham; painting and repairs, Temuka; alterations, &c., Takaka; repairs, &c., Taupo and Waimate; painting, repairs, and additions, Waiwera; extensive additions and repairs to officers' quarters, Wakapuaka; fire-prevention appliances and repairs, General Post Office, Wellington; additions to Telephone Exchange, Wellington; repairs, painting, &c., Westport; repairs and painting at Whangarei.

OCEAN MAIL-SERVICES.

The renewal of the San Francisco mail-service, which expires in November next, is to be considered by Parliament during the coming session, as well as the question of establishing an alternative service *via* Canada.

The time has arrived for improving the San Francisco service, which, it is believed, can be done without much additional expense. The distance between Auckland and San Francisco *via* Apia and Honolulu is about 5,897 miles, and boats capable of maintaining an average speed of fifteen or fourteen knots, including stoppages, could perform the Pacific voyage in from seventeen to eighteen days. Allowing four and a half to five days for transit between San Francisco and New York, and six days between New York and Queenstown, it should be practicable to deliver our mails in the colony and in London in from twenty-eight to twenty-nine days.

A contract for a fast Atlantic service between Canada and the United Kingdom has been entered into between the Canadian Government and Messrs. Petersen, Tate, and Co. The annual subsidy (of which one-third is to be paid by the Imperial Government) is £154,500 for a term of ten years, and the vessels to be employed are to be of 10,000 tons register, with a speed of 21 knots. A fortnightly service is to be commenced within two years, and a weekly service within three years.

The new steamer "Moana," specially built for the San Francisco mail-service, replaced the "Monowai" on the voyage from Sydney in June last. The "Moana" is a vessel of 4,000 tons gross register and 4,000 indicated horse-power, having excellent accommodation for 180 saloon and 116 second-class passengers. She is fitted throughout with the most approved modern appliances, the engines being triple-expansion with forced draught. On her trial trip she made seventeen knots an hour with light draught. Her initial voyage in the service has been most successful, our mails having been delivered under eighteen days both ways, more than two days under contract time.

Permission was given to the contractors to substitute the "Zealandia" for the "Mariposa" for the round voyage leaving San Francisco on the 8th January last, in order that the latter vessel might be laid up for overhaul. It is regretted that the result was anything but satisfactory, as the voyage from San Francisco occupied 106 hours in excess of the contract time. On the return voyage the time was exceeded by 29 hours.

Up to the end of 1896 the subsidised steam-services between Auckland and the Pacific islands had been performed by the Union Steamship Company to Fiji, and Messrs. Donald and Edenborough to Rarotonga and Tahiti. The Union Company has acquired Messrs. Donald and Edenborough's interest in the Tahiti service, and since the 1st January last has performed the service with vessels better adapted for the trade. The Union Company, it may be mentioned, runs an unsubsidised service from Auckland to Russell; on to Nukualofa, Haapai, and Vavau, in the Friendly Islands; Apia, Samoa; Suva, in the Fiji group; and Sydney. Beginning on the same day from Sydney, a vessel follows the same route reversed, takes in Levuka (Fiji), and ends the voyage at Auckland, thus giving the islands two points of contact with a large and convenient trade. There is a separate alternating subsidised service from Auckland to Suva and Levuka, returning to the same port. It should be stated that Messrs. Donald and Edenborough carried out the Rarotonga-Tahiti service to the entire satisfaction of the department since its initiation in 1885.

RECEIPTS and PAYMENTS on Account of the San Francisco, Peninsular and Oriental, and Orient
Mail-services for the Year 1896.

San Francisco Service.

DR.	£	s.	d.	£	s.	d.	£	s.	d.
Payments by weight—									
On mails from New Zealand ...	7,622	19	4						
On mails from the United Kingdom ...	5,019	3	11						
On mails from the Australian Colonies, Fiji, &c.	5,524	8	0						
				18,166	11	3			
Interprovincial service, mail agents, &c. ...				3,798	1	5			
Transit charges { San Francisco to New York ...				4,769	15	8			
{ New York to Queenstown ...				1,967	8	2			
							28,701	16	6
CR.									
Postages collected in the colony ...				10,553	9	8			
Postages from London... ..				5,019	3	11			
Contributions from non-contracting colonies ...				5,524	8	0			
							21,097	1	7
Net cost to the colony							£7,604	14	11

Although this colony is not a party to the Federal mail contract, it is a matter of interest to note that the service has been renewed for a term of seven years. Under the new contract the mails will be delivered between Adelaide and Brindisi in 686 hours, and between Adelaide and Naples in 696 hours, an acceleration of 3 days 22 hours and 3 days 12 hours, reducing the time, London and Adelaide, to between 30 and 31 days. The subsidy payable by the contracting colonies is £75,000 a year, as at present.

480,982 letters, 1,329 post-cards, 489,260 books, and 1,042,311 newspapers were received from, and 517,975 letters, 1,431 post-cards, 89,107 books, and 403,223 newspapers despatched to, the United Kingdom *via* San Francisco. The letters received from the United Kingdom by this route show an increase of 1·19 per cent., the post-cards an increase of 1·14 per cent., the books a decrease of 1·13 per cent., and the newspapers a decrease of 1·13 per cent.; the letters despatched thereto an increase of 2·46 per cent., the post-cards an increase of 2·36 per cent., the books a decrease of 0·74 per cent., and the newspapers a decrease of 0·74 per cent., as compared with the numbers forwarded in 1895.

P. and O. and Orient Lines (Federal Mail-service).

DR.	£	s.	d.	£	s.	d.
Payments to P. and O. and Orient lines ...	3,685	6	3			
Transit charges across Australia ...	238	6	8			
Transit charges across European Continent ...	587	2	1			
Gratuities (to and from Australia) ...	1,716	19	10			
				6,227	14	10
CR.						
Postages collected in the colony ...	3,221	17	5			
Postages from London and foreign offices ...	932	5	4			
				4,154	2	9
Net cost to the colony				£2,073	12	1

The numbers of letters, post-cards, books, and newspapers conveyed from and to the United Kingdom by the P. and O. and Orient packets were: Received—433,008 letters, 1,196 post-cards, 264,671 books, and 1,066,231 newspapers; despatched—152,108 letters, 420 post-cards, 27,300 books, and 116,255 newspapers.

The average time within which mails were delivered by the San Francisco service was: From Auckland to London, 32·54 days, as against 33·08 days in 1895; and from London to Auckland, 34·31 days, as compared with 32·85 days in the previous year. The shortest delivery was made in 32 days.

The maximum, minimum, and average number of days within which the mails were delivered at and from London and Auckland, Wellington, Dunedin, and Bluff during 1896 by the San Francisco contract service, and by the Peninsular and Oriental and Orient lines, were:—

	San Francisco Service.			P. and O. Line.			Orient Line.		
London to Auckland ..	39	32	34·31	47	38	40·54	45	39	42·19
Auckland to London ..	35	32	32·54	45	38	40·32	45	37	40·50
London to Wellington..	41	34	36·00	46	38	40·96	49	38	41·81
Wellington to London..	37	33	34·46	46	39	42·63	47	37	41·45
London to Dunedin ..	42	35	37·23	47	39	42·75	49	39	42·94
Dunedin to London ..	38	35	35·54	48	39	42·08	49	38	41·44
London to Bluff ..	43	36	37·98	46	38	42·00	48	38	42·19
Bluff to London ..	39	36	36·29	47	38	41·33	48	37	40·69

The several subsidised mail sea services, the subsidy payments for the year 1896, the dates when established, and the date on which each terminates are shown as follows:—

Service	Subsidy or Payment.	Duration of Service.		Number of Voyages per Annum.	Mileage for complete Voyage.	Cost per Mile.
		When established.	When terminated or terminable.			
	£ s. d.					s. d.
Auckland and San Francisco ..	7,622 19 4	April, 1871	Nov., 1897	13	11,916	0 11·81
Auckland and Fiji ..	1,690 0 0	June, 1880	..	13	2,334	1 1·37
Auckland and South Pacific Islands ..	1,200 0 0	June, 1885	..	12	6,992	0 3·43
Auckland and Devonport ..	60 0 0	Aug., 1863	Dec., 1899	939	6	0 2·56
Auckland and Great Barrier ..	250 0 0	Oct., 1891	Dec., 1899	52	120	0 9·62
Dargaville and Tangihua ..	75 0 0	Nov., 1893	Dec., 1899	52	46	0 7·53
Helensville and Matakoho ..	480 0 0	Jan., 1881	Dec., 1899	52	118	0 4·84
Helensville and Dargaville ..				104	170	
Horeke, Kohukohu, Rawene, Waitapu, and Opononi ..	194 10 0	Jan., 1889	Dec., 1899	52	48	1 6·70
Russell and Opua ..	90 0 0	Jan., 1889	Dec., 1899	104	16	1 0·98
Whangaroa and Totara North ..	22 0 0	Jan., 1891	Dec., 1899	52	2	4 2·77
Wellington, Ketu Bay, Maud Island, Maori Bay, Homewood, and Havelock ..	150 0 0	Dec., 1891	Dec., 1899	26	183	0 7·57
Nelson, Motueka, Totaranui, Takaka, and Collingwood ..	125 0 0	..	Dec., 1899	52	130	0 4·44
Westport and Karamea ..	275 0 0	June, 1886	Dec., 1899	26	102	1 6·15
Westport and Little Wanganui ..		Jan., 1895	Dec., 1899	12	82	
Hokitika, Okarito, Bruce Bay, Paringa, Haast River, Okuru, Waitoto, and Jackson's Bay ..	500 0 0	Jan., 1886	Dec., 1899	6	384	4 4·08
Lyttelton and Chatham Islands ..	275 0 0	..	March, 1898	6	1,050	0 10·48
Bluff and Half-moon Bay ..	250 0 0	July, 1886	Dec., 1899	52	48	2 0·04
Bluff, Te Oneroa and Cromarty ..	345 0 0	April, 1893	March, 1899	12	208	2 9·17
Paterson's Inlet and Half-moon Bay ..	29 0 0	April, 1892	Dec., 1899	52	12	0 11·15
Half-moon Bay and Port Pegasus ..	5 0 0	June, 1894	..	10	84	0 1·43
Interprovincial service in connection with San Francisco line ..	3,000 0 0	Nov., 1886	Nov., 1897	13	..	..

MONEY-ORDERS.

Sixteen money-order offices were opened during the year—namely, Alfredton, Alton, Apiti, Greendale, Hurleyville, Mangamahu, Okaihau, Pohangina, Poroti, St. Albans, Sefton, Springston, Taueru, Upper Riccarton, Weber, Whakataki. One office—Alford Forest—was closed.

The number of offices open at the end of the year was 379, as against 364 in the previous year. 269,566 orders were issued for £902,159 15s. 7d., as compared with 243,497, for £812,604 14s. 11d., in 1895—an increase of 26,069 in number and £89,555 0s. 8d.

203,084 orders, amounting to £794,309 0s. 6d., were paid, as against 183,995, for £709,533 10s. 8d., during 1895—an increase of 19,089 orders and £84,775 9s. 10d.

The number of telegraph money-orders issued was 30,860, for £113,617 16s. 10d., as compared with 25,856, for £95,546 9s. 10d., in 1895—an increase of 5,004 orders and £18,071 7s.

88,061 orders, for £184,941 16s. 6d., were issued on the United Kingdom, Australian Colonies, and other places beyond New Zealand.

21,761 orders, for £76,389 11s. 8d., were issued at places beyond New Zealand for payment in the colony.

The commission received for money-orders amounted to £12,671 6s. 7d., as compared with £11,433 13s. 8d. received in 1895.

An arrangement has been made, which came into force on the 1st July last, for the transmission of telegraph money-orders to and from South Australia, Victoria, New South Wales, Queensland, Tasmania, and Western Australia, upon payment of the charge for a telegram of ten words in addition to the usual rate of commission on telegraph money-orders.

A direct exchange of money-orders with Germany was arranged as from the 1st January, and a direct exchange with the Hawaiian Republic.

POSTAL NOTES.

The sale of postal notes was extended to the following offices: Alton, Ashley-Clinton, Blackburn, Chasland's, Doyleston, Fairburn's, Greendale, Hamua, Hornby, Hurleyville, Kaihu, Kaiwaka, Manapouri, Mangamahu, Ngamatapouri, Okaihau, Okura, Poroti, Purangi, Purekireki, Rahotu, Springston, Taueru, Waikino, Wakarara, Weber, Whakataki.

The offices at Kenepuru, Marohema, Tutaekara, Waihopo, and Waikawa were closed.

The number of offices at which postal notes were sold at the end of the year was 440, as compared with 418 at the end of 1895–96.

376,796 notes, of the value of £129,011 18s., were sold, as against 349,627, of the value of £123,368 6s. 6d., during the previous year.

The postal notes paid numbered 375,208, of the value of £128,655 18s. 6d., as compared with 346,510, for £122,538 14s. 6d.—an increase for the year of 28,698 in number and £6,117 4s. in value.

The postal-note commission amounted to £2,563 18s. 3d.

SAVINGS-BANKS.

The facilities afforded for the withdrawal of money from the Post-Office Savings-Bank have been further increased by an arrangement which came into operation on the 1st August, by which depositors can obtain authority by telegraph for immediate repayment.

Fourteen savings-bank offices were opened—namely, Alfredton, Alton, Apiti, Greendale, Hurleyville, Okaihau, Poroti, St. Albans, Sefton, Springston, Taueru, Upper Riccarton, Waiorongomai, Whakataki.

There were no offices closed.

The number of offices open at the close of the year was 371.

32,982 new accounts were opened, being 2,721 more than the number opened in the previous year.

22,907 accounts were closed, as compared with 22,001 in 1895—an increase of 906.

The number of accounts remaining open at the end of the year 1896 was 147,758, as against 137,683 in 1895—an increase of 10,075. The proportion of accounts to the population was 1 in 4·83. The proportion in 1895 was 1 in 5·07.

The number of deposits was 242,283, for £2,881,152 16s. 3d.—an increase of 24,890 deposits and £86,646 0s. 3d. over 1895.

The average of each deposit was £11 17s. 10d., compared with £12 17s. 1d. in 1895.

167,248 withdrawals, amounting to £2,591,558 19s. 4d., were made—an increase of 7,344 in number and £222,225 12s. 9d. in amount.

The average of each withdrawal was £15 9s. 10d., as against £14 16s. 4d. in 1895.

The excess of deposits over withdrawals was £289,593 16s. 11d., as compared with £425,173 9s. 5d. in 1895.

The interest credited to depositors for the year was £126,497 16s. 3d., being £2,992 3s. 3d. less than the sum credited the previous year.

To the reduction of interest—from 4 per cent. to 3½ per cent. on deposits up to £200, and from 3½ per cent. to 3 per cent. on deposits exceeding £200 and up to £500—referred to in last year's report, may be attributed the lesser amount credited.

The total amount of interest placed to the credit of depositors' accounts since the establishment of the Post-Office Savings-Bank in 1867 is £1,640,506 12s. 6d.

The balance standing to credit of depositors at the close of the year amounted to £4,311,634 15s. 9d., a sum equal to £6 0s. 9d. per head of the population.

In 1895 the balance was £3,895,543 0s. 3d., representing £5 11s. 6d. per head.

The average cost of each savings-bank transaction, deposit or withdrawal, for the year was 4·10d.

The number of accounts with balances of £20 and under increased by 6,912, with balances exceeding £20 but not exceeding £200 by 2,478, and exceeding £200 by 685.

A statement of accounts with classified balances is given in Table No. 9.

TELEGRAPHS.

There has been a very considerable increase in the number of messages sent, due to the reduction of the minimum charge for ordinary telegrams to 6d., which took effect on the 1st June, 1896, from which date delayed telegrams were abolished.

The total value of telegraph and telephone business for the year ended 31st March, 1897, including Government telegrams and miscellaneous telegraph receipts, was £152,752 18s., as compared with £148,955 18s. 8d. in 1895-96—an increase of £3,796 19s. 4d., or 2·55 per cent.

The following is a comparison of the business in paid telegrams during the past four years:—

	Number.		Value.	
1893-94	1,839,094	...	£88,371	
1894-95	1,802,182	Decrease, 2·01 per cent.	85,388	Decrease, 3·38 per cent.
1895-96	1,899,632	Increase, 5·41 per cent.	92,289	Increase, 8·08 per cent.
1896-97	2,285,001	Increase, 20·29 per cent.	97,453	Increase, 5·60 per cent.

The number of telegrams of all codes forwarded was 2,520,169—an increase of 395,958, or 18·64 per cent., over 1895-96.

The proportion of telegrams per head of population was 3·55, as compared with 3·05 the previous year.

The number of ordinary telegrams forwarded was 1,819,971, of the value of £74,403 2s. 7d.

The urgent telegrams numbered 97,243, of the value of £9,034 4s. 3d.—an increase of 64·71 and 20·29 per cent. respectively.

Delayed telegrams numbering 64,557, of the value of £2,010 13s. 7d., were forwarded during the two months of the year prior to their abolition.

198,406 Press telegrams, of the value of £9,521 9s. (including proportions to other lines), were forwarded, as compared with 198,108 messages, valued at £9,507 18s. 8d., forwarded in 1895-96—an increase of 298, or 0·15 per cent. in number.

The value of each Press telegram averaged 11·52d., as against 11·56d. in 1895-96.

The bureau messages numbered 104,824, of the value of £2,483 9s. 1d., as compared with 89,254, of the value of £2,110 3s. 2d.—an increase of 15,570 in number and £373 5s. 11d. in amount.

The average value of each bureau message was 5·69d., as against 5·67d. in 1895-96.

The number of Government telegrams forwarded was 235,168, valued at £23,118 2s. 6d., as compared with 224,579, valued at £25,843 11s. 11d.—an increase of 10,589 in number, but a decrease of £2,725 9s. 5d. in value.

30,860 money-orders, for £113,617 16s. 10d., were transmitted by telegraph, as against 25,856, for £95,546 9s. 10d., in 1895-96—an increase of 5,004 messages, or 19·35 per cent.

The number of forwarded telegrams to every hundred letters posted in the colony for delivery within the colony was 9·6, as against 8·38 in 1895.

The telegraph cash receipts for the financial year (including telephone exchange subscriptions, private wire rents, &c.) amounted to £129,634 15s. 6d., compared with £123,112 6s. 9d. in 1895–96—an increase of 5·29 per cent.

The expenditure was £153,484 6s. 8d., as compared with £143,665 14s. the former year—an increase of £9,818 12s. 8d., or 6·83 per cent.

There were 6,284 miles of line and 16,470 miles of wire at the close of the year.

The net expenditure out of loan for telegraph extensions was £36,791 8s. 11d., as compared with £35,537 15s. 2d. in 1895–96.

The number of private wires and subsidised lines was 133, compared with 115 in 1895–96. The amount received for rent, maintenance, &c., was £875 1s. 11d., as against £971 6s. 9d. in 1895–96.

Fifteen bureau offices were opened during the year and one closed.

The total number of telegraph- and telephone-offices open at the close of the year was 780. Of these, 235 were telegraph and 545 telephone. Forty-four telephone-offices were opened and two closed. The offices opened were,—

Aohanga.	Lake Tekapo.	Poroti.
Ballance.	Maharahara.	Puriri.
Beck's.	Makuri.	Taita.
Bell Block.	Mangahao.	The Forks.
Berhampore.	Mangaweka.	Upper Kuaotunu.
Birchfield.	Maori Point.	Waikino.
Bullendale.	Maungakaramea.	Waimata Valley.
Caversham Bureau.	Maungatapere.	Waipapakauri.
Clarksville.	Moeraki.	Wallingford.
Epsom.	Mornington.	Wataroa.
Henderson.	Ngaturi.	Whakapara.
Hukerenui.	North-east Harbour.	Whenuakura.
Kaiwaka.	Okarito.	Wimbledon.
Koputarua.	Opoho.	Worser Bay.
Kumara Railway-station.	Plimmerton.	

Two offices were closed—viz., Owen Junction, Pukekararo.

TELEPHONE EXCHANGES.

The telephone rates for business connections with exchanges which are open all day and all night throughout the year—viz., Auckland, Wellington, Napier, Christchurch, Dunedin, and Invercargill—were raised from £5 to £7 per annum as from the 1st April, 1897, and at the same time the charges per mile for long-distance wires were revised. On account of the financial results of the last few years, proposals in this direction had been engaging the attention of the department for some time. The present rates, however, affecting the above-mentioned places still compare very favourably with the Australian Colonies, as the following table will show:—

	Business Connections.	Private Connections.
	£	£
New South Wales (Sydney)	9	5
Victoria (Melbourne)	12	12
South Australia	10	6
Queensland	6	6*
Tasmania	6	4 10s.
Western Australia	7	5
New Zealand (the six offices named)	7	5
" (other offices)	5	5

* Half-mile only.

The growth in the number of subscribers at the four large centres has rendered it necessary to renew the switchboards. This is now being done at Wellington, and a multiple switchboard has been ordered for Auckland, with similar boards for Christchurch and Dunedin to follow. It is also proposed to gradually replace telephones of the old type at all exchanges with new-pattern instruments. The additional expenditure for switchboards and new telephones is estimated at £6,000 per annum for some years to come.

There were, on the 31st March last, 18 central exchanges and 11 sub-exchanges, a total of 29.

The following table gives the number of subscribers or connections for 1895–96 and 1896–97 respectively:—

Exchange.	No. of Subscribers or Connections:	
	Mar. 31, 1896.	Mar. 31, 1897.
Ashburton	80	96
Auckland	938	1,065
Blenheim	64	64
Christchurch	849	916
Dunedin	859	928
Balclutha	19	18
Milton	14	17
Port Chalmers	17	17
Gisborne	...	60
Greymouth	65	72
Invercargil	216	227
Bluff	20	22
Gore	48	49
Mataura	8	10

Exchange.	No. of Subscribers or Connections :	
	Mar. 31, 1896.	Mar. 31, 1897.
<i>Invercargill—continued.</i>		
Riversdale	14	15
Winton	9	9
Woodlands	8	8
Masterton	...	53
Napier	275	289
Hastings	...	22
Nelson	61	60
New Plymouth	100	123
Oamaru	87	96
Palmerston North	81	86
Thames	78	85
Timaru	73	74
Wanganui	118	138
Wellington	1,041	1,127
Hutt	1	1
Total	<u>5,143</u>	<u>5,747</u>

The total increase in number was, therefore, 604, and the rate of increase 11·74 per cent.

The connections may be classified as follow: Paying, 5,460; free, 111; bureaux, 176: total, 5,747.

The telephone-exchange receipts during the financial year amounted to £29,248 19s. 5d., as compared with £25,933 12s. 9d. the previous year—an increase of £3,315 6s. 8d.

The working-expenses, interest on capital cost, and allowance for depreciation for the year amounted to £34,991 2s. 8d.

The total capital cost of the telephone-exchange system to 31st March, 1897, was £134,299 11s. 4d.

The following telegraph works have been carried out during the year in the several districts:—

AUCKLAND DISTRICT.

Construction.

During the year new lines have been completed as follows: Whangarei to Poroti, Kuaotunu to Upper Kuaotunu, Hikurangi to Hukerenui, Mangapai to Maungakaramaea, Kaiwhaka, Dargaville Railway loop-line, Avondale to Henderson, Waikomiti loop, Auckland to Taupo, and Auckland to Waihi. In connection with these, 28 miles of poles were constructed, and 363 miles of wire erected.

The lines in course of construction and approaching completion are: Onehunga to Mangere, Kaeo to Totara North and Omanaia loop. New telephone-offices have been opened at Dargaville Railway (for Railway work), Epsom (also Bureau), Henderson (also Bureau), Hukerenui, Kaiwaka, Maungakaramaea, Maungatapere, Poroti, Puriri (also Bureau), Upper Kuaotunu, Waikino, Wai-papakauri, and at Whakapara. One office—Pukekararo—has been closed.

Fifteen offices have been re-wired and various alterations made in their internal arrangements, facilitating the business of the department. Tuakau is now connected by Morse (constant current) instrument in place of telephone. On the Auckland to Drury circuit the constant-current system has also been introduced, and it is proposed to similarly alter other circuits where it is deemed advisable.

The introduction of the Wheatstone automatic instruments communicating with Wellington has proved very satisfactory.

A new office has been built at Ohaeawai, and others are in course of erection at Waihi and Kuaotunu. The Coromandel office has been considerably enlarged.

Maintenance.

The lines have been periodically examined and overhauled. The sections referred to in last report as requiring renewal have also received attention, and it is proposed to put the more pressing renewals of this year in hand as soon as iron poles become available.

Three miles of line have been dismantled.

Auckland Exchange.

The accessions to the exchange continue, and during the year 127 fresh connections were made. The total number of subscribers, including bureaux, on the 31st March was 1,065.

Ninety miles of wire were erected (thirteen of which were for renewals) in connection with extensions.

In consequence of the large increase of subscribers it has been deemed advisable to order a multiple switch-board to meet present and prospective requirements.

Thames Exchange.

There has been but little increase in the number of subscribers. The exchange is in good working-order.

WELLINGTON DISTRICT.

Construction.

The demand for telephonic communication from the rising townships in this district continues, and no less than seventeen new telephone-offices have been opened—viz., Aohanga, Ballance, Bell

Block, Berhampore, Koputarua, Maharahara, Makuri, Mangahao, Mangaweka, Ngaturi, Plimmer-ton, Taita, Wallingford, Waimata Valley, Whenuakura, Wimbledon, and Worser Bay—and in connection therewith 52 miles of poles and 78 miles of wire erected.

Extra wire accommodation has been provided between Napier and Wairoa ($49\frac{1}{2}$ miles), and between Marton and Rata (11 miles), to meet the increased traffic on those sections. A main trunk wire (12 miles) was also run from Napier Telephone Exchange to Hastings for bureau purposes.

The erection of additional wires from Napier to Wanganui and Wanganui to New Plymouth has been commenced. This work has been undertaken for the purpose of giving more direct communication between the districts named, and also to relieve the pressure on the Napier-Wellington and Wellington-Wanganui lines.

In addition to the above, 7 miles of poles and 14 miles of wire between Upper Hutt and the Summit, and 8 miles of wire between Featherston and Greytown North, were erected for the use of the Railway Department. Pahiatua Railway (Scarborough) was also looped to the Pahiatua-Ballance wire, to provide a quarter of a mile of wire for the Railway Department's use.

In all, 59 miles of poles and 165 miles of wire have been added to the general system.

Maintenance.

The main lines are in a satisfactory condition, excepting the Paikakariki-Marton section, which was referred to in last year's report. The work of reconstruction is, however, now in progress, and will be completed during the next few months.

The Hawera new office and the Marton office, which were destroyed by fire, have been rebuilt.

Wheatstone Automatic Instruments.

Two additional sets of Wheatstone automatic instruments have been fitted up in the Wellington Telegraph-office to meet exceptional pressure of work, and they have frequently been of great service.

The corresponding instruments are at Auckland and Christchurch.

Telephone Exchanges.

Since last report two new exchanges have been opened in the district—viz., at Gisborne (necessitating the erection of 4 miles of poles and 25 miles of wire) and Masterton ($5\frac{1}{2}$ miles of poles and $16\frac{3}{4}$ miles of wire). A branch exchange has also been opened at Hastings, connected with the Napier Exchange; $1\frac{1}{2}$ miles of poles and $16\frac{1}{4}$ miles of wire were required to connect subscribers.

The steady increase of subscribers to the Wellington Exchange continues, the total number on the 31st March being 1,127, exclusive of bureaux (30)—an increase of 86.

The multiple switch-board, mentioned in last year's report, has arrived, and will be fitted up immediately. The enlargement of the building has been completed.

The exchanges at Palmerston North, Wanganui, New Plymouth, and Napier are in good order and working satisfactorily.

Cables.

The two new cables terminating at Oterangi Bay have been regularly tested, and give satisfactory results.

The old No. 4 single-core cable is working well, although the insulation tests are comparatively low.

NELSON DISTRICT.

Construction.

The following new lines have been completed during the year: Hende's Ferry to Okarito (33 miles) and Kumara to Kumara Railway-station ($4\frac{1}{2}$ miles).

A fourth wire has been run from Greymouth to Reefton (50 miles), making a total of $37\frac{1}{2}$ miles of poles constructed, and $87\frac{1}{2}$ miles of wire erected.

A copper wire (of No. 8 gauge) is in course of erection between Blenheim and Kaikoura, about 40 miles being completed.

Telephone-offices were opened at Birchfield, Kumara Railway-station, Okarito, The Forks, and Wataroa. One office was closed—at Owen Junction.

Maintenance.

The Greymouth to Reefton section was thoroughly overhauled when the new wire was run, and all shaky poles attended to. The work of overhaul was continued as far as Inangahua Junction (70 miles).

This section has also been well cleared of scrub. Scrub-cutting is a never-ending source of trouble and expense on the West Coast sections.

During the erection of the Blenheim-Kaikoura section of the new wire the main line there is also being thoroughly overhauled, and where deemed advisable some slight alteration of route has been made, which will lessen cost of maintenance and save time in searching for faults.

Exchanges.

The Blenheim and Greymouth exchanges show a slight increase in the number of subscribers, but Nelson remains stationary. All the exchanges are in good working-order.

The condition of lines generally throughout the district is good.

CHRISTCHURCH DISTRICT.

A telephone-office was opened at Lake Tekapo.

Owing to the scarcity of material the work of reconstructing the section Papanui to Kaiapoi, as mentioned in last report, has had to be postponed, but such attention as was immediately necessary for upholding communication has been given. The line must be rebuilt during the ensuing year.

The section Kaiapoi to Waipara also requires a thorough overhaul.

Waipara to Waiau.

A thorough overhaul has been made, spans being shortened to the regulation 4 chains, and poles erected along road-line. Four copper wires have been erected to connect with the new line northwards.

Waiau to Kaikoura.

This is a new section of line being erected alongside the main coach-road. Old railway metals are being used for poles. They are erected as far as Greenburn, or within 18 miles of Kaikoura. It is expected the line will be completed and wires run by end of May. On its completion the present line between Waipara and Kaikoura, except one wire as far as Hawkswood, will be dismantled.

The sections Addington to Kaiapoi, Rangiora to Amberley, Kaiapoi to Oxford, Southbridge branch, and Christchurch to Akaroa, will need an extensive overhaul, and many poles will require to be re-buttled, &c.

It is intended to loop Geraldine in on the main line, thus saving transmission of the work of that office.

The work of extension has been almost entirely confined to the provision of additional accommodation on existing lines. The third wire, Springfield to Bealey, has been extended so as to give two clear wires to the West Coast by placing Castle Hill, Cass, and Bealey on the new wire. The line between Old John's and the loop-line has been dismantled, and is now erected along the coach-road to Kumara, thus cutting out a great deal of unnecessary wire. Two wires have been erected from Christchurch to the racecourse, and a new line, Burke's Pass to Lake Tekapo (14 miles), constructed, and an office opened at the latter place.

The sections not enumerated above are all in good order.

DUNEDIN DISTRICT.

Construction.

The extensions carried out through the year have been as follow:—

A new line, Queenstown to Kingston, and the erection of a second wire, Kingston to Lumsden, in connection therewith (completing an alternative route between Dunedin and Invercargill); Cambrian's to Beck's, Dunedin to North-east Harbour, Hillgrove to Moeraki; second wire Oamaru to Georgetown and Kurow to Otiake; Dunedin to Opoho, Skipper's to Bullendale, and Waipahi to Pukerau (completing alternative route between Clinton and Mataura).

New offices have been opened at Beck's, Bullendale, Caversham (Bureau), Clarksville, Maori Point (reopened), Moeraki, Mornington (reopened), North-east Harbour, and Opoho.

Maintenance.

Beyond the reconstruction of some twenty miles of line there has been no necessity for any extensive repairs during the year, all lines having worked satisfactorily.

The length of telegraph and telephone lines used in the district at the end of the year was 1,542 miles of poles and 4,255 miles of wire.

The Post Office maps showing the postal routes and telegraph and railway lines, and the charts showing the position of telegraph lines, accompany the report.

Table No. 2.

TABLE showing the Money Orders issued in New Zealand on Offices beyond the Colony, and Money Orders issued at Offices beyond the Colony on New Zealand, during the Years 1895 and 1896.

ISSUED IN NEW ZEALAND.				
Where payable.	1895.		1896.	
	Number.	Amount.	Number.	Amount.
		£ s. d.		£ s. d.
United Kingdom	24,064	63,952 19 6	24,388	64,602 0 10
Foreign Offices through London	2,146	8,743 7 11	2,178	11,289 12 11
United States of America	2,672	5,768 12 11	2,672	6,607 1 9
Canada	225	664 16 4	203	666 0 2
Cape Colony	40	157 9 9	76	324 15 1
Ceylon	37	171 18 1	36	169 5 2
Hongkong	134	734 0 3	222	1,317 16 7
India	266	1,409 4 9	253	1,438 5 9
New South Wales	10,815	29,132 8 2	10,576	28,621 15 5
Queensland	27,984	33,277 13 10	654	1,835 15 3
South Australia	606	1,772 7 9	625	1,634 4 4
Straits Settlements	4	10 13 8	10	22 12 10
Tasmania	1,460	3,634 19 3	35,675	38,192 10 0
Victoria	10,130	26,550 7 3	10,212	26,920 12 11
Western Australia	314	1,560 17 7	281	1,299 7 6
Totals	80,897	177,541 17 0	88,061	184,941 16 6

DRAWN ON NEW ZEALAND.

Where issued.	1895.		1896.	
	Number.	Amount.	Number.	Amount.
		£ s. d.		£ s. d.
United Kingdom and Foreign Offices	8,940	30,809 14 10	9,325	32,189 1 9
United States of America	998	4,345 12 11	929	3,364 5 4
Canada	158	771 0 7	140	668 5 11
Cape Colony	160	914 12 5	248	1,338 8 4
Ceylon	19	54 13 5	25	82 7 7
Hongkong	27	117 5 10	15	58 12 2
India	52	226 7 6	109	404 0 10
New South Wales	4,591	14,595 17 1	4,196	12,534 1 9
Queensland	784	2,959 4 2	783	3,070 1 1
South Australia	575	1,684 14 4	495	1,462 14 2
Straits Settlements	7	13 18 6	9	32 6 10
Tasmania	898	3,214 19 7	948	3,092 19 1
Victoria	3,167	9,993 8 6	2,925	9,120 5 1
Western Australia	1,082	5,316 16 11	1,614	8,972 1 9
Totals	21,458	75,018 6 7	21,761	76,389 11 8

Table No. 3.

TABLE showing the Number and Value of Postal Notes sold from the 1st January, 1886—the date upon which they were first issued—to the 31st March, 1897.

Year.	Number of Postal Notes sold.											Total.	
	At 1s.	At 1s. 6d.	At 2s. 6d.	At 5s.	At 7s. 6d.	At 10s.	At 12s. 6d.	At 15s.	At 17s. 6d.	At £1.	At £5.*	Number.	Value.
Quarter ended 31st March, 1886	3,019	2,046	1,012	2,039	969	2,379	695	992	525	2,866	..	16,542	£ s. d. 6,997 5 6
1886-87 ..	16,605	12,283	6,647	11,566	5,729	13,103	4,090	5,187	2,375	14,961	..	92,546	37,659 7 0
1887-88 ..	22,467	17,167	9,162	15,553	7,671	17,487	5,278	6,940	2,952	17,578	..	122,255	47,729 5 0
1888-89 ..	27,428	21,900	11,912	19,741	9,477	21,149	6,618	8,243	3,633	19,778	..	149,879	56,841 18 0
1889-90 ..	32,754	25,387	14,478	23,550	10,894	24,011	7,809	9,386	4,158	22,596	..	175,023	65,484 2 0
1890-91 ..	35,915	28,559	16,092	25,204	12,229	25,906	7,969	10,172	4,366	23,503	..	189,915	69,721 18 6
1891-92 ..	42,416	33,722	19,383	29,550	14,019	30,132	9,058	11,611	4,953	25,839	..	220,683	79,325 16 6
1892-93 ..	48,612	38,849	22,038	33,012	16,072	32,747	9,904	12,330	5,369	28,969	..	247,902	87,856 18 0
1893-94 ..	56,761	44,706	25,461	37,771	18,096	37,687	11,016	13,800	6,156	33,935	..	285,389	101,002 7 6
1894-95 ..	62,306	49,846	28,975	43,829	20,423	43,167	11,864	15,567	6,790	36,601	..	319,368	112,307 10 0
1895-96 ..	68,454	56,185	32,801	49,204	22,802	47,787	13,601	17,191	7,020	33,390	1,192	349,627	123,368 6 6
1896-97 ..	74,534	62,056	35,322	54,219	24,871	51,963	14,365	18,102	7,406	32,868	1,090	376,796	129,011 18 0
	491,271	392,706	223,283	345,238	163,252	347,518	102,267	129,521	55,703	292,884	2,282	2,545,925	£917,306 12 6

* First issued on 17th June, 1895.

Table No. 4.

TABLE showing the Number and Amount of Transactions at the several Money Order and Savings Bank Offices in New Zealand during the Year 1896.

Office.	Money Orders.						Savings Banks.					
	Issued.			Paid.			New Accounts opened.	Deposits.		Accounts closed.	Withdrawals.	
	No.	Commission.	Amount.	No.	Amount.			No.	Amount.		No.	Amount.
		£ s. d.	£ s. d.		£ s. d.			£ s. d.			£ s. d.	
AUCKLAND ..	19,125	1,186 16 3	76,806 6 6	32,948	119,927 11 7	2,453	14,705	299,704 2 0	2,376	18,268	309,509 12 1	
Aratapu ..	750	32 16 3	2,122 0 11	133	729 18 10	71	501	2,599 16 8	25	101	1,236 13 10	
Avondale ..	25	1 0 6	47 12 0	95	455 10 10	5	51	296 15 0	3	11	90 11 2	
Bombay ..	157	4 12 6	536 11 9	123	719 4 7	5	77	553 9 0	2	43	653 9 11	
Cambridge ..	666	25 19 3	1,955 7 9	602	2,177 14 0	70	468	7,060 0 5	26	224	6,944 10 10	
Clevedon ..	155	5 1 6	394 12 7	80	322 14 0	12	73	532 8 9	4	27	418 9 11	
Coromandel ..	4,500	231 15 3	14,914 0 11	1,193	10,264 12 4	436	1,935	17,340 10 1	70	647	7,458 8 2	
Dargaville ..	1,258	99 8 6	5,372 5 2	199	890 12 2	154	716	7,844 13 3	64	179	4,937 8 1	
Devonport ..	321	14 15 0	843 16 11	409	1,441 9 9	44	424	1,919 19 0	16	149	595 12 1	
Drury ..	176	5 18 3	598 18 0	84	390 4 4	3	62	350 12 7	..	25	147 13 0	
Hamilton ..	920	36 3 9	2,667 12 8	807	3,057 14 6	109	730	6,707 4 2	56	331	6,289 12 4	
Helensville ..	464	17 11 9	1,451 19 3	210	736 18 5	20	229	1,880 13 0	11	77	1,235 11 5	
Hikurangi ..	410	14 16 0	1,285 13 5	153	923 1 7	25	135	1,836 17 4	11	63	1,084 3 1	
Huntly ..	615	22 7 9	1,740 11 4	214	809 16 7	31	160	1,747 10 9	19	117	1,265 9 1	
Kaeo ..	310	18 5 5	1,074 10 4	64	304 3 4	44	199	1,261 15 2	15	70	593 6 2	
Kaikohe ..	311	35 12 6	1,402 5 0	28	130 13 6	47	188	1,906 14 5	11	38	600 9 8	
Kaitia ..	420	20 11 9	1,367 0 3	40	173 17 6	14	78	797 9 6	5	57	699 12 11	
Kamo ..	269	8 10 3	649 19 0	167	733 7 4	21	227	1,642 12 0	19	150	3,065 1 9	
Kaukapakapa ..	109	4 8 6	314 7 7	52	247 10 7	15	150	1,319 19 8	2	45	343 1 7	
Kawakawa ..	525	19 15 3	1,424 6 10	259	944 2 4	39	301	2,559 11 4	11	104	1,600 19 4	
Kihikihi ..	176	6 5 9	473 4 11	104	427 19 3	17	110	1,318 3 7	12	62	1,247 19 2	
Kohukohu ..	186	11 8 9	756 7 6	70	296 14 7	15	62	280 13 0	7	40	403 7 10	
Kuaotunu ..	1,176	62 6 3	5,313 11 0	278	2,279 12 2	109	500	5,793 5 9	16	136	2,142 19 1	
Mangapai ..	281	9 3 3	1,071 15 6	74	319 1 4	6	42	570 12 0	4	24	374 11 1	
Mangawai ..	294	21 4 3	1,092 6 6	46	176 13 9	25	205	2,193 0 8	1	39	538 12 10	
Mangawhare ..	262	10 1 3	814 11 2	38	103 2 0	11	77	761 2 0	2	31	197 5 0	
Mangonui ..	787	71 15 9	3,667 12 9	158	585 14 2	34	232	2,780 3 0	12	72	803 18 10	
Matakana ..	102	2 13 6	259 18 7	63	270 13 10	1	43	286 9 4	4	33	424 19 3	
Matakohe ..	95	3 0 3	233 6 10	38	159 9 1	9	42	206 1 0	1	10	52 18 9	
Matamata ..	99	2 18 0	276 19 0	30	279 4 1	14	77	547 16 9	1	24	238 13 4	
Mauku ..	43	1 5 6	102 5 9	16	54 10 3	6	24	179 10 0	10	22	201 12 0	
Maungaturoto ..	79	3 3 3	302 19 10	94	315 11 9	14	70	708 17 0	2	18	215 16 3	
Mercer ..	200	7 1 0	700 10 3	113	497 6 7	13	90	885 14 0	2	71	563 17 9	
Mititai ..	204	5 18 3	612 17 9	64	472 7 8	9	52	578 14 0	6	24	303 8 9	
Morrinsville ..	168	6 13 6	539 14 1	125	531 2 11	14	96	827 1 8	8	37	312 15 0	
Mount Eden ..	46	2 2 9	92 7 11	142	429 0 5	4	12	27 1 0	1	4	3 9 9	
Newmarket ..	421	18 3 3	1,206 19 0	328	1,151 7 9	18	124	826 15 8	4	36	160 12 2	
Newton ..	904	41 19 9	2,142 19 6	1,300	4,541 1 4	90	722	5,235 1 10	17	92	1,979 9 1	
Ngaruawahia ..	345	12 10 6	947 17 11	255	1,133 6 2	29	192	2,024 12 8	12	109	787 2 10	
Ohaeawai ..	329	16 6 6	919 17 4	109	770 3 5	25	123	968 4 0	12	42	407 16 1	
Ohapo ..	144	5 2 0	435 8 3	116	516 8 3	9	76	377 7 0	..	18	251 14 0	
Okaihau * ..	22	0 19 3	59 4 10	3	5 7 6	4	10	102 7 0	..	7	243 19 0	
Omapere ..	281	24 7 3	1,644 5 5	56	250 15 10	3	40	293 6 0	2	18	105 9 2	
Onehunga ..	519	24 17 3	1,451 6 5	985	3,800 11 4	41	235	2,603 16 6	14	89	1,042 4 11	
Otahuhu ..	207	9 3 9	554 5 5	396	1,414 10 3	34	298	1,296 9 4	17	93	1,202 9 5	
Otorohanga ..	287	12 19 0	1,019 6 11	76	345 2 3	44	206	1,502 13 8	17	73	1,046 6 11	
Pahi ..	188	9 1 0	504 5 4	76	392 11 1	12	119	863 12 0	5	44	288 18 2	
Papakura ..	188	6 17 3	600 18 2	205	840 16 6	22	119	1,171 11 7	8	50	725 3 1	
Paparoa ..	198	7 2 0	683 10 8	53	284 12 6	18	68	1,067 13 2	5	29	526 19 8	
Parnell ..	303	13 3 0	894 12 4	702	2,426 15 6	70	700	1,933 12 11	12	68	216 19 2	
Parua Bay ..	139	4 1 3	386 6 10	59	300 4 3	4	19	495 3 0	1	9	129 19 7	
Pirongia ..	165	6 6 6	742 2 0	76	297 19 4	6	53	265 8 3	6	48	505 5 3	
Pokeno ..	71	2 1 0	230 1 8	33	156 2 0	11	47	622 12 6	1	23	180 17 0	
Ponsonby ..	306	11 13 0	590 19 2	782	2,772 7 7	22	230	779 4 3	14	47	384 15 4	
Poroti† ..	21	4 5 3	167 0 0	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	
Port Albert ..	281	8 3 0	669 16 1	106	428 8 10	18	104	732 12 4	3	55	552 5 0	
Pukekohe ..	403	15 3 0	1,234 11 1	219	873 15 1	44	218	2,793 2 1	15	112	1,197 6 10	
Raglan ..	185	6 16 6	570 7 9	134	690 14 11	10	114	1,033 12 11	2	45	376 9 5	
Rangiriri ..	121	3 16 6	244 11 10	50	151 9 10	6	23	147 4 0	1	4	6 5 4	
Rawene ..	155	7 12 3	515 15 6	117	540 9 11	12	61	426 11 0	8	38	396 9 0	
Rotorua ..	1,581	68 11 0	6,565 1 3	463	2,907 0 11	93	357	3,523 2 3	49	238	2,240 13 6	
Russell ..	223	7 8 0	587 12 9	138	945 17 8	10	81	1,031 4 0	3	28	529 19 3	
Tairua ..	271	14 2 3	856 10 1	118	934 16 3	21	153	1,093 2 10	3	21	123 2 4	
Taupo ..	281	12 18 9	1,402 11 9	76	391 4 10	17	57	612 15 7	2	23	224 3 5	
Te Awamutu ..	261	11 3 9	879 15 1	232	926 14 1	29	247	2,850 13 10	11	88	2,465 13 11	
Te Kopuru ..	749	31 9 3	2,686 8 4	135	707 16 0	32	312	2,221 9 0	11	92	1,555 19 7	
Te Kuiti ..	198	7 5 6	892 18 0	33	104 11 11	17	65	887 9 5	7	33	406 16 3	
Tirau ..	203	7 10 0	601 14 9	23	147 19 6	7	90	406 3 0	1	19	206 12 1	
Tokatoka ..	237	13 5 6	998 2 0	37	204 14 0	13	46	403 17 11	1	6	66 13 8	
Tuakau ..	197	6 10 0	640 19 1	62	241 14 4	6	43	356 1 7	7	30	445 19 4	
Up'r Symonds St. ..	297	12 14 6	676 14 9	138	500 6 6	22	262	833 9 0	..	34	112 6 11	
Wade ..	122	4 14 9	338 6 7	73	311 7 9	9	71	578 4 0	4	15	84 4 10	
Waipu ..	546	22 16 6	1,741 6 7	137	729 11 7	19	144	1,776 8 0	8	79	958 2 5	
Waiuku ..	604	21 7 3	1,743 7 11	213	1,146 1 7	31	163	2,011 19 0	13	120	1,552 18 11	
Waiwera ..	85	3 5 3	281 19 7	36	213 19 1	6	38	660 7 0	2	23	345 4 3	
Wangarei ..	1,594	70 4 6	5,306 17 4	674	2,954 4 11	143	852	10,668 18 5	53	422	6,994 4 1	
Wangaroa ..	205	9 1 9	514 7 1	60	287 13 3	31	124	1,749 2 0	2	29	698 3 4	
Waotu ..	38	1 12 9	104 17 9	45	273 6 3	2	19	151 11 0	..	..	..	
Warkworth ..	404	13 3 0	1,273 11 11	175	763 10 1	33	162	2,147 10 11	12	103	1,717 10 2	
Wellsford ..	84	3 13 3	213 19 0	36	182 15 9	6	37	226 15 6	2	13	93 3 0	
Whitianga ..	1,503	69 0 3	7,317 15 6	221	1,999 12 2	80	526	4,311 2 1	21	126	1,263 5 1	

* Open from 1st September, 1896.

† Open from 8th December, 1896.

Table No. 4—continued.

TABLE showing the Number and Amount of Transactions at the several Money Order and Savings Bank Offices in New Zealand during the Year 1896—continued.

Office.	Money Orders.					Savings Banks.						
	Issued.			Paid.		New Accounts opened.	Deposits.		Accounts closed.	Withdrawals.		
	No.	Commission.	Amount.	No.	Amount.		No.	Amount.		No.	Amount.	
		£ s. d.	£ s. d.		£ s. d.			£ s. d.			£ s. d.	
BLenheim ..	2,228	99 10 3	6,774 11 4	1,419	5,256 12 6	365	2,472	36,434 3 4	315	2,131	33,489 19 8	
Cullensville ..	217	7 6 3	470 3 1	57	290 16 1	9	49	656 18 3	6	48	408 6 2	
Havelock ..	672	23 0 0	2,296 18 1	223	968 14 1	39	272	2,659 0 4	28	117	1,781 1 7	
Kaikoura ..	702	29 7 3	2,162 1 10	146	523 16 2	72	314	4,998 10 10	22	83	2,476 15 10	
Kekerangu ..	166	7 0 9	456 17 7	13	57 12 6	7	51	537 14 0	..	..	..	
Picton ..	845	29 10 9	2,405 13 2	427	1,692 19 8	60	411	3,808 10 7	34	226	3,320 0 6	
Renwicktown ..	114	3 11 9	302 0 11	27	111 4 8	21	149	732 7 0	17	29	200 6 8	
Spring Creek ..	214	9 16 0	682 9 6	50	222 13 9	10	59	314 15 0	3	10	80 14 11	
CHRISTCHURCH ..	15,658	803 0 3	49,276 7 2	19,829	72,863 17 10	3,665	35,331	432,287 1 3	2,754	29,166	438,611 4 7	
Akaroa ..	494	24 1 0	1,618 16 7	232	802 18 5	54	318	5,535 17 0	16	121	2,695 6 0	
Alford Forest ..	30	0 10 0	69 19 8	3	3 2 0	..	..	..	..	..	..	
Amberley ..	306	11 18 3	887 1 5	158	578 18 6	41	245	3,461 18 4	12	119	1,557 7 3	
Ashburton ..	2,436	100 3 6	8,420 5 0	871	3,690 4 4	277	2,063	25,876 14 11	120	853	15,944 19 6	
Bealey ..	98	3 2 3	226 11 4	8	29 12 3	5	35	512 8 10	1	5	45 1 1	
Belfast ..	117	3 8 0	224 5 0	27	97 12 5	7	69	342 5 4	2	10	77 4 9	
Chertsey ..	92	3 5 3	240 8 11	12	35 13 4	8	64	615 13 0	1	20	256 6 4	
Cheviot ..	696	17 7 6	5,954 12 1	126	783 15 7	34	193	2,471 4 11	11	125	2,199 4 5	
Coalgate ..	97	3 5 6	283 14 9	33	118 10 10	12	96	811 9 6	..	14	304 19 1	
Culverden ..	165	7 11 6	416 3 8	58	185 16 7	16	101	2,357 11 4	2	32	661 14 8	
Darfield ..	114	4 6 1	297 5 7	29	98 5 7	11	72	782 7 1	5	16	521 10 2	
Dunsandel ..	89	3 13 0	291 14 11	36	93 10 4	16	77	854 11 0	4	23	369 10 5	
Duvauchelle ..	209	7 12 6	578 10 5	146	495 8 7	8	70	581 18 0	5	47	518 19 5	
Ellesmere ..	40	2 2 2	129 3 4	6	50 11 0	5	21	138 10 0	..	6	69 10 0	
Greendale* ..	7	0 4 6	9 10 8	..	..	1	1	0 4 0	..	..	..	
Hammer Plains ..	112	4 9 6	353 11 11	22	137 13 6	8	51	517 16 0	1	4	26 9 4	
Hinds ..	118	3 0 3	333 2 9	33	166 18 7	10	39	231 10 9	5	14	41 2 0	
Hororata ..	92	3 3 0	285 11 4	29	88 19 4	5	51	804 13 0	3	30	496 5 1	
Kaiapoi ..	515	21 7 9	1,386 3 11	357	1,632 14 6	126	979	8,760 18 2	56	331	5,827 3 1	
Kirwee ..	98	4 5 9	353 8 8	33	91 12 10	8	57	560 12 5	..	27	191 6 0	
Leeston ..	408	13 9 9	1,475 10 9	345	1,018 3 1	58	337	3,965 19 0	21	110	1,753 9 11	
Lincoln ..	157	9 18 9	590 9 8	135	481 4 10	14	171	903 2 2	3	17	160 13 0	
Linwood ..	102	4 3 0	196 8 10	108	333 11 0	20	198	564 16 0	4	20	255 9 6	
Little River ..	398	14 10 6	1,223 17 7	84	376 15 7	34	183	2,465 2 0	10	65	1,589 11 11	
Lytelton ..	1,928	96 3 3	6,077 17 3	836	3,170 9 1	204	1,851	14,560 7 7	81	672	9,604 6 8	
Methven ..	273	9 8 9	767 2 4	39	213 4 1	21	218	1,791 18 8	12	72	953 3 1	
Mount Somers..	128	4 10 0	361 19 9	32	116 17 3	8	62	450 15 0	7	20	380 3 3	
New Brighton ..	35	1 7 9	69 11 10	23	83 19 5	24	98	116 6 0	3	17	33 16 10	
Oxford ..	499	17 2 3	1,636 6 1	255	958 13 2	47	305	4,526 7 8	25	149	2,871 18 10	
Papanui ..	75	2 16 9	126 14 5	104	475 12 10	16	119	524 7 7	2	38	623 15 4	
Pigeon Bay ..	93	4 4 0	264 12 4	30	127 5 10	14	59	673 4 0	..	19	225 14 6	
Rakaia ..	387	13 13 0	1,348 12 2	138	707 6 5	30	239	3,363 19 8	8	121	2,076 16 1	
Rangiora ..	1,053	40 8 0	3,065 17 10	617	2,239 16 2	205	1,216	17,015 13 2	104	579	14,650 2 3	
Rolleston ..	50	1 11 3	87 0 2	7	11 0 0	2	9	223 19 4	..	4	16 10 0	
St. Albans† ..	9	0 6 6	15 12 1	17	43 6 3	..	..	..	..	..	..	
Sefton‡ ..	61	1 14 6	122 9 7	18	80 8 11	8	22	206 18 4	..	8	93 17 0	
Sheffield ..	207	7 1 9	656 12 4	54	214 5 8	5	105	858 10 0	5	48	554 19 2	
Southbridge ..	270	11 5 9	1,005 5 11	179	522 0 8	40	332	3,873 6 0	8	99	1,550 19 1	
Springfield ..	344	12 17 6	1,066 4 5	144	1,596 0 1	12	133	1,322 4 0	7	58	450 14 6	
Springston§ ..	33	1 5 0	95 3 9	4	20 4 11	9	30	380 12 1	..	4	37 0 0	
Sydenham ..	719	36 15 0	2,078 19 7	497	1,687 17 5	169	1,636	5,858 13 3	38	224	1,376 16 11	
Tinwald ..	76	3 15 9	221 0 6	29	81 2 9	10	93	631 19 0	1	41	279 13 0	
Upper Riccarton†	29	1 5 9	82 12 2	9	39 0 0	..	8	54 0 0	..	..	..	
Waiau ..	231	9 17 0	578 16 4	45	203 5 8	24	163	2,096 14 5	4	61	1,054 17 6	
Waikari ..	266	10 1 6	1,007 16 7	81	528 10 1	25	147	1,588 15 0	6	44	1,039 18 7	
Whitecliffs ..	147	4 8 0	364 11 4	30	122 11 0	8	81	461 0 0	6	37	194 17 0	
Woolston ..	99	3 10 6	305 7 10	44	114 8 6	11	129	905 3 5	5	39	727 12 5	
DUNEDIN ..	11,599	580 9 6	36,173 6 2	24,770	92,583 1 5	2,570	24,464	311,347 13 9	2,337	21,264	323,619 0 8	
Alexandra South ..	840	34 4 0	3,106 10 8	131	424 19 3	38	219	1,427 3 5	12	81	1,091 3 8	
Allanton ..	62	2 13 9	256 7 2	17	61 12 0	10	27	213 3 0	6	17	141 4 11	
Balclutha ..	882	30 8 3	2,442 17 4	344	1,415 19 0	84	556	7,910 9 6	41	224	4,872 11 5	
Caversham ..	158	6 4 0	476 7 9	357	1,069 17 0	72	633	1,466 0 8	7	33	91 0 3	
Clinton ..	579	18 10 3	1,869 13 7	150	514 1 9	36	212	2,055 8 7	18	73	1,287 6 8	
Clyde ..	351	13 10 0	1,235 10 9	135	652 1 8	17	112	779 5 5	3	22	514 10 4	
Cromwell ..	842	32 5 6	2,688 15 7	192	826 19 11	30	153	1,408 11 0	18	80	997 4 1	
Dunback ..	76	2 8 0	254 14 8	29	102 18 4	5	17	350 16 0	1	4	7 12 1	
Dunedin North ..	1,544	62 9 3	3,199 16 0	549	2,017 19 5	373	4,050	22,875 5 1	151	949	9,562 6 0	
Green Island ..	118	4 19 6	265 7 6	196	517 18 9	18	144	1,159 11 0	10	45	687 0 2	
Hamilton's ..	169	5 11 3	824 18 8	7	16 6 6	3	35	229 11 0	3	5	52 16 8	
Heriot ..	215	5 15 6	453 14 0	39	176 10 5	6	41	212 0 3	4	16	282 3 11	
Hyde ..	686	27 10 9	2,587 0 1	83	309 17 11	10	101	446 16 10	2	29	155 3 3	
Kaitangata ..	819	26 13 9	2,280 4 3	400	1,454 5 6	54	546	2,902 14 11	30	130	2,144 11 5	
Kelso ..	275	9 3 3	956 18 7	37	154 11 1	8	52	430 5 7	7	23	216 19 0	
Lawrence ..	904	33 10 3	2,780 15 0	633	2,450 2 7	70	536	6,333 10 3	41	195	3,463 12 10	
Macrae's Flat ..	370	11 0 6	1,295 1 5	22	107 8 6	3	8	107 4 0	2	12	193 14 7	
Middlemarch ..	432	12 8 9	1,514 17 6	89	475 19 3	11	61	585 18 0	3	28	209 1 3	
Miller's Flat ..	286	8 18 9	973 14 4	27	128 11 1	12	29	357 16 11	4	37	1,099 9 2	
Milton ..	718	26 9 6	1,905 18 4	453	1,486 2 1	68	478	5,365 17 6	43	204	3,073 9 5	
Mosgiel ..	310	12 16 6	767 5 9	255	815 11 2	68	342	3,081 2 5	20	92	1,486 9 0	
Naseby ..	1,039	31 9 0	4,527 8 6	299	1,003 8 9	30	274	1,629 19 0	15	65	971 14 10	
Nenthorn ..	83	2 6 0	187 0 4	9	59 4 7	1	1	0 5 0	..	..	..	

* Open from 8th November, 1896.

† Open from 16th March, 1896.

‡ Open from 1st March, 1896.

§ Open from 1st July, 1896.

Table No. 4—continued.

TABLE showing the Number and Amount of Transactions at the several Money Order and Savings Bank Offices in New Zealand during the Year 1896—continued.

Office.	Money Orders.					Savings Banks.							
	Issued.			Paid.		New Accounts opened.	Deposits.		Accounts closed.	Withdrawals.		No.	Amount.
	No.	Commission.	Amount.	No.	Amount.		No.	Amount.		No.	Amount.		
DUNEDIN—cont'd.		£ s. d.	£ s. d.		£ s. d.			£ s. d.			£ s. d.		
Ophir ..	651	20 11 0	2,559 10 2	64	252 6 6	9	39	387 17 0	3	9	92 11 9		
Outram ..	236	8 10 6	587 5 5	127	611 10 1	25	194	1,114 10 3	7	57	592 17 1		
Owaka ..	793	19 15 0	2,519 14 1	202	805 9 1	26	117	1,356 9 11	6	72	716 4 10		
Palmerston ..	631	22 11 3	2,207 3 4	361	1,406 1 4	47	390	3,492 18 9	22	111	1,348 8 7		
Patearoa ..	260	7 15 6	780 16 3	12	37 11 2	..	..	..	..	..	..		
Pembroke ..	246	16 5 0	1,102 10 7	34	122 3 10	14	68	372 4 0	2	12	165 0 4		
Port Chalmers	1,017	44 9 9	2,796 0 4	810	3,087 18 10	137	1,343	7,259 14 5	93	464	5,185 1 0		
Puerua ..	124	2 10 3	317 14 0	31	109 9 3	..	..	..	..	..	..		
Roxburgh ..	626	21 12 0	2,146 4 11	145	535 11 6	50	269	3,434 11 8	18	87	2,291 13 9		
St. Bathans ..	367	12 14 6	1,140 14 3	40	230 13 1	11	89	552 17 1	4	25	276 15 4		
Seacliff ..	211	6 10 0	516 14 9	88	442 19 6	7	127	583 14 2	2	17	87 16 3		
South Dunedin	326	13 14 9	768 19 7	330	1,334 15 0	95	748	2,963 2 0	29	154	951 12 6		
Stirling ..	198	7 1 6	575 1 2	56	218 19 4	13	70	973 6 0	7	29	329 18 9		
Tapanui ..	702	22 18 6	1,804 8 6	156	577 8 1	32	277	2,636 18 2	32	80	828 9 6		
Waiholo ..	119	4 0 1	309 1 3	35	154 17 5	8	67	426 9 6	7	37	252 10 1		
Waikaia ..	469	16 2 0	1,522 15 1	52	227 9 5	31	186	1,240 5 1	17	49	1,015 1 10		
Waikoikoi ..	48	1 18 6	161 6 4	12	58 0 3	..	..	..	..	..	..		
Waikouaiti ..	417	12 14 9	1,116 15 10	248	746 6 2	13	135	2,654 1 4	10	79	1,514 5 2		
Waipori ..	122	3 16 0	309 15 8	28	117 13 9	..	..	..	..	..	..		
Waitahuna ..	235	7 6 9	748 6 0	76	310 0 7	10	65	621 12 9	5	28	397 16 11		
Waitati ..	80	2 12 0	247 7 9	109	434 11 3	9	55	164 12 0	8	24	142 17 2		
GISBORNE ..	2,954	173 5 6	9,741 15 8	1,056	4,317 7 5	550	3,068	35,664 5 10	464	2,667	32,214 1 0		
Tolaga Bay ..	175	8 10 9	462 5 6	33	72 17 8	16	66	552 19 0	3	19	248 9 5		
Waipiro Bay ..	260	16 13 3	925 2 7	57	412 0 7	36	131	1,618 6 10	13	41	487 9 2		
GREYMOUTH ..	2,491	122 10 3	7,716 9 9	2,150	7,368 7 1	301	1,944	29,996 11 4	295	1,651	32,217 8 6		
Ahaura ..	422	18 6 9	2,020 6 8	71	198 4 10	17	79	578 0 8	6	41	463 19 7		
Blackball Mine	252	9 0 0	682 3 9	12	62 19 7	25	116	864 18 8	10	31	192 8 6		
Brunnerton ..	543	25 16 9	1,645 5 2	383	1,495 5 6	77	418	5,682 16 1	25	143	3,998 11 3		
Jackson's ..	611	23 16 3	2,452 0 1	35	198 8 11	14	54	564 4 0	6	20	195 6 1		
Nelson Creek ..	188	6 4 9	590 13 1	17	87 12 6	3	27	258 17 0	5	27	204 9 5		
Ngahere ..	78	3 7 0	223 16 5	24	129 10 8	4	42	182 2 0	..	2	30 0 0		
Reefton ..	1,749	90 3 6	5,462 8 1	736	3,050 0 3	83	451	5,510 8 5	38	195	3,322 16 11		
Stillwater ..	129	5 14 6	361 14 8	28	129 4 9	19	78	1,187 7 0	6	54	501 13 7		
Totara Flat ..	168	5 3 9	337 16 0	24	79 12 9	6	26	339 0 0	3	8	195 1 4		
HOKITIKA ..	1,522	67 6 9	4,343 16 11	838	3,068 0 3	148	820	18,220 0 8	130	758	19,555 17 10		
Goldsborough ..	90	3 9 0	174 4 7	23	126 3 3	10	29	768 17 5	6	20	488 13 7		
Kumara ..	867	34 17 3	2,154 12 8	364	1,351 14 7	67	376	6,330 14 10	41	175	3,633 18 2		
Rimu ..	113	3 14 0	165 19 1	23	69 5 0	19	128	1,080 10 0	9	100	848 1 1		
Ross ..	348	12 12 0	922 10 7	200	879 13 0	20	154	2,007 9 0	15	85	1,147 10 11		
Stafford ..	230	7 8 6	510 11 5	34	94 2 8	11	54	428 16 1	6	37	254 18 11		
INVERCARGILL ..	4,112	179 8 0	12,603 11 2	4,335	15,107 9 2	614	4,524	59,114 9 1	650	3,775	66,844 0 3		
Arrowtown ..	578	22 18 9	1,787 7 9	96	465 0 10	26	155	1,354 6 11	17	36	1,058 5 8		
Balfour ..	83	3 11 3	286 0 10	23	98 4 3	11	61	612 18 0	5	29	540 6 3		
Bluff ..	896	37 4 6	2,870 3 0	333	1,450 19 2	58	408	3,511 6 5	21	161	2,193 14 0		
Dipton ..	174	5 12 0	472 3 2	47	163 16 9	18	74	542 13 6	8	28	526 11 4		
Edendale ..	168	6 4 0	490 2 5	32	128 17 6	15	36	1,156 7 5	4	21	339 11 10		
Fairfax ..	34	1 11 3	97 9 10	10	41 19 7	11	40	255 13 0	..	6	46 10 0		
Fortrose ..	342	11 2 9	1,100 7 9	40	195 3 3	16	59	466 10 5	3	22	208 11 1		
Gore ..	1,712	62 19 3	5,499 10 11	740	2,489 8 0	152	947	10,881 16 1	91	405	6,746 2 4		
Half-Moon Bay	115	4 3 6	539 1 3	27	193 2 10	3	14	101 5 0	1	7	28 0 3		
Kingston ..	161	5 14 3	542 4 2	6	35 2 9	1	21	96 3 0	3	7	120 2 8		
Lumsden ..	252	9 19 3	688 13 11	100	409 3 9	19	92	921 12 2	17	35	678 8 1		
Mataura ..	631	22 2 6	1,652 16 2	181	588 4 6	29	310	2,967 4 7	18	135	2,370 6 0		
Orepuki ..	485	16 19 0	1,359 2 8	48	187 7 2	22	198	1,730 7 0	5	50	632 8 3		
Otautau ..	297	11 1 0	756 18 3	64	282 8 8	19	83	783 17 0	5	42	621 0 3		
Pukerua ..	96	3 2 6	290 12 8	45	225 14 8	11	79	714 15 2	4	27	252 19 8		
Queenstown ..	742	27 16 3	2,143 3 7	254	916 4 7	34	334	2,489 14 6	20	76	1,420 13 8		
Riversdale ..	372	12 19 9	1,093 3 9	80	292 16 4	6	86	470 0 0	9	33	545 0 6		
Riverton ..	592	21 3 9	1,541 1 10	331	1,036 10 11	58	532	2,965 2 0	44	173	2,087 16 9		
Thornbury ..	107	5 7 9	357 0 8	15	64 5 7	6	46	337 10 0	1	14	292 15 7		
Waikaka ..	112	2 17 0	348 15 5	15	47 19 6	8	17	23 12 0	1	17	58 10 2		
Waipahi ..	145	4 9 0	393 10 2	48	135 4 1	7	28	350 17 5	5	24	350 14 3		
Wairio ..	142	6 8 9	550 19 11	32	165 0 1	7	55	351 18 6	8	24	323 7 5		
Winton ..	522	18 19 0	1,402 6 5	163	494 11 3	58	276	3,195 13 0	21	78	1,182 5 11		
Woodlands ..	138	5 8 6	429 1 9	92	252 19 9	9	74	379 14 0	2	23	50 2 7		
Wyndham ..	427	14 11 0	1,234 10 10	120	393 0 3	35	275	2,538 15 6	24	96	2,030 12 10		
NAPIER ..	5,427	303 7 0	18,841 3 7	4,737	18,552 0 0	834	6,256	75,073 3 6	1,027	5,922	91,331 10 11		
Dannevirke ..	1,608	64 6 3	4,485 14 9	559	1,960 8 9	124	519	5,773 10 1	63	312	5,472 18 9		
Hastings ..	2,190	112 16 9	6,136 9 5	1,332	4,544 10 11	270	1,586	15,811 4 7	114	719	8,081 7 4		
Herbertville ..	186	11 0 9	694 4 8	37	165 5 10	12	61	452 8 0	6	19	417 8 0		
Kaikoura North	306	14 0 6	987 6 6	69	347 12 11	25	122	1,520 12 2	9	61	705 16 5		
Kumeroa ..	166	5 6 9	564 5 2	23	86 19 7	9	17	104 13 4	1	10	53 17 6		
Makaretu ..	192	5 16 0	535 17 8	20	77 17 0	14	44	447 9 0	1	17	147 11 1		
Makotuku ..	187	6 10 9	583 10 9	78	254 14 9	7	55	498 14 6	3	26	326 13 5		
Mohaka ..	162	7 19 6	446 2 11	38	133 17 1	11	40	350 16 0	1	19	128 4 5		
Norsewood ..	642	28 14 6	3,956 7 1	84	404 14 8	26	119	1,198 9 7	14	79	1,165 9 6		
Ongaonga ..	211	6 14 3	617 12 9	28	129 1 4	8	92	165 16 0	..	22	246 14 6		
Ormondville ..	356	12 18 6	1,454 15 0	105	510 0 10	10	66	858 10 8	6	61	688 2 3		
Porangahau ..	342	19 19 0	1,268 0 2	35	166 11 3	19	58	1,169 9 0	6	37	396 6 7		
Spit ..	753	38 12 6	1,996 6 7	137	493 14 1	45	495	2,640 14 0	12	89	960 1 1		

Table No. 4—continued.

TABLE showing the Number and Amount of Transactions at the several Money Order and Savings Bank Offices in New Zealand during the Year 1896—continued.

Office.	Money Orders.					Savings Banks.					
	Issued.			Paid.		New Accounts opened.	Deposits.		Accounts closed.	Withdrawals.	
	No.	Commission.	Amount.	No.	Amount.		No.	Amount.		No.	Amount.
NAPIER—continued.		£ s. d.	£ s. d.		£ s. d.		£ s. d.			£ s. d.	
Takapau ..	384	15 7 9	1,191 17 9	89	334 6 7	21	126 1,331 6 0	7	58	674 5 0	
Taradale ..	151	7 1 0	391 17 8	90	324 16 8	7	25 174 13 11	..	15	60 2 0	
Te Aute ..	149	6 19 0	526 9 10	58	220 11 6	9	39 237 4 11	4	24	333 6 11	
Tikokino ..	158	5 7 0	549 0 5	24	194 8 0	5	33 265 17 10	..	24	435 18 0	
Waipawa ..	1,117	55 10 9	3,721 18 7	688	1,876 15 3	113	636 7,571 2 9	49	313	4,996 7 5	
Waipukurau ..	749	32 0 9	2,188 15 1	247	870 1 0	74	445 5,726 10 5	29	147	2,470 13 2	
Wairoa ..	674	39 14 9	2,534 15 7	364	1,312 18 8	52	328 3,631 15 11	32	129	1,817 5 7	
Weber* ..	23	0 16 0	86 9 7	3	13 11 0	..	..	..	..	..	
NELSON ..	3,440	155 12 0	10,161 13 7	4,299	15,442 7 7	415	3,424 60,741 12 4	403	3,074	57,807 7 9	
Belgrove ..	149	6 0 9	540 9 6	44	116 7 8	15	136 1,100 7 6	7	31	405 18 4	
Brightwater ..	138	4 17 6	322 5 5	77	324 14 9	16	93 1,156 1 0	4	35	280 0 11	
Collingwood ..	826	32 7 9	3,633 19 7	93	559 11 11	27	131 2,283 3 6	8	92	2,066 7 6	
Motueka ..	554	15 19 0	1,721 3 11	285	1,517 6 7	54	392 5,029 2 0	22	142	2,410 16 2	
Motupiko ..	54	2 7 6	179 14 4	20	107 10 3	2	37 188 11 0	..	2	26 10 0	
Ngatimote ..	54	1 11 0	124 10 0	35	94 19 4	8	56 400 2 0	2	24	274 6 9	
Richmond ..	166	6 17 0	499 4 11	142	633 0 2	29	189 2,340 13 10	7	71	1,510 15 6	
Takaka ..	414	14 4 9	1,224 7 0	151	674 19 4	24	211 1,508 18 7	8	93	1,411 10 2	
The Port ..	213	10 11 0	591 17 2	90	215 13 10	10	127 511 8 0	3	19	107 7 6	
Upper Moutere ..	95	3 17 0	252 9 9	12	44 14 8	8	36 397 15 0	..	19	367 15 0	
Wakefield ..	247	8 11 9	658 5 10	134	509 13 2	23	167 2,009 11 11	3	49	1,203 5 8	
New PLYMOUTH ..	3,465	157 4 0	11,362 7 6	3,540	16,340 0 9	452	3,118 49,457 9 1	526	2,893	55,367 7 0	
Inglewood ..	920	31 15 6	3,006 18 6	296	1,359 12 10	100	701 5,991 0 2	55	325	5,047 2 8	
Midhurst ..	359	11 13 0	1,042 16 8	106	431 12 9	23	134 924 10 7	20	109	1,413 10 0	
Opunake ..	633	23 16 9	2,022 12 7	143	693 0 2	49	201 2,235 16 1	22	84	1,564 8 4	
Pungarehu ..	296	11 19 3	917 17 9	153	724 15 3	11	58 713 0 7	6	39	497 2 3	
Stratford ..	2,137	78 2 9	7,734 2 0	625	2,452 3 5	160	672 8,017 16 7	90	387	5,831 10 10	
Waitara ..	649	27 9 0	2,142 0 3	273	991 4 8	66	378 3,337 12 4	28	139	1,743 2 1	
AMARU ..	2,964	125 1 0	10,657 5 1	1,921	7,031 13 0	452	3,229 40,139 5 8	343	2,146	36,322 4 7	
Duntroon ..	263	7 14 9	1,082 1 7	26	101 0 11	9	74 569 15 4	1	26	353 2 7	
Hampden ..	447	14 9 6	1,499 1 2	487	1,904 11 3	19	69 720 4 7	2	28	272 17 5	
Herbert ..	233	7 5 0	726 17 4	40	191 4 6	14	67 580 11 11	2	31	499 15 7	
Kakanui ..	53	1 15 3	192 15 2	20	75 7 2	2	6 25 5 0	..	4	9 13 0	
Kuraw ..	388	13 3 0	1,760 18 1	130	568 0 5	23	111 746 18 0	2	21	235 18 10	
Maheno ..	180	6 2 0	489 4 3	47	212 15 10	16	70 496 16 6	3	27	303 15 2	
Ngapara ..	179	5 7 0	493 8 7	53	163 14 0	11	63 207 12 0	2	11	47 9 0	
Shag Point ..	174	5 11 9	372 12 10	72	240 9 0	28	175 396 19 10	12	27	166 14 2	
THAMES ..	3,693	185 10 9	13,201 18 2	2,656	12,718 14 9	668	4,497 61,451 17 11	484	3,290	48,886 5 8	
Karangahake ..	1,305	61 3 6	4,899 9 1	147	894 1 7	134	542 3,973 19 0	22	150	2,056 17 5	
Katikati ..	182	7 19 9	605 11 7	112	558 12 6	15	100 269 19 0	3	43	315 1 10	
Maketu ..	132	6 1 0	499 13 5	44	316 8 0	8	29 261 14 2	5	26	162 19 8	
Miranda ..	65	2 7 0	172 19 10	17	132 7 6	3	11 63 17 0	1	5	32 11 4	
Opotiki ..	698	28 3 6	2,397 6 11	273	1,178 17 7	53	400 3,709 4 7	54	204	3,241 16 7	
Paeroa ..	1,979	103 15 3	7,456 14 5	768	4,519 6 11	193	685 6,404 5 8	56	260	2,830 4 2	
Tauranga ..	671	30 7 6	2,092 5 3	712	2,668 19 2	80	532 8,039 7 2	41	239	7,282 9 10	
Te Aroha ..	1,188	48 0 9	4,355 17 0	458	2,494 11 9	82	436 4,037 14 0	26	208	2,399 15 2	
Te Puke ..	278	17 14 3	1,093 3 6	138	717 6 7	15	65 598 13 4	13	44	313 2 10	
Waihi ..	2,858	141 15 3	10,686 0 10	370	1,968 17 8	279	1,048 10,942 16 3	67	389	4,737 19 9	
Waiorongomai ..	198	8 1 9	543 8 5	34	230 15 9	14	40 115 13 0	3	8	43 9 1	
Waitekauri ..	1,930	104 1 0	8,123 15 11	148	648 7 1	20	1,099 10,808 19 9	52	233	3,798 10 3	
Whakatane ..	391	19 2 0	1,459 14 9	126	676 1 5	290	44 1,337 19 0	17	66	1,790 12 9	
TIMARU ..	3,381	144 18 0	11,369 4 4	1,828	6,322 15 8	561	4,337 56,501 13 3	484	3,064	51,518 12 3	
Albury ..	56	2 3 6	161 9 7	17	63 2 10	2	36 267 8 0	..	8	73 18 0	
Fairlie ..	300	14 5 0	930 4 3	64	208 12 1	28	104 1,656 10 7	12	41	729 9 11	
Geraldine ..	904	27 17 0	3,280 12 4	252	995 0 10	78	501 7,174 6 3	55	214	3,305 14 6	
Makikihi ..	116	4 0 9	379 15 5	19	64 11 0	4	31 261 16 9	2	11	94 3 6	
Orari ..	82	2 2 3	209 14 10	29	114 9 11	..	14 137 0 0	2	13	163 17 6	
Pleasant Point ..	280	9 12 0	777 9 6	55	229 0 5	17	87 718 15 7	1	28	259 1 11	
St. Andrew ..	189	6 6 0	655 9 4	83	458 18 0	6	76 609 17 1	1	10	147 9 5	
Temuka ..	838	28 10 0	2,262 3 7	249	973 8 4	104	529 4,457 17 6	23	164	2,140 13 8	
Waimate ..	1,093	37 5 0	4,554 13 5	392	1,421 7 11	112	713 9,853 19 4	65	292	7,152 18 6	
Waitaki ..	153	3 8 3	432 14 11	38	210 3 0	4	20 347 12 0	..	8	116 16 0	
Winchester ..	34	1 10 3	105 6 3	34	150 8 8	8	48 597 5 0	1	21	329 0 11	
WANGANUI ..	5,223	244 17 9	18,321 18 10	3,779	13,050 7 3	942	5,937 80,497 2 5	935	5,271	79,891 7 8	
Alton† ..	17	0 11 6	49 17 8	3	12 11 0	2	6 13 18 0	..	2	30 0 0	
Bull's ..	526	26 18 3	1,414 18 3	150	600 11 1	52	306 2,434 8 9	31	151	2,447 8 8	
Eltham ..	676	26 16 10	2,509 2 7	213	979 12 1	88	368 3,682 8 6	36	192	3,007 1 10	
Fordell ..	218	8 0 3	732 7 3	65	267 12 6	3	65 600 17 4	4	28	186 15 8	
Hawera ..	1,991	95 2 0	6,566 19 9	1,179	4,055 7 5	223	1,264 15,693 1 8	110	522	12,348 15 9	
Hunterville ..	1,213	37 12 9	4,308 2 11	262	993 6 2	50	241 2,683 13 5	34	128	1,851 9 7	
Hurleyville‡ ..	26	1 5 0	138 10 5	2	7 19 6	11	15 36 2 6	1	3	71 1 1	
Kaimanuka ..	27	1 4 0	116 8 8	5	12 1 7	..	6 139 0 0	..	6	126 0 0	
Kaponga ..	274	9 18 0	862 12 6	58	333 14 7	27	98 1,245 2 7	11	33	687 11 7	
Manaia ..	661	24 19 9	2,712 6 2	215	813 17 11	76	361 4,551 17 7	39	147	2,341 2 2	
Mangamahū ..	94	2 4 6	321 4 8	2	6 10 2	..	..	..	..	..	
Mangaweka ..	340	10 5 6	1,151 3 9	58	410 13 11	27	64 786 12 7	8	47	501 2 3	
Manutahi ..	62	2 1 6	206 18 4	58	112 13 0	8	41 616 4 4	6	36	458 7 6	
Marton ..	1,374	60 19 3	6,009 14 5	741	2,431 10 5	148	783 10,877 7 1	56	338	7,956 19 11	
Normanby ..	264	9 12 3	753 4 3	125	587 14 8	33	142 1,232 11 6	17	87	1,173 19 3	
Ohingaiti ..	745	32 4 3	2,725 15 8	89	363 5 5	72	268 1,765 19 4	19	82	1,209 1 3	

* Open from 16th July, 1896.

† Open from 24th August, 1896.

‡ Open from 24th May, 1896.

§ Open from 1st April, 1896.

Table No. 4—continued.

TABLE showing the Number and Amount of Transactions at the several Money Order and Savings Bank Offices in New Zealand during the Year 1896—continued.

Office.	Money Orders.					Savings Banks.						
	Issued.			Paid.		New Accounts opened.	Deposits.		Accounts closed.	Withdrawals.		
	No.	Commission.	Amount.	No.	Amount.		No.	Amount.		No.	Amount.	
		£ s. d.	£ s. d.		£ s. d.			£ s. d.			£ s. d.	
WANGANUI—cont'd.												
Patea ..	806	33 19 3	2,676 7 1	379	1,448 17 10	78	527	5,034 7 6	67	212	3,935 10 6	
Raitihi ..	226	5 13 6	876 8 11	16	100 1 10	20	67	1,026 14 10	2	29	438 19 1	
Turakina ..	197	8 4 0	725 5 7	37	183 4 4	15	80	643 3 3	12	38	476 5 7	
Waitotara ..	232	9 13 3	931 0 1	81	417 16 6	26	92	1,034 13 8	3	53	456 18 9	
Waverley ..	657	25 2 6	2,418 3 10	166	733 7 0	52	393	2,995 0 8	30	154	3,021 9 11	
WELLINGTON ..	18,004	1,273 16 6	57,635 16 3	28,746	120,691 10 4	3,801	31,373	391,740 15 11	3,590	27,666	399,287 5 4	
Adelaide Road ..	264	10 19 6	502 17 11	30	103 10 6	53	707	1,628 5 0	6	107	456 9 6	
Alfredton ..	97	3 3 1	310 12 0	27	131 11 6	19	55	768 8 5	1	26	381 8 4	
Apiti* ..	146	3 18 7	427 8 3	13	94 10 1	10	29	291 14 10	..	5	139 19 0	
Ashurst ..	401	13 6 6	1,383 4 11	224	816 14 7	31	249	1,346 11 2	32	120	840 17 1	
Carterton ..	1,052	45 7 6	3,196 19 3	340	1,339 11 0	103	703	5,361 18 2	41	270	3,986 18 3	
Castlepoint ..	54	2 0 6	164 10 7	5	25 15 0	..	1	10 0 0	1	1	2 10 4	
Chatham Islands ..	141	5 2 0	583 15 7	21	160 17 8	3	8	114 17 0	2	5	16 16 7	
Eketahuna ..	1,148	39 13 0	4,066 11 1	267	1,268 0 4	75	415	4,606 9 11	24	229	2,911 2 10	
Featherston ..	755	31 8 0	1,857 8 0	192	843 0 11	53	321	4,402 16 3	19	119	2,266 6 10	
Feilding ..	1,709	72 10 6	6,936 3 11	1,219	4,509 14 4	184	1,146	15,190 3 5	94	445	9,946 2 1	
Fowler's ..	483	14 11 0	1,908 17 1	69	248 2 5	22	91	1,081 3 5	15	57	1,257 8 8	
Foxton ..	588	25 19 6	1,504 17 4	350	1,144 9 9	64	513	3,210 16 8	28	184	2,245 7 5	
Greytown North ..	737	36 10 3	2,457 6 5	314	1,321 18 9	78	528	4,321 6 0	37	194	2,514 7 3	
Halcombe ..	392	13 11 3	1,170 13 6	123	529 8 2	26	165	1,574 15 11	12	60	1,006 19 11	
Hutt ..	370	16 12 6	1,012 10 11	199	794 19 4	75	569	5,529 7 5	43	197	3,192 2 2	
Johnsonville ..	183	7 3 0	452 6 2	56	183 4 7	28	452	2,053 4 11	6	119	863 4 9	
Kaitoke ..	192	6 12 6	845 8 4	23	85 6 7	6	34	274 16 0	..	10	106 7 0	
Kaiwarawara ..	75	3 5 9	170 18 11	20	66 11 5	11	144	298 10 0	2	31	162 19 6	
Levin ..	719	26 18 6	2,004 13 2	173	599 2 9	46	256	2,268 10 6	13	111	857 18 3	
Makuri ..	290	6 7 0	772 12 6	29	150 17 6	14	27	457 18 0	3	20	610 12 9	
Manukau ..	212	8 16 0	597 0 9	54	208 9 8	13	59	328 12 2	3	43	246 6 11	
Martinborough ..	561	28 11 9	1,456 16 8	70	219 6 8	41	188	1,538 11 1	10	74	758 10 1	
Masterton ..	2,653	122 18 6	10,709 18 6	1,309	4,399 19 10	290	1,595	17,518 14 1	124	826	11,484 17 4	
Mauriceville ..	286	9 6 0	872 19 9	50	172 13 4	17	86	909 19 0	6	64	697 7 4	
Ngahauranga ..	137	5 3 6	291 6 4	16	51 6 4	16	118	340 0 1	2	15	82 5 0	
Otaki ..	871	39 12 3	2,797 5 7	359	1,285 11 10	55	370	3,058 9 1	16	145	1,869 19 2	
Pahiatua ..	2,193	72 3 3	9,900 13 4	1,628	2,441 2 1	123	661	10,005 15 3	74	393	7,466 4 1	
Palmerston North ..	3,642	164 5 9	12,022 6 9	3,006	11,009 13 4	442	2,729	26,340 4 11	232	1,501	19,589 5 3	
Petone ..	642	31 3 0	1,687 13 3	372	1,078 0 7	79	1,052	5,927 5 10	27	314	3,636 16 0	
Pohangina† ..	66	2 1 9	230 2 0	12	60 9 1	..	..	..	..	2	29 13 11	
Porirua ..	59	3 2 6	155 10 8	20	66 4 3	8	66	168 16 0	2	8	9 9 4	
Rangiwahia ..	147	3 6 0	629 6 2	30	195 12 2	..	..	..	..	..	..	
Rongotea ..	239	8 2 3	698 7 1	27	115 13 10	14	59	423 6 11	8	29	681 19 5	
Sanson ..	178	6 8 9	663 4 11	46	141 12 8	15	132	1,117 6 2	5	48	919 14 4	
Shannon ..	279	9 8 6	761 7 8	90	377 1 8	11	89	408 1 0	4	34	403 5 10	
Taueru‡ ..	52	2 11 6	150 14 1	5	8 0 0	11	27	134 3 6	..	6	67 0 0	
Te Aro ..	2,089	90 1 6	5,364 1 5	129	429 6 11	294	4,244	14,730 12 0	36	244	1,246 1 4	
Te Nui ..	387	14 8 6	1,138 2 2	66	270 14 6	27	128	1,764 8 0	7	67	1,208 5 7	
Upper Hutt ..	248	10 1 0	628 19 10	83	385 4 5	16	144	1,559 9 8	12	74	976 2 1	
Wellington South ..	218	9 15 9	710 2 7	65	205 2 0	46	530	2,121 18 8	13	118	1,166 1 9	
Whakataki§ ..	12	0 8 6	21 5 8	1	1 10 0	3	3	49 11 0	..	..	..	
Woodville ..	1,598	54 1 0	6,281 19 1	613	2,076 17 11	77	475	5,685 16 3	59	333	4,556 14 8	
WESTPORT ..	2,227	102 16 3	6,905 11 9	1,424	5,941 14 1	192	1,260	19,167 17 7	242	1,308	21,957 5 9	
Cape Foulwind ..	69	2 10 9	151 8 1	30	102 9 6	2	23	90 15 0	..	4	45 10 0	
Capleston ..	66	2 11 9	165 12 2	9	54 18 0	..	4	38 0 0	2	3	101 16 2	
Charleston ..	410	15 6 3	1,090 18 2	54	295 18 11	25	144	2,152 0 2	12	71	1,031 19 1	
Denniston ..	1,264	59 7 6	3,653 5 5	118	492 14 1	66	637	3,309 7 5	13	135	1,319 17 5	
Granity Creek ..	263	11 3 3	705 19 2	44	114 10 6	18	120	205 17 0	9	18	64 10 7	
Longford ..	103	4 8 0	339 11 11	5	30 2 6	1	9	285 0 0	1	9	307 6 2	
Lyell ..	703	28 8 9	2,615 10 1	245	810 18 2	21	107	1,211 5 11	10	40	720 13 3	
Mokihinui ..	92	3 11 3	364 2 9	32	120 5 0	4	23	183 1 0	1	8	60 6 0	
Murchison ..	378	14 9 3	1,324 4 8	18	51 15 0	14	77	616 7 0	3	14	349 15 5	
Seddonville ..	270	11 9 6	857 1 10	29	125 9 6	13	74	607 2 5	1	28	241 18 8	
Waimangaroa ..	258	9 8 3	856 8 11	68	329 10 10	5	40	136 5 5	4	30	216 5 4	

* Open from 24th June, 1893.

† Open from 24th February, 1896.

‡ Open from 24th July, 1896.

§ Open from 1st November, 1896.

SUMMARY.

POSTAL DISTRICT OF—	£	s.	d.	£	s.	d.	£	s.	d.	£	s.	d.	£	s.	d.
Auckland ..	51,550	2,717	15 6	187,321	14 0	48,674	193,539	1 9	5,098	30,893	442,970	18 10	3,223	24,064	391,595 14 1
Blenheim ..	5,158	209	3 0	15,550	15 6	2,362	9,124	9 5	583	3,777	50,141	19 4	425	2,644	41,757 5 4
Christchurch ..	29,660	1,369	9 0	96,529	2 6	25,952	97,612	17 0	5,335	47,877	556,888	18 2	3,358	33,529	512,571 19 6
Dunedin ..	31,235	1,277	5 4	96,762	9 2	32,239	120,647	3 4	4,134	37,330	402,911	13 2	3,050	24,962	372,409 6 2
Gisborne ..	3,389	198	9 6	11,129	3 9	1,146	4,802	5 8	602	3,265	37,835	11 8	480	2,727	32,949 19 7
Greymouth ..	6,631	310	3 6	21,492	13 8	3,480	12,799	6 10	549	3,235	45,164	5 2	394	2,172	41,321 15 2
Hokitika ..	3,170	129	7 6	8,271	15 3	1,482	5,588	18 9	275	1,561	28,836	8 0	207	1,175	25,928 19 9
Invercargill ..	13,435	523	14 6	40,530	0 3	7,277	35,860	15 2	1,253	8,824	98,314	1 8	987	5,344	91,548 17 7
Napier ..	16,133	801	0 0	53,759	1 6	8,845	32,974	17 8	1,695	11,162	125,004	2 2	1,384	8,103	120,909 19 11
Nelson ..	6,350	262	17 0	19,910	1 0	5,382	20,240	19 3	631	4,999	77,667	6 8	467	3,651	67,872 1 3
New Plymouth ..	8,459	342	0 3	28,228	15 3	5,136	22,992	9 10	861	5,262	70,677	5 5	747	3,976	71,464 3 2
Oamaru ..	4,881	186	9 3	17,274	4 1	2,796	10,488	16 1	574	3,864	43,883	8 10	307	2,321	38,111 10 4
Thames ..	15,568	764	3 3	57,587	19 1	6,003	29,723	8 3	1,854	9,555	112,015	19 10	844	5,165	77,891 16 4
Timaru ..	7,426	281	18 0	25,118	17 9	3,060	11,211	18 8	924	6,496	82,584	1 4	646	3,874	66,031 16 1
Wanganui ..	15,849	677	5 10	56,528	11 7	7,683	27,922	16 2	1,953	11,124	137,590	7 6	1,421	7,559	122,617 8 0
Wellington ..	44,569	2,354	14 5	147,134	16 4	43,949	160,308	10 7	6,300	50,541	540,663	9 7	4,609	34,314	490,159 3 3
Westport ..	6,103	265	10 9	19,029	14 11	2,076	8,470	6 1	361	2,518	28,002	18 11	298	1,668	26,417 3 10
Totals ..	269,566	12,671	6 7	902,159	15 7	203,084	794,309	0 6	32,982	242,283	2,881,152	16 3	22,907	167,248	2,591,558 19 4

POST OFFICE SAVINGS-BANKS.—GENERAL STATEMENT.

TABLE showing the Business of the Post Office Savings-Banks in New Zealand Year by Year, from the Date they were established, in February, 1867, to the 31st December, 1896.

Postal Districts.	Number of Office Savings-Banks Open at the Close of the Year.	Number of Deposits received during the Year.	Total Amount of Deposits received during the Year.	Average Amount of each deposit received during the Year.	Number of Withdrawals during the Year.	Total Amount of Withdrawals during the Year.	Average Amount of each Withdrawal during the Year.	Excess of Deposits over Withdrawals during the Year.	Excess of Withdrawals over Deposits during the Year.	Cost of Management during the Year.	Average Cost of each Transaction, Deposit or Withdrawal.	Interest for the Year.	Number of Accounts opened during the Year.	Number of Accounts remaining Open at Close of the Year.	Total Amount standing to the Credit of all open Accounts, inclusive of Interest to the Close of the Year.	Average Amount standing to the Credit of each open Account at the Close of the Year.		
Auckland	81	30,893	442,970	18 10	14 6	24,064	391,595	14 1	51,375	4 9	18,604	13 3	5,098	3,223	19,341	644,958	7 6 33 6 11	
Blenheim	8	3,777	50,141	19 4	13 5	2,644	41,757	5 6	8,384	14 0	2,240	4 5	583	425	3,120	80,106	10 1 25 14 0	
Christchurch	47	47,877	556,888	18 2	11 12	33,529	512,571	19 6	44,316	18 8	24,582	9 0	5,335	3,358	29,553	835,068	14 3 28 5 5	
Dunedin	41	37,330	492,911	13 2	10 15	24,962	372,409	6 2	30,502	7 0	20,684	5 8	4,134	3,050	21,524	664,587	9 30 17 6	
Gisborne	3	3,265	37,835	11 8	11 11	2,727	32,949	19 7	4,885	12 1	1,210	1 5	602	480	1,700	41,327	17 6 23 1 9	
Greytown	10	3,235	45,164	5 2	13 19	2,172	41,321	15 2	3,842	10 0	2,512	2 1	549	394	2,584	85,623	18 1 33 2 8	
Hokitika	6	1,561	28,836	8 0	18 9	1,175	25,928	19 22	2,907	8 3	2,117	1 10	275	207	1,332	69,510	6 52 3 8	
Invercargill	26	8,824	98,314	1 8	11 2 10	5,344	91,548	17 7	6,765	4 1	5,386	19 4	1,253	987	5,954	177,275	2 7 20 15 5	
Napier ...	21	11,162	125,004	2 2	11 3 11	8,103	120,909	19 11	4,094	2 3	5,501	14 6	1,605	1,384	6,901	184,078	17 10 26 8 10	
Nelson ...	12	4,999	77,667	6 8	15 10 8	3,651	67,872	1 3	9,795	5 5	4,311	8 8	861	467	4,447	147,198	18 9 33 2 0	
New Plymouth	7	5,262	70,677	5 5	13 8 7	3,976	71,464	3 2	5,771	18 6	2,627	6 3	574	367	3,601	84,756	4 4 23 10 8	
Oamaru	9	3,864	43,883	8 10	11 7 1	2,321	38,111	10 4	16 18 5	...	2,627	6 3	574	367	3,601	84,756	4 4 23 10 8	
Thames	14	9,555	112,015	19 10	11 14 5	5,165	77,891	16 4	34,124	3 6	3,879	1 2	1,854	844	5,019	147,114	14 1 29 6 2	
Timaru	12	6,466	82,584	1 4	12 14 3	3,874	66,031	16 1	16,552	5 3	4,109	11 2	924	646	4,330	142,344	16 2 32 17 5	
Wanganui	21	11,124	137,590	7 6	12 7 4	7,559	122,617	8 0	14,972	19 6	5,101	9 1	1,953	1,421	7,236	179,346	0 1 24 15 8	
Wellington	41	50,541	540,663	9 7	10 13 11	34,314	490,159	3 3	50,504	6 4	19,032	3 9	6,300	4,069	26,756	684,542	19 8 25 11 8	
Westport	12	2,518	28,002	18 11	11 2 5	1,668	26,417	3 10	1,585	15 1	1,651	11 3	361	298	1,635	55,281	15 9 33 16 2	
Totals for Colony in 1896	371	242,283	2,881,152	16 3	11 17 10	167,248	2,591,558	19 4	289,593	16 11	126,407	16 3	32,982	22,007	147,758	4,311,634	13 5 29 3 7	
"	1895	357	217,393	2,794,506	16 0	12 17 1	159,904	2,360,333	6 7	14 16 4	7,000	0 4 45	30,261	22,007	137,683	3,895,543	0 3 28 5 10	
"	1894	348	204,545	2,252,862	6 11	11 0 3	152,130	2,088,624	8 4	14 18 3	6,500	0 4 37	28,669	21,930	129,423	3,340,879	11 4 25 16 3	
"	1893	327	202,276	2,386,089	10 7	11 15 11	136,739	2,122,521	16 8	15 10 5	6,500	0 4 60	19,755	19,599	122,684	3,241,998	7 10 26 8 6	
"	1892	318	186,945	1,878,270	6 4	10 0 11	120,628	1,821,348	18 1	15 2 0	5,500	0 4 29	11,301	16,171	112,528	2,863,670	12 0 25 9 0	
"	1891	311	176,971	1,842,987	15 2	10 8 3	111,603	1,693,515	9 3	15 3 5	5,000	0 4 16	104,098	17,872	104,467	2,095,447	11 6 25 16 0	
"	1890	296	162,938	1,658,543	3 5	10 3 6	106,868	1,500,437	9 5	14 0 9	5,000	0 4 45	92,319	17,256	97,208	2,441,876	8 7 25 2 4	
"	1889	294	153,920	1,515,281	11 3	9 16 10	99,185	1,457,081	5 0	14 13 9	4,000	0 3 79	84,809	17 1	15,521	2,191,451	14 1 24 2 11	
"	1888	290	145,355	1,544,747	7 11	10 12 6	96,204	1,387,471	1 10	14 8 5	4,000	0 3 97	78,080	6 0	21,307	2,048,441	10 9 24 4 11	
"	1887	283	136,197	1,312,151	1 5	9 12 8	89,962	1,182,409	7 6	13 2 10	4,000	0 4 24	67,393	15 3	20,368	1,813,084	18 8 22 14 10	
"	1886	271	137,989	1,248,405	6 11	9 0 11	89,182	1,336,287	6 4	14 19 8	4,000	0 4 23	65,825	9 6	21,671	1,615,979	9 6 21 11 8	
"	1885	256	131,373	1,341,001	3 2	10 4 1	84,832	1,264,305	8 3	14 18 0	4,000	0 4 44	62,228	3 11	20,661	1,638,035	19 5 23 8 4	
"	1884	243	129,279	1,227,909	11 4	9 9 11	80,800	1,193,913	0 11	14 16 0	4,000	0 4 57	57,381	13 7	20,228	1,499,112	0 7 22 16 3	
"	1883	222	127,609	1,178,474	4 1	9 4 8	78,405	1,203,719	18 3	16 10 6	4,000	0 4 56	56,046	17 3	20,386	1,409,751	16 7 22 15 2	
"	1882	207	129,952	1,125,852	2 11	10 4 0	69,308	1,143,599	0 16 9	8 183,253	2 10	4,000	0 4 82	54,909	13 11	21,014	1,470,950	13 6 25 11 5
"	1881	190	125,855	1,189,012	2 7	9 8 11	60,137	902,195	1 8	15 0 1	3,500	0 4 52	42,824	19 0	25,059	1,232,787	16 10 23 7 6	
"	1880	178	81,660	864,441	18 10	10 1	57,446	780,504	13 4	13 11 8	3,500	0 6 04	32,822	12 4	16,137	903,765	16 10 23 7 6	
"	1879	165	71,865	812,399	11 11	6 1	54,698	876,180	19 3	16 0 4	3,000	0 5 69	31,715	18 2	13,401	787,005	19 0 22 12 11	
"	1878	147	69,908	762,084	12 0	10 18 0	42,746	742,053	14 3	17 2 2	2,500	0 5 33	31,664	12 9	15,005	727,295	7 8 29 17 9	
"	1877	138	60,953	681,294	13 2	11 3 6	39,363	667,923	7 16 18	0 10	2,500	0 5 98	29,103	8 5	9,634	677,375	17 8 26 13 7	
"	1876	124	57,295	664,134	12 6	11 1 9	39,486	696,281	7 4	17 12 8	2,500	0 6 20	28,762	4 7	11,255	723,910	17 5 27 14 4	
"	1875	119	56,129	657,953	4 0	11 14 4	36,977	729,759	17 9	19 14 8	2,500	0 6 44	28,762	9	9,472	723,910	17 5 27 14 4	
"	1874	103	52,627	699,249	14 3	13 5 8	29,778	620,155	8 0	20 16 5	2,250	0 6 55	26,935	6	10,346	770,836	18 0 35 9 0	
"	1873	97	39,223	580,542	5 5	14 16 2	21,268	425,908	3 20	0 5	1,800	0 7 14	20,106	16	7,382	664,807	5 10 38 16 1	
"	1872	92	31,681	430,877	0 8	13 12 6	14,773	261,347	16 3	17 13 9	1,556	0 7 03	14,711	10	6,205	490,066	7 0 36 2 5	
"	1871	81	24,642	312,338	18 4	12 13 0	17,254	313,176	7 11 18	3 0	1,351	0 8 23	11,291	10	4,615	357,654	14 6 33 18 1	
"	1870	70	20,489	264,328	5 7	12 18 0	11,934	209,509	13 2	17 1 1	1,264	0 9 36	9,242	3	4,204	295,372	1 7 35 10 3	
"	1869	59	17,133	240,898	5 9	14 1 2	9,292	189,518	4 1	19 8 7	1,186	0 10 77	7,412	8	3,839	231,311	5 7 38 9 1	
"	1868	55	13,014	194,535	11 6	14 18 11	6,365	107,094	17 3	16 16 6	789	0 9 77	4,880	7	3,282	163,518	15 7 38 9 1	
Totals for Colony from 1st Feb. to 31st Dec., 1867	46	6,977	96,372	7 10	13 16 3	1,919	26,415	18 9	69,956	9 1	822	1 10 18	1,241	5	2,520	71,197	14 1 33 0 5	

No. 6.

BALANCE-SHEET of the New Zealand Post Office Account for the Year ended 31st December, 1896.

	Balances on 1st January, 1896.		Transactions.		Balances on 31st December, 1896.	
	Cr.	Dr.	Cr.	Dr.	Cr.	Dr.
MONEY ORDER ACCOUNTS:—	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.
Money orders (General) ..	20,919 9 5	..	979,294 18 7	979,806 10 1	20,407 17 11	..
United Kingdom, &c. ..	5,502 1 7	..	76,994 11 11	70,874 7 2	11,622 6 4	..
United States of America ..	..	30 16 9	6,665 17 7	5,458 2 7	1,176 18 3	..
Canada ..	46 15 1	..	669 10 10	718 3 11	..	1 18 0
Cape Colony ..	..	561 3 1	1,680 0 8	1,391 16 1	..	272 18 6
Ceylon ..	159 10 5	..	170 18 11	283 4 1	47 5 3	..
Hongkong ..	461 10 7	..	1,331 0 2	1,362 3 10	430 6 11	..
India ..	646 15 8	..	1,445 9 8	1,746 5 7	345 19 9	..
New South Wales ..	2,456 11 0	..	28,918 2 3	28,473 19 7	2,900 13 8	..
Queensland ..	2,129 16 10	..	2,351 14 6	4,752 6 10	..	270 15 6
South Australia ..	251 2 6	..	1,688 6 10	1,775 16 5	163 12 11	..
Straits Settlements ..	21 9 0	..	22 17 5	32 13 4	11 13 1	..
Tasmania ..	334 1 6	..	38,385 15 3	37,889 15 4	830 1 5	..
Victoria ..	2,505 14 4	..	30,772 5 7	29,149 19 8	4,128 0 3	..
Western Australia ..	..	1,745 6 11	8,907 5 5	9,049 2 5	..	1,887 3 11
Commission ..	..	411 12 5	1,287 6 6	1,313 6 11	..	437 12 10
SAVINGS-BANK ACCOUNTS:—						
Deposits and withdrawals ..	3,895,543 0 3	..	3,007,650 12 6	2,591,558 19 4	4,311,634 13 5	..
Transfers ..	872 15 6	..	168,143 0 4	167,355 14 3	1,660 1 7	..
TELEGRAPH ACCOUNTS:—						
Receipts ..	175 4 7	..	183,741 3 9	182,867 1 0	1,049 7 4	..
New South Wales ..	2,276 7 11	..	42,375 4 4	42,240 18 6	2,410 13 9	..
New Zealand & Australian Cable ..	658 19 3	..	8,616 2 4	8,719 4 10	555 16 9	..
POSTAL REVENUE ACCOUNTS:—						
Stamps ..	121,885 5 6	..	345,360 10 6½	345,081 1 1½	122,164 14 11	..
Postal Guides ..	3 7 0	..	320 1 0	322 7 0	1 1 0	..
Private box and bag rents ..	..	..	5,384 0 0	5,384 0 0	..	..
Miscellaneous receipts ..	188 15 10	..	1,820 6 1	1,712 8 1	296 13 10	..
Money-order commission ..	..	..	12,734 6 7	12,734 6 7	..	..
Total revenue ..	2,157 13 9	..	223,772 13 7	224,734 11 11½	1,195 15 4½	..
GENERAL ACCOUNTS:—						
Post Office Account ..	..	84,264 17 8	3,284,226 3 3	3,405,473 5 5	..	205,511 19 10
Postmasters and Telegraphists ..	..	243,403 4 1	5,604,598 17 0	5,607,142 10 0½	..	245,946 17 1½
Investments ..	..	3,800,248 7 8	1,293,071 0 0	1,683,400 0 0	..	4,190,577 7 8
Accrued interest on investments ..	..	33,665 8 4	33,665 8 4	33,321 10 7	..	33,321 10 7
Postal notes ..	70,428 12 10	..	126,893 2 6	130,559 3 2	66,762 12 2	..
Maintenance of private wires ..	..	..	776 8 7	776 8 7	..	..
Registration of code addresses ..	..	..	351 10 0	351 10 0	..	..
Telephone exchanges ..	..	..	28,901 11 2	28,901 11 2	..	..
Foreign postage ..	4,909 0 3	..	12,758 3 11	11,163 10 2	6,503 14 0	..
Cable Subsidy Account ..	..	..	2,730 19 5	2,730 19 5	..	..
Miscellaneous expenses ..	..	31,250 4 9	463,565 15 3	415,017 9 4	17,298 1 2	..
General Post Office Fine Fund ..	0 10 0	..	6 0 0	6 0 0	0 10 0	..
FOR OTHER DEPARTMENTS:—						
Advances to settlers ..	5,629 17 9	..	608,943 2 9	597,241 9 6	17,331 11 0	..
Clerks of Court ..	..	..	0 3 0	0 3 0	..	..
County Clerks ..	..	..	152 14 5	152 14 5	..	..
Customs duty (parcels) ..	588 7 6	..	7,693 11 2	7,590 14 5	691 4 3	..
(H.M.C.) ..	102 11 9	..	1,300 11 5	1,297 4 8	105 18 6	..
Factories Act ..	..	..	15 11 0	15 11 0	..	..
Game licenses ..	..	..	1,356 0 0	1,356 0 0	..	..
Goldfields revenue ..	0 3 0	..	..	..	0 3 0	..
Government Insurance ..	1,300 2 5	..	26,626 14 4	25,928 13 7	1,998 3 2	..
Government Printer ..	92 15 4	..	404 16 1	466 7 2	31 4 3	..
Government Audit ..	5 0 0	..	14 10 0	19 10 0	..	..
Gum licenses ..	..	..	7 10 0	7 10 0	..	..
Treasury deposits ..	..	..	7 16 0	7 16 0	..	..
Hospital and charitable aid ..	..	..	7 11 3	7 11 3	..	..
Income-tax ..	57 16 0	..	50,840 19 5	50,855 0 0	43 15 5	..
Industrial schools ..	9 0 0	..	18 0 0	27 0 0	..	..
Land-tax ..	319 13 7	..	200,818 15 6	200,814 0 0	324 9 1	..
Licensing Act ..	..	..	40 0 0	40 0 0	..	..
Live-stock ..	..	..	17,131 2 0	17,131 2 0	..	..
Lunacy ..	1 10 0	..	69 5 0	47 5 0	23 10 0	..
Machinery ..	297 0 0	..	3,594 5 0	3,650 0 0	241 5 0	..
Miners' Guides ..	0 13 6	..	0 4 6	..	0 18 0	..
Mining Act ..	3,247 0 0	..	1,487 13 0	1,594 16 0	3,139 17 0	..
New Zealand consols ..	..	..	7,570 2 0	7,570 2 0	..	..
Official Assignee ..	0 12 6	..	..	..	0 12 6	..
Native schools ..	..	..	1 1 8	1 1 8	..	..
Geraldine County Council ..	..	..	477 6 4	477 6 4	..	..
Receiver-General's Deposit A/c ..	3 0 0	..	5 0 0	8 0 0	..	..
Property-tax ..	..	..	2 0 0	2 0 0	..	..
Public baths ..	20 2 4	..	266 4 3	262 12 11	23 13 8	..
Public Trust ..	1,907 17 8	..	205,731 11 8	202,664 7 0	4,975 2 4	..
Railways ..	844 4 0	..	12,343 15 10	11,690 12 6	1,497 7 4	..
Registration of births, &c. ..	147 5 0	..	2,029 12 0	1,980 6 6	196 10 6	..
Rents ..	1 12 6	..	158 1 0	146 3 6	13 10 0	..
Totalisator-tax ..	..	..	6 0 4	6 0 4	..	..
Alcoholic Liquors Act ..	2 1 0	..	56 1 0	58 2 0	..	..
Auctioneers' license-fees ..	..	..	29 10 0	29 10 0	..	..
Education Department ..	..	..	1 0 0	1 0 0	..	..
Fishing licenses ..	..	..	35 0 0	32 0 0	3 0 0	..
Profit and loss ..	46,468 5 3	..	201,682 17 3	174,163 4 7	73,987 17 11	..
Totals ..	4,195,581 1 8	4,195,581 1 8	17,382,975 1 8½	17,382,975 1 8½	4,678,228 3 11½	4,678,228 3 11½

No. 7.

SECURITIES, &c., standing in the Name of the Postmaster-General on Account of the Post-Office Savings-Bank Fund on the 31st December, 1896.

Description of Securities, &c.	Nominal Value.			Value at Cost Price.			Accrued Interest on 31st December, 1896.		
	£	s.	d.	£	s.	d.	£	s.	d.
"Aid to Public Works and Land Settlement Act 1896" Debentures, $8\frac{1}{2}$ per cent.	250,000	0	0	250,000	0	0	2,205	9	4
Consolidated Loan 1867 Debentures, 4 per cent.	13,000	0	0	12,480	0	0	109	13	11
"Consolidated Stock Act 1884" Debentures, $4\frac{1}{2}$ per cent. ..	1,024,813	0	0	1,024,813	0	0	4,169	7	9
"Consolidated Stock Act 1884" Debentures, 4 per cent. ..	93,900	0	0	93,900	0	0	339	11	7
"Consolidated Stock Act 1884 Debentures, $3\frac{1}{2}$ per cent. ..	433,800	0	0	433,800	0	0	1,365	10	3
Defence Loan 1870 Debentures, 4 per cent.	75,000	0	0	72,000	0	0	632	17	6
Defence Loan 1870 Debentures, $4\frac{1}{2}$ per cent.	8,100	0	0	8,100	0	0	..		
District Railways Purchasing Act Debentures, 4 per cent. ..	42,000	0	0	36,076	17	8	418	17	0
District Railways Purchasing Act Scrip, 4 per cent.	34,100	0	0	34,100	0	0	340	1	3
General Purposes Loan 1873 Debentures, 4 per cent. ..	5,200	0	0	4,342	0	0	43	17	7
"Government Loans to Local Bodies Act 1886" Debentures, $3\frac{1}{2}$ per cent.	71,000	0	0	71,000	0	0	346	5	2
Greymouth Harbour Board Debentures, 5 per cent.	100,000	0	0	100,000	0	0	2,500	0	0
Hamilton Borough Debentures, $5\frac{1}{2}$ per cent.	3,000	0	0	3,000	0	0	68	14	3
Hokitika Harbour Board Debentures, 5 per cent.	10,000	0	0	10,000	0	0	*1,068	9	10
"Immigration and Public Works Loan Act 1870" Debentures, $\frac{1}{2}$ per cent.	174,200	0	0	167,272	0	0	1,469	19	2
"Immigration and Public Works Loan Act 1870" Debentures, $4\frac{1}{2}$ per cent.	20,900	0	0	20,527	10	0	198	8	2
Imperial Guaranteed Immigration and Public Works Loan 1870 Debentures, 4 per cent.	400,000	0	0	400,000	0	0	1,315	1	4
Land for Settlements Acts, 1892 and 1894, Debentures, 4 per cent.	129,100	0	0	129,100	0	0	863	0	4
"Land for Settlements Act 1894 Debentures," $3\frac{1}{2}$ per cent. ..	30,000	0	0	30,000	0	0	33	1	7
"Land for Settlements Act 1892" Debentures, $4\frac{1}{2}$ per cent. ..	53,966	0	0	53,966	0	0	405	17	0
"Lands Improvement and Native Lands Acquisition Act 1894" Debentures, 4 per cent.	264,000	0	0	264,000	0	0	2,661	14	0
"Lands Improvement and Native Lands Acquisition Act 1894" Debentures, $3\frac{1}{2}$ per cent.	25,000	0	0	25,000	0	0	115	1	4
"Native Land Purchases Act 1892" Debentures, $4\frac{1}{2}$ per cent. ..	125,000	0	0	125,000	0	0	940	1	4
North Rakaia River Board Debentures, 5 per cent.	2,000	0	0	2,000	0	0	41	12	10
Oamaru Borough Consolidated Loan 1893 Debentures, 5 per cent.	13,800	0	0	13,800	0	0	345	0	0
Oamaru Harbour Bonds, $5\frac{1}{2}$ per cent.	32,000	0	0	32,000	0	0	737	15	1
Oamaru Harbour Advances 1887, 5 per cent.	30,000	0	0	30,000	0	0	628	15	4
Patea Harbour Board Debentures, $4\frac{1}{2}$ per cent.	10,000	0	0	10,000	0	0	225	0	0
Thames Borough Debentures, 6 per cent.	6,500	0	0	6,500	0	0	190	3	10
Thames Harbour Board Debentures, 5 per cent.	10,000	0	0	10,000	0	0	250	0	0
Treasury Bills, $3\frac{1}{2}$ per cent.	367,600	0	0	367,600	0	0	..		
Westport Harbour Board Debentures, $4\frac{1}{2}$ per cent.	11,000	0	0	11,000	0	0	23	15	10
Westport Harbour Board Debentures, 5 per cent.	339,200	0	0	339,200	0	0	8,480	0	0
Accrued Interest on Post Office Account	..			..			788	8	0
Totals	4,208,179	0	0	4,190,577	7	8	33,321	10	7

* Includes four half-yearly interest-payments of £250; due on 11th May and 11th November, 1895 and 1896.

Table No. 8.
POST-OFFICE SAVINGS-BANKS.

BALANCE-SHEET for the Year ended 31st December, 1896.

<i>Dr.</i>			<i>Cr.</i>		
	£	s. d.		£	s. d.
Balance to credit of depositors, 1st January, 1896	3,895,548	0 3	Withdrawals during the year	2,591,558	19 4
Deposits during the year	2,881,152	16 3	Balance to credit of depositors, 31st December, 1896	4,311,684	13 5
Interest credited depositors	126,497	16 3			
	<u>£6,903,193</u>	<u>12 9</u>		<u>£6,903,193</u>	<u>12 9</u>
<i>Dr.</i>			<i>Cr.</i>		
	£	s. d.		£	s. d.
Balance to credit of depositors, 31st December, 1896	4,311,684	13 5	Securities (<i>vide</i> Table No. 7)	4,190,577	7 8
	<u>£4,311,684</u>	<u>13 5</u>	Cash in Post Office Account on 31st December, 1896	121,057	5 9
				<u>£4,311,684</u>	<u>13 5</u>
<i>Dr.</i>			<i>Cr.</i>		
	£	s. d.		£	s. d.
Balance forward, 1st January, 1896	46,468	5 3	Interest credited to depositors	126,497	16 3
Interest received	£168,361	6 8	1895 accrued interest written off	33,665	8 4
Interest accrued on 31st December, 1896	33,321	10 7	Paid Public Account, for expenses of management	7,000	0 0
	<u>201,682</u>	<u>17 3</u>	Savings-bank profits carried to revenue	7,000	0 0
	<u>£248,151</u>	<u>2 6</u>	Balance to next account	73,987	17 11
				<u>£248,151</u>	<u>2 6</u>

Table No. 9.

RETURN showing the Total Number of Post-Office Savings-Bank Accounts open on the 31st December, 1895, with Classified Balances, and the Number open at the end of 1896.

Postal District.	Not exceeding £20.	Exceeding £20 and up to £50.	Exceeding £50 and up to £100.	Exceeding £100 and up to £200.	Exceeding £200 and up to £300.	Exceeding £300 and up to £400.	Exceeding £400 and up to £500.	Exceeding £500.	Total.
Auckland	13,894	2,061	1,279	1,271	512	136	93	95	19,341
Blenheim	2,452	258	172	130	64	20	15	9	3,120
Christchurch	20,880	3,189	1,924	2,564	559	203	143	91	29,553
Dunedin	15,500	2,450	1,478	1,299	505	129	88	75	21,524
Gisborne	1,389	190	94	73	25	9	4	6	1,790
Greymouth	1,856	241	190	181	72	22	13	9	2,584
Hokitika	824	155	108	129	68	22	8	18	1,332
Invercargill	4,177	760	447	391	127	19	17	16	5,954
Napier	5,206	704	462	382	136	41	19	11	6,961
Nelson	3,236	428	301	279	118	36	29	20	4,417
New Plymouth	2,747	384	214	171	55	20	8	2	3,601
Oamaru	1,761	309	208	200	59	21	10	7	2,575
Thames	3,642	602	328	273	96	34	17	27	5,019
Timaru	3,064	505	299	288	113	19	17	25	4,330
Wanganui	5,653	670	401	310	114	32	26	30	7,236
Wellington	20,814	2,487	1,444	1,195	461	173	102	80	26,756
Westport	1,154	176	119	109	54	12	6	5	1,635
Totals, 1896	108,249	15,569	9,468	9,245	3,138	948	615	526	147,758
Totals, 1895	101,337	14,417	8,988	8,399	2,772	810	520	440	137,683

Table No. 10.—SAN FRANCISCO MAIL-SERVICE.

STATEMENT showing the Number of Days occupied in the Delivery of Mails between London and the under-mentioned Places by the San Francisco Mail-service.

FROM LONDON VIA SAN FRANCISCO.

AUCKLAND.				WELLINGTON.				DUNEDIN.				SYDNEY.				MELBOURNE.			
Date of Despatch from London.	Date of Arrival in Auckland.	No. of Days.		Date of Despatch from London.	Date of Arrival in Wellington.	No. of Days.		Date of Despatch from London.	Date of Arrival in Dunedin.	No. of Days.		Date of Despatch from London.	Date of Arrival in Sydney.	No. of Days.		Date of Despatch from London.	Date of Arrival in Melbourne.	No. of Days.	
1896.	1896.			1896.	1896.			1896.	1896.			1896.	1896.			1896.	1896.		
January 25	February 28	34		January 25	March 1	36		January 25	March 2	37		January 25	March 3	38		January 25	March 4	39	
February 22	March 29	36		February 22	March 30	37		February 22	March 31	38		February 22	April 2	40		February 22	April 3	41	
March 21	April 25	35		March 21	April 27	37		March 21	April 28	38		March 21	April 29	39		March 21	April 30	40	
April 18	May 20	32		April 18	May 22	34		April 18	May 23	35		April 18	May 25	37		April 18	May 26	38	
May 16	June 19	34		May 16	June 21	36		May 16	June 22	37		May 16	June 24	39		May 16	June 25	40	
June 13	July 18	35		June 13	July 20	37		June 13	July 21	38		June 13	July 23	40		June 13	July 24	41	
July 11	August 14	34		July 11	August 16	36		July 11	August 17	37		July 11	August 19	39		July 11	August 20	40	
August 8	September 11	34		August 8	September 13	36		August 8	September 14	37		August 8	September 16	39		August 8	September 17	40	
September 5	October 8	33		September 5	October 9	34		September 5	October 11	36		September 5	October 12	37		September 5	October 13	38	
October 3	November 5	33		October 3	November 6	34		October 3	November 8	36		October 3	November 9	37		October 3	November 10	38	
November 31	December 4	34		November 31	December 5	35		November 31	December 7	37		November 31	December 9	39		November 31	December 10	40	
December 28	December 31	33		December 28	January 2	35		December 28	January 3	36		December 28	January 4	37		December 28	January 5	38	
1897.	1897.			1897.	1897.			1897.	1897.			1897.	1897.			1897.	1897.		
February 3	February 5	39		February 3	February 5	41		February 3	February 6	42		February 3	February 8	44		February 3	February 10	46	
December 26	February 3	39		December 26	February 5	41		December 26	February 6	42		December 26	February 8	44		December 26	February 10	46	
Maximum	...	39		Maximum	...	41		Maximum	...	42		Maximum	...	44		Maximum	...	46	
Minimum	...	32		Minimum	...	34		Minimum	...	35		Minimum	...	37		Minimum	...	38	
Average	...	34.31		Average	...	36.00		Average	...	37.23		Average	...	38.85		Average	...	39.92	

TO LONDON VIA SAN FRANCISCO.

MELBOURNE.				SYDNEY.				DUNEDIN.				WELLINGTON.				AUCKLAND.			
Date of Despatch from Melbourne.	Date of Arrival in London.	No. of Days.		Date of Despatch from Sydney.	Date of Arrival in London.	No. of Days.		Date of Despatch from Dunedin.	Date of Arrival in London.	No. of Days.		Date of Despatch from Wellington.	Date of Arrival in London.	No. of Days.		Date of Despatch from Auckland.	Date of Arrival in London.	No. of Days.	
1896.	1896.			1896.	1896.			1896.	1896.			1896.	1896.			1896.	1896.		
January 18	February 29	42		January 20	February 29	40		January 22	February 29	38		January 23	February 29	37		January 25	February 29	35	
February 15	March 25	39		February 17	March 25	37		February 19	March 25	35		February 20	March 25	34		February 22	March 25	32	
March 14	April 22	39		March 16	April 22	37		March 18	April 22	35		March 19	April 22	34		March 21	April 22	32	
April 11	May 21	40		April 13	May 21	38		April 15	May 21	36		April 16	May 21	35		April 18	May 21	33	
May 9	June 17	39		May 11	June 17	37		May 13	June 17	35		May 15	June 17	33		May 16	June 17	31	
June 6	July 15	39		June 8	July 15	37		June 10	July 15	35		June 11	July 15	34		June 13	July 15	32	
July 4	August 13	40		July 6	August 13	38		July 8	August 13	36		July 9	August 13	35		July 11	August 13	33	
August 1	September 9	39		August 3	September 9	37		August 5	September 9	35		August 6	September 9	34		August 8	September 9	32	
September 29	October 7	39		August 31	October 7	37		September 2	October 7	35		September 3	October 7	34		September 5	October 7	32	
October 26	November 5	40		September 28	November 5	38		September 30	November 5	36		October 1	November 5	35		October 3	November 5	33	
November 24	December 2	39		October 26	December 2	37		October 28	December 2	35		October 29	December 2	34		October 31	December 2	32	
December 21	December 30	39		November 23	December 30	37		November 25	December 30	35		November 26	December 30	34		November 28	December 30	32	
1897.	1897.			December 21	1897.			December 25	1897.			December 26	1897.			December 28	1897.		
January 19	January 28	40		December 21	January 28	38		December 23	January 28	36		December 24	January 28	35		December 26	January 28	33	
Maximum	...	42		...	...	40		...	...	38		...	...	37		...	...	35	
Minimum	...	39		...	...	37		...	...	35		...	...	33		...	...	32	
Average	...	39.54		...	...	37.54		...	...	35.54		...	...	34.06		...	...	32.54	

Table No. 11.—PENINSULAR AND ORIENTAL MAIL-SERVICE.

STATEMENT showing the Number of Days occupied in the Delivery of Mails between London and the under-mentioned Places by the Packets of the Peninsular and Oriental Lines.

FROM LONDON *via* BRINDISI (P. AND O. PACKETS).

MELBOURNE.			SYDNEY.			BLUFF.			CHRISTCHURCH.			WELLINGTON.			AUCKLAND.		
Date of Despatch from London.	Date of Arrival in Melbourne.	No. of Days.	Date of Despatch from London.	Date of Arrival in Sydney.	No. of Days.	Date of Despatch from London.	Date of Arrival at Bluff.	No. of Days.	Date of Despatch from London.	Date of Arrival in Christchurch.	No. of Days.	Date of Despatch from London.	Date of Arrival in Wellington.	No. of Days.	Date of Despatch from London.	Date of Arrival in Auckland.	No. of Days.
1896.	1896.		1896.	1896.		1896.	1896.		1896.	1896.		1896.	1896.		1896.	1896.	
Jan. 10	Feb. 13	34	Jan. 10	Feb. 14	35	Jan. 10	Feb. 22	43	Jan. 10	Feb. 21	42	Jan. 10	Feb. 20	41	Jan. 10	Feb. 21	42
Jan. 24	Feb. 27	34	Jan. 24	Feb. 28	35	Jan. 24	March 7	43	Jan. 24	March 5	41	Jan. 24	March 4	40	Jan. 24	March 7	43
Feb. 7	March 13	35	Feb. 7	March 14	36	Feb. 7	March 21	43	Feb. 7	March 20	42	Feb. 7	March 19	41	Feb. 7	March 20	42
Feb. 21	March 23	31	Feb. 21	March 24	32	Feb. 21	April 2	41	Feb. 21	March 31	39	Feb. 21	March 31	39	Feb. 21	March 30	38
March 6	April 7	32	March 6	April 8	33	March 6	April 16	41	March 6	April 15	40	March 6	April 14	39	March 6	April 13	38
March 20	April 21	32	March 20	April 22	33	March 20	April 30	41	March 20	April 29	40	March 20	April 28	39	March 20	April 27	38
April 3	May 5	32	April 3	May 6	33	April 3	May 14	41	April 3	May 12	39	April 3	May 11	38	April 3	May 11	38
April 17	May 21	34	April 17	May 22	35	April 17	June 2	46	April 17	June 4	48	April 17	June 2	46	April 17	June 2	46
May 1	June 4	34	May 1	June 5	35	May 1	June 11	41	May 1	June 10	40	May 1	June 11	41	May 1	June 12	42
May 15	June 16	32	May 15	June 17	33	May 15	June 25	41	May 15	June 26	42	May 15	June 24	40	May 15	June 22	38
May 29	July 4	36	May 29	July 5	37	May 29	July 13	45	May 29	July 14	46	May 29	July 14	46	May 29	July 11	43
June 12	July 14	32	June 12	July 15	33	June 12	July 24	42	June 12	July 23	41	June 12	July 22	40	June 12	July 20	38
June 26	July 28	32	June 26	July 29	33	June 26	August 4	39	June 26	August 6	41	June 26	August 5	40	June 26	August 3	38
July 10	August 11	32	July 10	August 12	33	July 10	August 24	45	July 10	August 22	43	July 10	August 20	41	July 10	August 17	38
July 24	August 25	32	July 24	August 26	33	July 24	Sept. 3	41	July 24	Sept. 3	41	July 24	Sept. 2	40	July 24	Sept. 1	39
August 7	Sept. 10	34	August 7	Sept. 11	35	August 7	Sept. 21	45	August 7	Sept. 19	43	August 7	Sept. 18	42	August 7	Sept. 19	43
August 21	Sept. 24	34	August 21	Sept. 25	35	August 21	October 6	46	August 21	October 3	43	August 21	October 4	44	August 21	October 2	42
Sept. 4	October 7	33	Sept. 4	October 8	34	Sept. 4	October 16	42	Sept. 4	October 17	43	Sept. 4	October 18	44	Sept. 4	October 20	46
Sept. 18	October 20	32	Sept. 18	October 21	33	Sept. 18	October 27	39	Sept. 18	October 28	40	Sept. 18	October 27	39	Sept. 18	October 26	38
Oct. 2	Nov. 7	36	Oct. 2	Nov. 8	37	Oct. 2	Nov. 17	46	Oct. 2	Nov. 18	47	Oct. 2	Nov. 17	46	Oct. 2	Nov. 18	47
Oct. 16	Nov. 16	31	Oct. 16	Nov. 17	32	Oct. 16	Nov. 24	39	Oct. 16	Nov. 25	40	Oct. 16	Nov. 25	40	Oct. 16	Nov. 23	38
Oct. 30	Dec. 3	34	Oct. 30	Dec. 4	35	Oct. 30	Dec. 12	43	Oct. 30	Dec. 11	42	Oct. 30	Dec. 9	40	Oct. 30	Dec. 12	43
Nov. 13	Dec. 14	31	Nov. 13	Dec. 15	32	Nov. 13	Dec. 21	38	Nov. 13	Dec. 23	40	Nov. 13	Dec. 23	40	Nov. 13	Dec. 21	38
Nov. 27	Dec. 29	32	Nov. 27	Dec. 30	33	Nov. 27	1897.		Nov. 27	1897.		Nov. 27	1897.		Nov. 27	1897.	
Dec. 11	1897.		Dec. 11	1897.		Dec. 11	Jan. 5	39	Dec. 11	Jan. 7	41	Dec. 11	Jan. 5	39	Dec. 11	Jan. 4	38
Dec. 25	1897.		Dec. 25	1897.		Dec. 25	Jan. 23	43	Dec. 25	Jan. 22	42	Dec. 25	Jan. 20	40	Dec. 25	Jan. 22	42
							Feb. 2	39		Feb. 3	40		Feb. 3	40		Feb. 1	38
Maximum	...	36	...	...	37	...	...	46	...	...	48	...	...	46	...	...	47
Minimum	...	30	...	...	32	...	...	38	...	...	39	...	...	38	...	...	40
Average	...	32'92	...	...	33'92	...	...	42'00	...	...	41'96	...	...	40'96	...	...	40'54

Table No. 11.—PENINSULAR AND ORIENTAL MAIL-SERVICE—continued.

STATEMENT showing the Number of Days occupied in the Delivery of Mails between London and the under-mentioned Places by the Packets of the Peninsular and Oriental Line—continued.

TO LONDON VIA BRINDISI (P. AND O. PACKETS).														
AUCKLAND.			WELLINGTON.			BLUFF.			SYDNEY.			MELBOURNE.		
Date of Despatch from Auckland.	Date of Arrival in London.	No. of Days.	Date of Despatch from Wellington.	Date of Arrival in London.	No. of Days.	Date of Despatch from Bluff.	Date of Arrival in London.	No. of Days.	Date of Despatch from Sydney.	Date of Arrival in London.	No. of Days.	Date of Despatch from Melbourne.	Date of Arrival in London.	No. of Days.
1896.	1896.		1896.	1896.		1896.	1896.		1896.	1896.		1896.	1896.	
January 8	February 17	40	January 2	February 17	46	January 7	February 17	41	January 13	February 17	35	January 14	February 17	34
January 21	February 29	39	January 18	February 29	42	January 21	February 29	39	January 27	February 29	33	January 28	February 29	32
February 4	March 15	40	February 15	March 29	43	February 4	March 15	40	February 10	March 15	34	February 11	March 15	33
February 17	March 29	41	February 28	April 13	45	February 18	March 29	40	February 24	March 29	34	February 25	March 29	33
February 28	April 13	45	February 28	April 13	45	March 3	April 13	41	March 9	April 13	35	March 10	April 13	34
March 18	April 26	39	March 17	April 26	40	March 17	April 26	40	March 23	April 26	34	March 24	April 26	33
March 31	May 11	41	March 28	May 11	44	March 26	May 11	46	April 6	May 11	35	April 7	May 11	34
April 15	May 24	39	March 28	May 11	44	April 16	May 24	38	April 20	May 24	34	April 21	May 24	33
April 28	June 6	39	April 28	June 6	39	April 28	June 6	39	May 4	June 6	33	May 5	June 6	32
May 13	June 21	39	May 7	June 21	45	May 7	June 21	45	May 18	June 21	34	May 19	June 21	33
May 27	July 7	41	May 27	July 7	41	May 26	July 7	42	June 1	July 7	36	June 2	July 7	35
June 9	July 20	41	June 8	July 20	42	June 8	July 20	42	June 15	July 20	35	June 16	July 20	34
June 23	August 4	42	June 23	August 4	42	June 18	August 4	47	June 29	August 4	36	June 30	August 4	35
July 7	August 18	42	July 8	August 18	41	July 7	August 18	42	July 13	August 18	36	July 14	August 18	35
July 22	August 31	40	July 22	August 31	40	July 21	August 31	41	July 27	August 31	35	July 28	August 31	34
August 4	Sept. 12	39	August 4	Sept. 12	39	August 4	Sept. 12	40	August 10	Sept. 12	33	August 11	Sept. 12	32
Sept. 15	Oct. 10	38	August 19	Sept. 27	39	August 18	Sept. 10	42	August 24	Sept. 27	34	August 25	Sept. 27	33
Sept. 29	October 25	40	August 19	Sept. 27	39	August 29	October 10	42	Sept. 7	October 25	33	Sept. 8	October 25	32
October 13	November 9	41	Sept. 28	November 9	42	October 1	November 9	39	Sept. 21	October 25	34	Sept. 22	October 25	33
October 27	November 22	40	October 10	November 22	43	October 10	November 22	43	October 19	November 22	35	October 20	November 22	34
November 10	December 7	41	October 10	November 22	43	October 29	December 7	40	November 5	December 7	35	November 6	December 7	34
November 23	December 20	40	October 10	November 22	43	November 10	December 20	40	November 16	December 20	34	November 17	December 20	33
December 8	1897. January 3	41	November 21	1897. January 3	43	November 24	1897. January 3	40	November 30	1897. January 3	34	December 1	1897. January 3	33
December 22	January 31	40	December 5	January 31	43	December 8	January 31	40	December 14	January 31	34	December 15	January 31	33
			December 18	January 31	44	December 21	January 31	41	December 28	January 31	34	December 29	January 31	33
Maximum	..	45	Maximum	..	46	Maximum	..	47	Maximum	..	36	Maximum	..	35
Minimum	..	38	Minimum	..	39	Minimum	..	38	Minimum	..	33	Minimum	..	32
Average	..	40.32	Average	..	42.63	Average	..	41.33	Average	..	34.35	Average	..	33.35

Table No. 12.—ORIENT MAIL-SERVICE.

STATEMENT showing the Number of Days occupied in the Delivery of Mails between London and the under-mentioned Places by the Packets of the Orient Line.

FROM LONDON VIA NAPLES (ORIENT PACKETS).

MELBOURNE.			SYDNEY.			BLUFF.			CHRISTCHURCH.			WELLINGTON.			AUCKLAND.		
Date of Despatch from London.	Date of Arrival in Melbourne.	No. of Days.	Date of Despatch from London.	Date of Arrival in Sydney.	No. of Days.	Date of Despatch from London.	Date of Arrival at Bluff.	No. of Days.	Date of Despatch from London.	Date of Arrival in Christchurch.	No. of Days.	Date of Despatch from London.	Date of Arrival in Wellington.	No. of Days.	Date of Despatch from London.	Date of Arrival in Auckland.	No. of Days.
1896.	1896.		1896.	1896.		1896.	1896.		1896.	1896.		1896.	1896.		1896.	1896.	
Jan. 3	Feb. 5	33	Jan. 3	Feb. 6	34	Jan. 3	Feb. 11	39	Jan. 3	Feb. 12	40	Jan. 3	Feb. 11	39	Jan. 3	Feb. 14	42
Jan. 17	Feb. 19	33	Jan. 17	Feb. 20	34	Jan. 17	Feb. 25	39	Jan. 17	Feb. 27	41	Jan. 17	Feb. 27	41	Jan. 17	Feb. 29	43
Jan. 31	March 4	33	Jan. 31	March 5	34	Jan. 31	March 11	40	Jan. 31	March 12	41	Jan. 31	March 11	40	Jan. 31	March 14	43
Feb. 14	March 19	34	Feb. 14	March 20	35	Feb. 14	April 2	48	Feb. 14	April 3	49	Feb. 14	April 1	47	Feb. 14	March 30	45
Feb. 28	April 2	34	Feb. 28	March 3	35	Feb. 28	April 9	41	Feb. 28	April 10	42	Feb. 28	April 8	40	Feb. 28	April 11	43
March 13	April 15	33	March 13	April 16	34	March 13	April 25	43	March 13	April 24	42	March 13	April 22	40	March 13	April 23	41
March 27	April 30	34	March 27	May 1	35	March 27	May 14	48	March 27	May 12	46	March 27	May 11	45	March 27	May 11	45
April 10	May 13	33	April 10	May 14	34	April 10	May 21	41	April 10	May 32	42	April 10	May 21	41	April 10	May 20	40
April 24	May 26	32	April 24	May 27	33	April 24	June 2	39	April 24	June 4	41	April 24	June 2	39	April 24	June 2	39
May 8	June 9	32	May 8	June 10	33	May 8	June 22	45	May 8	June 20	43	May 8	June 19	42	May 8	June 16	39
May 22	June 24	33	May 22	June 25	34	May 22	July 3	42	May 22	July 3	42	May 22	July 1	40	May 22	July 4	43
June 5	July 8	33	June 5	July 9	34	June 5	July 20	45	June 5	July 17	42	June 5	July 16	41	June 5	July 14	39
June 19	July 22	33	June 19	July 23	34	June 19	August 4	46	June 19	August 6	48	June 19	August 5	47	June 19	August 3	45
July 3	August 5	33	July 3	August 6	34	July 3	August 14	42	July 3	August 13	41	July 3	August 12	40	July 3	August 11	39
July 17	August 19	33	July 17	August 19	33	July 17	August 31	45	July 17	Sept. 1	46	July 17	Sept. 1	46	July 17	August 28	42
July 31	Sept. 3	34	July 31	Sept. 4	35	July 31	Sept. 15	46	July 31	Sept. 16	47	July 31	Sept. 18	49	July 31	Sept. 14	45
August 14	Sept. 19	36	August 14	Sept. 21	38	August 14	Sept. 24	41	August 14	Sept. 25	42	August 14	Sept. 29	46	August 14	Sept. 28	45
August 28	Sept. 30	33	August 28	October 1	34	August 28	October 6	39	August 28	October 7	40	August 28	October 9	42	August 28	October 12	45
Sept. 11	October 14	33	Sept. 11	October 15	34	Sept. 11	October 26	45	Sept. 11	October 24	43	Sept. 11	October 23	42	Sept. 11	October 22	41
Sept. 25	October 28	33	Sept. 25	October 29	34	Sept. 25	Nov. 5	41	Sept. 25	Nov. 5	41	Sept. 25	Nov. 4	40	Sept. 25	Nov. 7	43
October 9	Nov. 11	33	October 9	Nov. 12	34	October 9	Nov. 17	39	October 9	Nov. 18	40	October 9	Nov. 17	39	October 9	Nov. 18	40
October 23	Nov. 25	33	October 23	Nov. 26	34	October 23	Nov. 30	38	October 23	Dec. 2	40	October 23	Dec. 3	41	October 23	Dec. 1	39
Nov. 6	Dec. 10	34	Nov. 6	Dec. 11	35	Nov. 6	Dec. 15	39	Nov. 6	Dec. 16	40	Nov. 6	Dec. 16	40	Nov. 6	Dec. 19	43
Nov. 20	Dec. 23	33	Nov. 20	Dec. 24	34	Nov. 20	Dec. 31	41	Nov. 20	Dec. 29	39	Nov. 20	Dec. 28	38	Nov. 20	Dec. 30	40
Dec. 4	1897.		Dec. 4	1897.		Dec. 4	1897.		Dec. 4	1897.		Dec. 4	1897.		Dec. 4	1897.	
Dec. 18	Jan. 7	34	Dec. 18	Jan. 8	35	Dec. 18	Jan. 18	45	Dec. 18	Jan. 16	43	Dec. 18	Jan. 14	41	Dec. 18	Jan. 16	43
	Jan. 21	34		Jan. 22	35		Jan. 27	40		Jan. 28	41		Jan. 28	41		Feb. 1	45
Maximum	...	36	...	...	38	...	...	48	...	...	49	...	...	49	...	...	45
Minimum	...	32	...	...	33	...	...	38	...	...	39	...	...	38	...	...	39
Average	...	33.1	...	...	34.1	...	...	42.19	...	...	42.38	...	...	41.81	...	...	42.19

Table No. 12.—ORIENT MAIL-SERVICE—continued.

STATEMENT showing the Number of Days occupied in the Delivery of Mails between London and the under-mentioned Places by the Packets of the Orient Line—continued.

TO LONDON VIA NAPLES (ORIENT PACKETS).

AUCKLAND.				WELLINGTON.				BLUFF.				SYDNEY.				MELBOURNE.			
Date of Despatch from Auckland.	Date of Arrival in London.	No. of Days.	Date of Despatch from Wellington.	Date of Arrival in London.	No. of Days.	Date of Despatch from Bluff.	Date of Arrival in London.	No. of Days.	Date of Despatch from Sydney.	Date of Arrival in London.	No. of Days.	Date of Despatch from Melbourne.	Date of Arrival in London.	No. of Days.	Date of Despatch from Melbourne.	Date of Arrival in London.	No. of Days.	Date of Despatch from Melbourne.	Date of Arrival in London.
1896. January 13	1896. February 24	42	1896. January 30	1896. March 7	37	1896. January 14	1896. February 24	41	1896. January 20	1896. February 24	35	1896. January 21	1896. February 24	34	1896. January 21	1896. February 24	34	1896. January 21	1896. February 24
January 28	March 7	39	February 8	March 21	42	January 28	March 7	39	February 17	March 21	33	February 4	March 21	32	February 4	March 21	32	February 4	March 21
February 10	April 3	40	February 22	April 19	41	February 11	April 3	41	March 3	April 19	38	March 18	April 3	31	March 18	April 3	31	March 18	April 3
February 24	April 19	39	March 7	April 19	43	March 25	April 19	40	March 16	April 19	34	March 3	April 19	33	March 3	April 19	33	March 3	April 19
March 9	April 19	41	March 21	April 19	43	March 10	April 19	40	March 30	April 19	34	March 17	April 19	33	March 17	April 19	33	March 17	April 19
March 23	May 2	40	April 7	May 16	39	April 4	May 16	42	April 13	May 16	33	April 18	May 16	32	April 18	May 16	32	April 18	May 16
April 7	May 31	41	April 16	May 31	45	April 18	May 31	45	April 27	May 31	34	April 28	May 31	33	April 28	May 31	33	April 28	May 31
May 20	June 13	40	May 19	June 13	47	May 18	June 13	48	May 11	June 13	41	May 12	June 13	40	May 12	June 13	40	May 12	June 13
May 4	June 13	45	May 19	June 13	47	May 18	June 13	48	May 25	June 13	41	May 26	June 13	39	May 26	June 13	39	May 26	June 13
May 21	July 12	41	June 17	July 12	39	June 26	July 12	45	June 22	July 12	34	June 9	July 12	33	June 9	July 12	33	June 9	July 12
June 15	July 26	41	June 30	August 10	41	June 26	August 10	45	July 6	August 10	34	June 23	August 10	33	June 23	August 10	33	June 23	August 10
June 29	August 23	40	July 17	August 10	41	June 26	August 10	45	July 22	August 10	34	July 7	August 10	33	July 7	August 10	33	July 7	August 10
July 14	August 23	39	July 30	September 6	38	July 26	September 6	40	July 20	August 23	34	July 21	August 23	33	July 21	August 23	33	July 21	August 23
July 29	September 6	39	August 8	September 6	43	July 26	September 6	40	August 3	September 6	34	August 4	September 6	33	August 4	September 6	33	August 4	September 6
August 11	September 20	40	August 19	September 20	43	August 8	September 20	43	August 17	September 20	34	August 18	September 20	33	August 18	September 20	33	August 18	September 20
August 24	October 4	41	September 8	October 4	38	September 8	October 4	38	August 31	October 4	34	September 1	October 4	33	September 1	October 4	33	September 1	October 4
September 8	October 17	39	September 19	October 17	45	September 18	October 17	39	September 14	October 17	33	September 15	October 17	32	September 15	October 17	32	September 15	October 17
September 21	November 3	43	September 21	November 3	37	September 18	November 3	46	September 28	November 3	36	September 29	November 3	35	September 29	November 3	35	September 29	November 3
October 5	November 17	39	October 21	November 17	40	October 21	November 17	37	October 14	November 17	33	October 13	November 17	31	October 13	November 17	31	October 13	November 17
October 19	November 27	37	October 21	November 27	40	October 21	November 27	37	October 26	November 27	33	October 27	November 27	32	October 27	November 27	32	October 27	November 27
November 5	December 12	40	November 13	December 12	43	November 17	December 12	39	November 9	December 12	33	November 10	December 12	32	November 10	December 12	32	November 10	December 12
November 16	December 26	40	November 28	December 26	42	November 17	December 26	40	November 23	December 26	33	November 24	December 26	32	November 24	December 26	32	November 24	December 26
November 30	January 9	40	November 28	January 9	42	December 1	January 9	39	December 7	January 9	33	December 8	January 9	32	December 8	January 9	32	December 8	January 9
December 14	January 24	41	December 11	January 24	44	December 15	January 24	40	December 21	January 24	34	December 22	January 24	33	December 22	January 24	33	December 22	January 24
December 28	February 7	41	December 26	February 7	43	December 29	February 7	40	January 4	February 7	34	January 5	February 7	33	January 5	February 7	33	January 5	February 7
Maximum	..	45	..	..	47	..	..	48	..	..	41	..	..	40	..	..	40	..	..
Minimum	..	37	..	..	37	..	..	37	..	..	34	..	..	31	..	..	31	..	..
Average	..	40.50	..	..	41.45	..	..	40.69	..	..	34.00	..	..	33.00	..	..	33.00	..	..

Table No. 13.

TABLE showing the Estimated Number of Letters, Letter-cards, Post-cards, Book-packets, Newspapers, and Parcels dealt with in the several Postal Districts of New Zealand during the Year ended 31st December, 1896.

Postal Districts.	Posted in the Colony.					Received from Places outside the Colony.					Total Correspondence dealt with.						
	Letters.	Letter-cards.	Post-cards.	Books, &c.	Newspapers.	Parcels.	Letters.	Post-cards.	Books, &c.	Newspapers.	Parcels.	Letters.	Letter-cards.	Post-cards.	Books, &c.	Newspapers.	Parcels.
Auckland	5,048,537	87,841	243,685	2,647,671	1,915,186	33,383	346,552	1,073	688,482	743,047	3,934	5,395,089	87,841	244,758	3,336,153	2,658,233	37,317
Thames	619,970	10,387	19,617	169,923	175,162	2,451	42,815	115	43,873	65,734	357	602,785	10,387	19,732	213,796	240,896	2,808
New Plymouth	798,733	23,816	45,019	226,616	262,704	2,497	54,310	169	57,374	101,091	360	853,043	23,816	45,188	283,990	363,795	2,857
Gisborne	246,675	2,535	4,966	76,544	74,542	1,361	16,947	23	20,249	30,327	119	263,622	2,535	4,989	96,793	104,869	1,480
Napier	1,609,673	41,691	71,461	612,443	468,169	8,235	110,605	284	158,620	181,965	954	1,720,278	41,691	71,745	771,063	650,134	9,189
Wanganui	1,448,044	57,122	104,520	785,824	367,302	5,515	99,009	452	202,496	141,528	715	1,547,053	57,122	104,972	988,320	508,830	6,230
Wellington	5,389,683	118,573	188,877	1,930,396	1,568,970	40,056	370,420	847	499,485	611,603	4,768	5,760,103	118,573	189,724	2,429,881	2,180,573	44,824
Nelson	566,111	13,715	27,638	146,432	140,088	4,933	39,247	111	37,124	55,600	596	605,358	13,715	27,749	183,556	195,688	5,529
Westport	197,587	2,249	3,003	31,863	109,291	1,716	13,379	11	6,752	40,462	236	210,966	2,249	3,014	38,615	149,753	1,952
Greymouth	385,177	4,186	10,218	93,145	187,304	2,409	26,759	40	23,623	70,789	244	411,936	4,186	10,258	116,768	258,093	2,653
Hokitika	182,247	4,446	3,406	26,247	87,061	1,483	12,487	17	6,748	35,382	128	194,734	4,446	3,423	32,995	122,443	1,611
Blenheim	359,463	9,958	13,169	90,727	114,322	1,667	25,175	56	23,625	45,491	235	384,638	9,958	13,225	114,352	159,813	1,902
Christchurch	4,076,345	89,609	162,357	974,532	1,449,963	25,934	286,081	678	253,117	687,422	3,099	4,356,426	89,609	163,035	1,227,649	2,454,603	29,033
Timaru	859,404	31,967	61,022	315,198	144,963	1,889	58,970	280	80,997	55,606	240	918,274	31,967	61,302	396,195	200,569	2,129
Oamaru	511,368	15,405	29,237	93,678	106,574	938	34,787	112	23,624	40,437	110	546,155	15,405	29,349	117,302	147,011	1,048
Dunedin	3,711,253	83,551	160,745	1,356,706	1,496,859	28,090	254,414	678	350,989	581,275	3,337	3,965,667	83,551	161,423	1,707,695	2,078,134	31,427
Invercargill	1,864,083	57,239	77,610	470,652	335,847	4,145	127,553	339	121,496	207,237	477	1,991,636	57,239	77,949	592,148	743,084	4,622
Totals	27,874,353	654,290	1,226,550	10,048,597	9,521,525	166,702	1,913,410	5,285	2,598,674	3,694,996	19,909	29,787,763	654,290	1,231,835	12,647,271	13,216,521	186,611
Previous year	26,968,955	637,013	1,196,156	8,337,680	8,964,111	156,752	1,980,981	5,477	2,509,444	3,711,862	19,454	28,949,936	637,013	1,201,633	10,847,124	12,675,973	176,206

Table No. 15.
TABLE showing the Number of Letters, Letter-cards, Post-cards, Books, Newspapers, and
Parcels delivered by the Letter-carriers from the Post Offices within the several Postal
Districts during the Year ended 31st December, 1896.

Postal Districts.				Letters.	Letter-cards.	Post-cards.	Books, &c.	Newspapers.	Parcels.
Auckland	..	..	..	2,941,807	69,041	113,833	514,748	649,854	7,867
Thames	..	..	..	277,281	6,507	23,560	92,197	98,764	2,600
New Plymouth	..	..	..	251,801	5,909	26,020	58,523	147,613	1,548
Gisborne	..	..	..	106,631	2,502	2,789	10,607	31,054	1,397
Napier	..	..	..	519,020	12,180	24,456	142,476	110,254	9,720
Wanganui	..	..	..	369,574	8,673	38,263	205,675	131,573	3,620
Wellington	..	..	..	1,962,587	46,059	55,355	249,118	452,522	18,746
Nelson	..	..	..	176,431	4,140	9,362	32,713	83,822	2,552
Westport	..	..	..	46,468	1,090	2,013	11,652	23,000	1,128
Greymouth	..	..	..	126,618	2,971	3,790	41,809	50,625	2,405
Hokitika	..	..	..	74,362	1,745	3,834	15,341	55,291	834
Blenheim	..	..	..	76,244	1,789	4,884	33,852	50,988	1,086
Christchurch	..	..	..	1,525,061	35,791	81,510	478,180	352,534	3,917
Timaru	..	..	..	240,034	5,633	26,416	101,101	61,784	1,318
Oamaru	..	..	..	117,499	2,757	9,693	28,819	25,612	449
Dunedin	..	..	..	1,333,731	31,301	77,015	398,587	358,548	4,336
Invercargill	..	..	..	392,806	9,218	40,264	141,774	150,062	1,039
Totals	..	..	..	10,537,955	247,306	553,057	2,557,172	2,833,900	64,562
Previous year	..	..	..	9,872,591	227,715	511,114	1,996,932	2,589,515	43,587

Table No. 16.

COMPARATIVE TABLE showing the Progress of the Telegraph Department during the Financial Years ended 30th June, 1866, to 30th June, 1879; 31st March, 1880, to 31st March, 1882; and Calendar Years ended 31st December, 1882, to 31st December, 1893.

Year ended	Number of Miles of Line.	Number of Miles of Wire.	Number of Stations Open during the Year.		Telegraph Revenue from all Sources.	Value of Government Messages.	Total Value of Business done during the Year.	Cost of Maintenance of Stations.		Cost of Maintenance of Lines, excluding Australian Cable Subsidy.		Total Expenditure.		Cost of Maintenance of Lines per Mile.	Tariff in Operation.
			Private and Press.	Government.											
30th June, 1866	699	1,390	13		27,407	2,746	24,761	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	Mileage tariff.
" 1867	757	1,498	21		70,952	15,331	55,621	483 3 2	6,045 2 4	3,934 3 4	2,443 2 11	6,377 6 3	3 9 10		
" 1868	1,110	2,223	31		98,485	26,244	72,241	3,770 4 8	12,840 14 9	8,017 14 7	2,541 4 11	10,558 19 6	3 7 1		
" 1869	1,329	2,495	45		156,167	50,097	106,070	6,672 0 3	18,324 3 10	9,489 17 10	5,406 7 3	14,896 5 1	4 17 4		Mileage tariff in operation up to 1st Sept., 1869; uniform 2s. 6d. tariff from 1st Sept., 1869, to 31st March, 1870; and 1s. tariff from 1st April, 1870.
" 1870	1,661	2,897	56		185,423	62,878	122,545	13,430 11 9	31,951 2 1	14,266 12 7	8,547 4 9	22,813 17 4	6 8 6		
" 1871	1,976	3,247	72		312,874	59,292	253,582	12,252 6 0	29,470 7 4	16,417 7 4	14,120 4 10	30,537 12 2	8 9 11		
" 1872	2,185	3,823	81		411,767	67,243	344,524	9,876 17 6	32,296 6 2	21,254 4 3	11,344 3 8	32,598 7 11	5 19 6		From 1st November, 1873, address and signature given in free.
" 1873	2,356	4,574	93		568,960	83,453	485,507	11,043 3 9	39,164 13 9	23,593 9 9	8,858 19 7	32,452 9 4	4 2 3		
" 1874	2,530	5,782	105		752,899	107,832	645,067	11,105 2 0	50,786 0 9	27,040 18 10	9,479 5 4	36,520 4 2	4 1 11		
" 1875	2,986	6,626	127		917,128	130,891	786,237	12,618 11 6	59,127 10 4	38,801 19 4	15,021 17 11	53,823 17 3	6 3 11		From 1st November, 1873, address and signature given in free.
" 1876	3,154	7,247	142		1,051,086	160,704	890,382	13,679 10 9	68,981 3 0	45,814 11 4	14,240 19 7	60,055 10 11	4 16 4		
" 1877	3,259	7,423	155		1,124,442	172,159	952,283	16,154 6 0	78,869 16 4	61,696 14 5	21,074 8 8	82,771 3 1	5 18 10		
" 1878	3,434	8,035	182		1,260,324	194,843	1,065,481	17,024 8 9	82,669 4 0	63,353 10 10	17,931 8 0	81,284 18 10	5 12 11		From 1st November, 1873, address and signature given in free.
" 1879	3,512	8,117	195		1,448,943	246,961	1,201,982	19,148 12 4	92,432 14 2	69,340 1 8	18,259 4 9	87,599 6 5	5 10 0		
31st March, 1880	3,638	9,333	214		1,008,409	183,675	824,734	26,949 2 2	112,351 2 4	79,502 0 5	17,299 7 10	96,801 8 3	5 0 9		
" 1881	3,758	9,587	227		1,304,712	246,370	1,058,342	19,797 6 3	77,827 9 6	68,651 10 10	14,758 4 5	83,409 15 3	4 3 4		
" 1882	3,844	9,653	234		1,438,772	222,923	1,215,849	27,021 3 8	100,023 5 8	78,224 1 8	23,154 8 3	101,378 9 11	6 6 7		
								22,737 16 4	101,566 16 0	69,165 5 0	18,292 13 4	87,457 18 4	4 17 4		

Table No. 16—continued.

COMPARATIVE TABLE showing the Progress of the Telegraph Department during the Financial Years ended 30th June, 1866, to 30th June, 1879; 31st March, 1880, to 31st March, 1882; and Calendar Years ended 31st December, 1882, to 31st December, 1893—continued.

Year ended	Number of Miles of Line.	Number of Stations Open.	Number of Telegrams forwarded during the Year.		Telegraph Revenue from all Sources.	Value of Government Messages.	Total Value of Business done during the Year.		Cost of Maintenance of Stations.	Cost of Maintenance of Lines, excluding Australian Cable Subsidy.		Total Expenditure.	Cost of Maintenance of Lines per Mile.	Tariff in Operation.
			Private, and Press.	Government.										
31st Dec., 1882	3,974	264	1,361,817	208,372	1,570,189	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	From 1st November, 1873, address and signature given in free.
" 1883	4,074	302	1,379,483	219,917	1,599,400	20,608 11 11	111,242 3 1	73,554 9	122,451 6 3	96,005 15 4	5 17 5			
" 1884	4,074	330	1,433,458	220,847	1,654,305	21,555 19 2	115,378 2 5	73,034 4	619,210 6 6	92,264 11 0	4 16 8			From 1st Jan., 1886, delayed telegrams posted to addressees immediately after their receipt at offices of destination.
" 1885	4,463	375	1,533,406	240,867	1,774,273	20,855 19 7	116,490 5 0	70,036 6	220,041 15 10	90,078 2 0	4 18 4			
" 1886	4,546	412	1,583,717	252,549	1,836,266	24,860 9 0	126,512 17 0	77,082 4	420,900 6 2	97,982 10 6	4 15 9			From 1st Jan., 1886, delayed telegrams posted to addressees immediately after their receipt at offices of destination.
" 1887	4,646	437	1,589,771	245,623	1,835,394	27,281 4 9	133,919 16 11	77,473 10	721,402 18 2	98,875 8 9	4 15 11			
" 1888	4,790	473	1,548,233	217,630	1,765,863	30,205 11 10	136,753 15 10	70,586 10	621,321 2 9	97,901 12 9	4 13 9			From 1st Jan., 1886, delayed telegrams posted to addressees immediately after their receipt at offices of destination.
" 1889	4,874	489	1,589,157	213,830	1,802,987	23,164 13 11	129,476 5 5	72,201 13	523,262 1 0	95,463 14 5	5 0 1			
" 1890	5,148	520	1,734,381	226,786	1,961,167	24,218 9 3	130,681 7 7	73,426 9	726,007 1 5	101,433 11 0	5 8 7			From 1st Jan., 1886, delayed telegrams posted to addressees immediately after their receipt at offices of destination.
" 1891	5,349	573	1,746,115	222,149	1,968,264	26,070 12 7	136,767 10 3	70,845 1	1027,546 2 0	104,391 3 10	5 13 0			
" 1892	5,479	615	1,686,064	218,079	1,904,143	24,840 5 7	142,474 1 4	85,658 4	1128,986 10 10	114,644 15 9	5 12 7			From 1st Jan., 1886, delayed telegrams posted to addressees immediately after their receipt at offices of destination.
" 1893	5,513	640	1,825,646	244,045	2,069,691	24,342 7 0	128,155 15 6½	87,472 13	329,580 10 11	117,053 4 2	5 8 0			
						28,317 7 10	140,783 3 7	92,109 17	029,141 6 0	121,251 3 0	5 5 9			

For the Financial Years ended 31st March, 1895, to the 31st March, 1897.

Year ended	Number of Miles of Line.	Number of Miles of Wire.	Number of Stations Open.	Number of Telegrams forwarded during the Year.		Revenue.		Value of Government Messages.	Total Value of Business done during the Year.	Total Expenditure (excluding Cable Subsidy).	Remarks.
				Private, and Press.	Government.	Telegraph.	Telephone.				
31st March, 1895	5,961½	14,881½	705	1,802,182	231,618	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	Cable subsidy, 6,492 11 8 " 4,774 5 5 " 3,972 8 1
" 1896	6,245½	15,704½	743	1,899,632	224,579	88,459 10 11	21,552 12 10	26,050 7 5	136,062 11 2	135,791 0 7	
" 1897	6,284½	16,470½	780	2,285,001	235,168	97,178 14 0½	25,933 12 9	23,843 11 11	148,955 18 8½	143,665 14 0	
						100,385 16 1	29,248 19 5	23,118 2 6	152,752 18 0	153,484 6 8	

Table No. 17.

TABLE showing the Cash Revenue derived from Private and Press Messages, the Value of Government Messages, and the Number of Messages transmitted in the several Postal Districts of New Zealand for the Twelve Months ended 31st March, 1897.

Postal Districts.	Revenue derived from Private and Press Messages.	Value of Government Messages.	Total Value of Messages of all Codes.	Number of Private and Press Messages.	Number of Govt. Messages.	Total Number of Messages of all Codes.
	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.			
Auckland	19,668 9 11½	3,519 10 8	23,188 0 7½	446,617	38,509	485,126
Blenheim	1,632 7 3	487 1 10	2,119 9 1	35,283	5,553	40,836
Christchurch	10,950 16 7½	1,775 13 2	12,726 9 9½	226,153	19,798	245,951
Dunedin	12,108 17 1½	1,874 7 3	13,983 4 4½	275,257	18,943	294,200
Gisborne	1,999 0 5½	397 19 8	2,397 0 1½	40,537	4,430	44,967
Greymouth	2,615 3 7	647 4 1	3,262 7 8	53,441	5,688	59,129
Hokitika	1,134 17 1½	308 16 4	1,443 13 5½	23,240	2,487	25,727
Invercargill	4,942 17 3½	750 0 3	5,692 17 6½	125,426	7,766	133,192
Napier	5,837 11 2½	898 6 1	6,735 17 3½	125,065	10,030	135,095
Nelson	1,849 12 10	637 18 5	2,487 11 3	71,017	7,786	78,803
New Plymouth	2,318 12 11½	702 5 11	3,020 18 10½	53,726	6,905	60,631
Oamaru	1,552 19 11	171 7 8	1,724 7 7	28,982	1,936	30,918
Thames	5,519 2 4	842 16 11	6,361 19 3	123,569	8,968	132,537
Timaru	2,184 8 3	322 13 1	2,507 1 4	40,314	3,790	50,104
Wanganui	4,560 7 2½	849 2 10	5,409 10 0½	106,264	9,310	115,574
Wellington	16,740 9 6½	8,478 2 1	25,218 11 7½	463,208	78,182	541,390
Westport	1,837 4 11	454 16 3	2,292 1 2	40,902	5,087	45,989
Totals, 1896-97	97,452 18 7	23,118 2 6	120,571 1 1	2,285,001	235,168	2,520,169
Totals, 1895-96	92,289 9 5½	25,843 11 11	118,133 1 4½	1,899,632	224,579	2,124,211

Table No. 18.

RETURN of Paid Telegrams of all Codes forwarded during the Twelve Months ended 31st March, 1897, and the Revenue received.

Class of Telegrams.	June Quarter, 1896.		September Quarter, 1896.		December Quarter, 1896.		March Quarter, 1897.		Totals.	
	Number.	Revenue.	Number.	Revenue.	Number.	Revenue.	Number.	Revenue.	Number.	Revenue.
		£ s. d.		£ s. d.		£ s. d.		£ s. d.		£ s. d.
Ordinary ..	341,419	30,562 19 3	451,150	32,315 8 6½	509,161	32,297 19 3	518,241	31,964 7 1	1,819,971	127,140 14 1½
Urgent ..	18,397	2,021 15 10	22,815	2,101 8 2½	27,029	2,339 14 11	29,002	2,571 5 4	97,243	9,034 4 3½
Delayed ..	64,557	2,010 13 7	..	..	..	..	..	..	64,557	2,010 13 7
Press ..	46,980	2,328 0 1	50,991	2,840 5 1	47,617	2,261 18 4	52,818	2,091 5 6	198,406	9,521 9 0
Bureau ..	24,308	569 5 10	24,882	595 0 4	26,944	641 3 7	28,690	677 19 4	104,824	2,483 9 1
Gross totals	495,661	37,492 14 7	549,838	37,852 2 2	610,751	37,540 16 1	628,751	37,304 17 3	2,285,001	150,190 10 1
Less other lines and credits	..	13,514 12 3	..	14,158 4 3	..	12,465 6 1	..	12,599 8 11	..	52,737 11 6
Net totals, 1896-97	495,661	23,978 2 4	549,838	23,693 17 11	610,751	25,075 10 0	628,751	24,705 8 4	2,285,001	97,452 18 7
Net totals, 1895-96	445,213	20,548 0 4½	456,957	22,138 2 10½	496,064	24,287 19 7	501,398	25,315 6 7½	1,899,632	92,289 9 5½

* "Delayed" telegrams were abolished as from 31st May, 1896.

Table No. 19.

RETURN of the Number and Value of Telegraph Money-orders issued within the several Postal Districts during the Year ended 31st December, 1896.

Districts.	Number.	Telegraph Commission.	Value of Orders.
		£ s. d.	£ s. d.
Auckland	6,691	334 11 0	31,033 13 7
Blenheim	662	33 2 0	2,093 19 5
Christchurch	2,031	101 11 0	7,642 1 9
Dunedin	1,926	96 6 0	6,897 3 8
Gisborne	998	49 18 0	3,467 3 10
Greymouth	1,112	55 12 0	3,951 14 7
Hokitika	355	17 15 0	1,122 4 2
Invercargill	880	44 0 0	2,898 17 7
Napier	2,450	122 10 0	9,155 3 11
Nelson	530	26 10 0	1,811 15 9
New Plymouth	943	47 3 0	2,802 10 7
Oamaru	253	12 13 0	719 8 0
Thames	3,020	151 9 0	11,408 8 0
Timaru	406	20 6 0	1,206 19 11
Wanganui	2,146	107 6 0	6,431 14 7
Wellington	5,456	272 16 0	18,001 7 3
Westport	992	49 12 0	2,973 10 3
Totals, 1896	30,860	1,543 0 0	113,617 16 10
Totals, 1895	25,856	1,292 16 0	95,546 9 10

Table No. 20.
RETURN showing the Capital Cost, Working-expenses, and Revenue of the Telephone Exchanges, Year by Year, from the Date of their Establishment.

Year.	Number of Connections.	Capital Cost for Instruments, Wire, Poles, Labour, Freight, Superintendence, &c.			Revenue.			Annual Rate at Close of Year.	Working-expenses.						Balance of Revenue over Working-expenses.	Annual Rate per Cent. yielded on Capital Cost.																	
		Average Cost of each Connection.	Total for all Connections.		Revenue.				Salaries and Allowances of Clerks, &c.	Linenen, Batteries, and Materials.	• Wear-and-tear, &c., Ten per Cent.	Rent, Fuel, Light, Paper, Printing, Binding, &c.	Total.																				
			£	s.	d.	£	s.							d.			£	s.	d.	£	s.	d.											
Total for the year ended 31st March,—																																	
1882	..	116	21	16	6	2,531	14	0	613	5	2	1,170	16	0	285	0	0	275	0	0	253	0	0	150	0	0	963	0	0	207	16	0	8.17
1883	..	379	21	16	6	8,271	13	6	5,014	9	2	6,809	8	8	595	0	0	595	0	0	827	0	0	300	0	0	2,317	0	0	4,492	8	8	54.31
1884	..	715	21	16	6	15,604	17	6	7,746	16	7	7,028	7	4	695	0	0	770	0	0	1,560	0	0	350	0	0	3,375	0	0	3,653	7	4	23.41
1885	..	1,075	21	18	6	23,461	17	6	10,008	3	6	10,008	3	6	1,770	0	0	1,590	0	0	2,346	0	0	475	0	0	6,181	0	0	3,827	3	6	16.31
1886	..	1,710	20	8	6	37,319	12	1	12,294	1	2	13,997	0	0	2,849	1	3	1,704	0	0	3,731	19	2	700	0	0	8,985	0	5	5,011	19	7	13.42
1887	..	2,038	19	19	5	40,686	3	1	15,477	16	2	15,477	16	2	2,873	0	0	1,580	10	0	4,068	12	2	320	0	0	8,842	2	2	6,635	14	0	16.30
1888	..	2,153	22	19	0	49,407	5	0	16,881	8	6	16,881	8	6	3,119	10	0	2,252	0	0	4,940	14	6	330	0	0	10,642	4	6	6,239	4	1	12.63
1889	..	2,249	23	18	10	53,849	11	6	17,613	4	0	17,613	4	0	3,315	10	0	2,249	7	0	5,344	9	2	335	0	0	11,244	6	2	6,368	17	10	11.82
1890	..	2,402	24	4	1	58,229	3	0	18,581	11	7	18,581	11	7	3,790	0	0	2,206	10	0	5,823	0	1	375	0	0	12,194	10	1	6,387	1	6	11.00
1891	..	2,587	24	17	1	64,204	4	4	19,961	4	2	19,961	4	2	4,192	0	0	2,249	18	5	6,429	8	5	394	3	9	13,265	10	7	6,695	13	7	10.43
1892	..	3,080	24	16	11	76,579	1	8	18,571	7	8	18,571	7	8	4,630	0	0	2,345	2	9	7,658	7	11	393	1	6	15,026	12	2	3,544	15	6	4.63
1893	..	3,690	24	16	11	91,687	11	1	19,155	11	5	19,155	11	5	7,405	0	0	2,695	19	10	9,168	15	1	464	6	2	19,734	1	1	-578	9	8	Loss.
1894	..	4,244	24	12	1	104,425	3	0	21,771	4	4	21,771	4	4	7,720	0	0	3,313	1	1	10,442	10	4	741	18	9	22,217	10	2	-446	5	10	Loss.
1895	..	4,616	25	6	3	116,845	10	4	21,552	12	10	22,621	0	0	9,285	0	0	4,253	11	4	11,684	11	0	817	19	5	26,041	1	9	-3,420	1	9	Loss.
1896	..	5,143	24	6	6	125,108	4	1	25,933	12	9	25,933	12	9	9,686	0	10	5,303	11	9	12,510	16	5	1,362	8	3	29,452	17	3	-3,519	4	6	Loss.
1897	..	5,747	23	7	4	134,299	11	4	29,248	19	5	29,248	19	5	12,306	9	7	7,398	0	10	13,429	19	1	1,856	13	2	34,991	2	8	-5,742	3	3	Loss.

* This column includes 5 per cent. for wear-and-tear, and 5 per cent. for debenture capital.

Table No. 21.

RETURN of the COST of MAINTENANCE of TELEGRAPH LINES for the Year ended 31st March, 1897.

District.	No. of Miles.	Travelling-expenses of Linemen and Inspectors.	Extra Labour.	Cost of Material used for Repairs.	Salaries of Linemen and Inspectors.	Total Cost of Maintenance.
		£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.
Auckland	1,604½	884 7 7	780 16 6	842 11 4	2,263 6 8	4,771 2 1
Wellington	1,522½	1,011 17 1	1,469 2 3	2,184 11 10	2,660 0 0	7,325 11 2
Nelson	857½	591 0 5	845 15 7	690 17 2	1,555 0 0	3,682 13 2
Canterbury	847½	769 12 2	1,439 7 8	4,470 15 3	1,480 16 8	8,160 11 9
Otago	1,452½	716 9 5	547 12 11	879 18 11	1,343 0 0	3,487 1 3
P. and T. stores	..	27 6 4	245 1 5	221 18 11	..	494 6 8
Cables	..	25 2 6	361 1 9	288 16 9	..	675 1 0
Totals	6,284½	4,025 15 6	5,688 18 1	9,579 10 2	9,302 3 4	28,596 7 1

Table No. 22.

STATEMENT showing the EXPENDITURE on, and the COST of, TELEGRAPH CONSTRUCTION during the Financial Year ended 31st March, 1897.

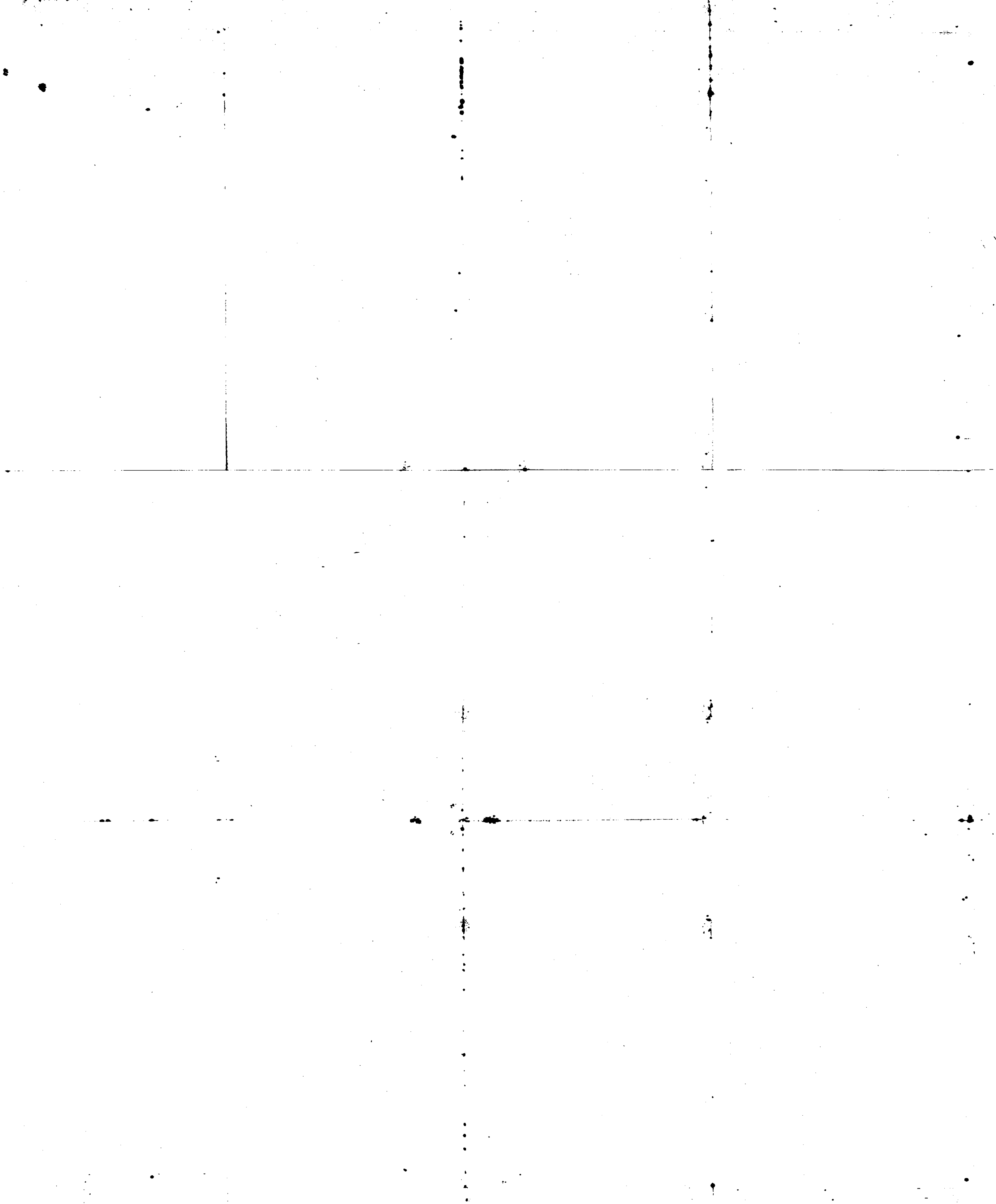
Line.	Expenditure.	Material from Stores.	Total Expenditure during the Year.
	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.
Telephone exchanges	2,799 12 10	6,391 14 5	9,191 7 3
New copper wires,—			
Auckland-Taupo	370 7 3	18 3 11	388 11 2
Auckland-Paeroa	250 3 3	61 7 5	311 10 8
Wanganui-New Plymouth	312 3 8	1,021 7 4	1,333 11 0
Wanganui-Napier	77 6 6	269 16 1	347 2 7
Napier-Taupo	378 6 3	11 11 4	389 17 7
Napier-Wairoa	360 18 6	14 2 3	375 0 9
Hutt-Hastings	2 2 3	..	2 2 3
Blenheim-Kaikoura	18 10 0	909 10 1	928 0 1
Kaikoura-Christchurch	..	395 8 6	395 8 6
Greymouth-Reefton	132 12 11	343 6 4	475 19 3
Dunedin-Waitaki	35 1 8	4 11 0	39 12 8
Wheatstone instruments,—			
Wellington	..	174 11 10	174 11 10
Dunedin	..	165 19 9	165 19 9
Cape Maria Van Diemen	3 15 7	..	3 15 7
Te Aroha-Katikati	5 0 0	..	5 0 0
Taupiri-Huntly	1 2 6	..	1 2 6
Upper Kuaotunu	23 18 3	29 5 1	53 3 4
Puriri	0 1 6	6 19 6	7 1 0
Waikino loop	8 12 0	7 2 7	15 14 7
Lichfield „	0 10 6	..	0 10 6
Maungataupere	..	0 19 0	0 19 0
Whangarei-Poroti	299 15 9	230 15 5	530 11 2
Hikurangi-Whakapara	3 13 8	..	3 13 8
Maungakaramea	150 19 10	132 18 7	283 18 5
Totara North	29 12 4	86 10 5	116 2 9
Hukerenui extension	116 9 3	140 10 2	256 19 5
Waipapakauri extension	1 5 6	5 2 1	6 7 7
Ormond-Waimata	183 5 7	91 3 4	274 8 11
Ellerslie Racecourse	..	38 13 8	38 13 8
Herbertville-Wimbledon	50 4 9	27 11 6	77 16 3
Wallingford	2 17 5	7 2 3	9 19 8
Dannevirke-Weber and Wimbledon	4 16 4	..	4 16 4
Waikanae extension	1 4 3	..	1 4 3
Whenuakura extension	27 19 9	36 11 3	64 11 0
Hutt-Taita	8 6 5	36 3 1	44 9 6
Bell Block	13 8 8	24 4 7	37 13 3
Marton-Rata	16 11 7	34 4 2	50 15 9
Koputarua	33 8 7	35 8 10	68 17 5
Maharahara extension	104 10 9	122 10 2	227 0 11
Pahiatua, Mangahao, and Ballance	181 5 11	144 1 5	325 7 4

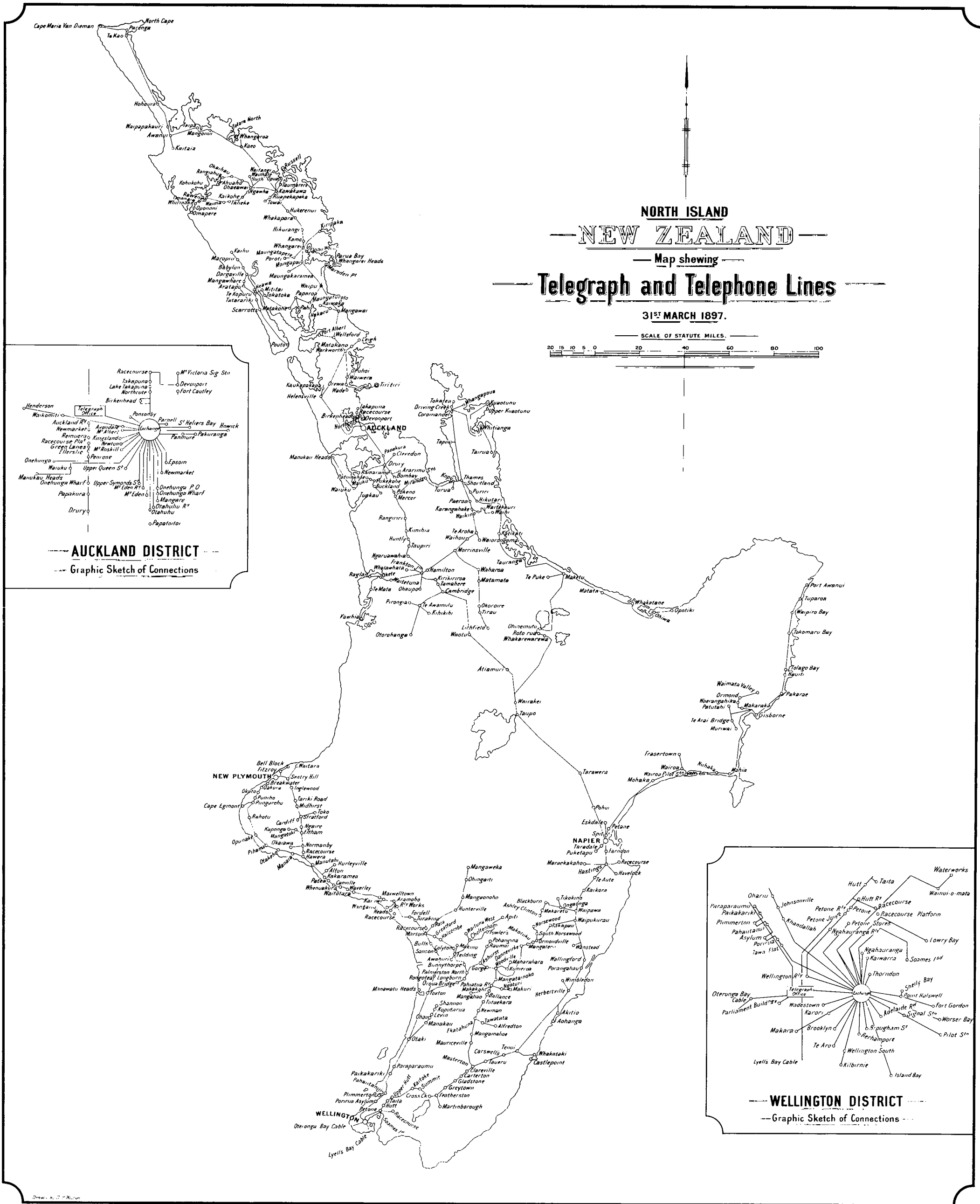
Table No. 22—*continued*.STATEMENT showing the EXPENDITURE on, and the COST of, TELEGRAPH CONSTRUCTION during the Financial Year ended 31st March, 1897—*continued*.

Line.	Expenditure.	Material from Stores.	Total Expenditure during the Year.
	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.
Pahiatua, Ngaturi, and Makuri ...	402 1 7	329 8 4	731 9 11
Aohanga ...	9 0 0	7 12 2	16 12 8
Mangaweka ...	144 11 6	127 15 4	272 6 10
Plimmerton ...	12 9 8	54 18 10	67 8 6
Worser Bay ...	1 12 0	18 2 9	19 14 9
Berhampore ...	1 12 0	6 8 8	8 0 8
Martinborough ...	...	7 7 2	7 7 2
Hukanui ...	0 12 6	...	0 12 6
Blenheim—Port Underwood ...	2 14 6	...	2 14 6
Nelson—Wakapuaka No. 3 ...	2 4 0	2 2 3	4 6 3
Birchfield ...	...	5 19 5	5 19 5
Hinde's Ferry ...	37 18 0	33 19 6	71 17 6
Kumara railway-wire ...	...	23 18 4	23 18 4
" Old John's ...	...	2 16 3	2 16 3
Okarito ...	812 2 1	190 6 6	1,002 8 7
Burke's Pass—Tekapo ...	324 7 3	211 19 4	536 6 7
Springfield—Bealey ...	176 4 7	150 6 5	326 11 0
Woolston ...	4 0 0	11 14 8	15 14 8
Ohoka ...	...	14 19 7	14 19 7
Christchurch Racecourse ...	10 2 11	90 16 6	100 19 5
Timaru ...	...	5 19 0	5 19 0
Closeburn ...	6 12 2	...	6 12 2
Orepuki—Puysegur Point ...	3 0 0	...	3 0 0
Cambrian's—Beck's ...	100 15 9	53 6 8	154 2 5
Lumsden—Queenstown ...	690 10 10	395 6 2	1,085 17 0
Oamaru—Georgetown ...	56 19 3	8 8 4	65 7 7
Mornington ...	1 5 0	...	1 5 0
Clinton—Gore ...	213 15 0	201 10 2	415 5 2
Hillgrove—Moeraki ...	31 1 7	8 6 9	39 8 4
North-east Harbour ...	8 11 0	4 15 1	13 6 1
Maori Point ...	3 1 4	7 9 0	10 10 4
Opoho Bureau ...	0 15 0	16 4 9	16 19 9
Bullendale ...	14 0 3	21 8 7	35 8 10
Kurow—Otiake ...	...	74 12 3	74 12 3
Clarksville ...	...	6 8 10	6 8 10
Waikoikoi ...	...	0 7 0	0 7 0
Kurow ...	...	0 15 10	0 15 10
Caversham Bureau ...	...	13 10 6	13 10 6
	9,082 1 6	13,128 8 9	22,210 10 3
Cook Strait cable No. 2 ...	55 6 4	...	55 6 4
Purchase of 40 knots cable ...	5,636 5 2	...	5,636 5 2
	14,773 13 0	...	27,902 1 9
Purchase of material, &c. ...	22,017 15 11	...	...
	36,791 8 11	...	...
Total expenditure to 31st March, 1896 ...	734,559 12 11	...	...
Total expenditure out of Public Works Fund to 31st March, 1897	£771,351 1 10	Total cost of lines during 1896-97	£27,902 1 9

Approximate Cost of Paper.—Preparation, not given: printing (1,775 copies), £52 10s.

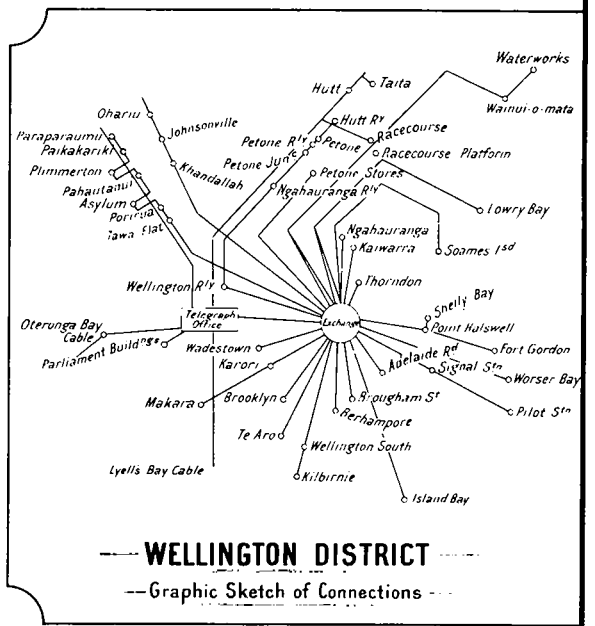
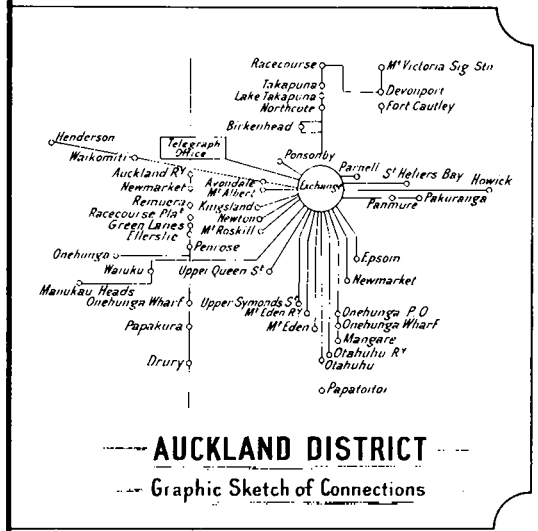
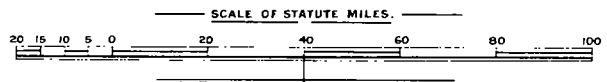
By Authority: JOHN MACKAY, Government Printer, Wellington.—1897.





NORTH ISLAND
NEW ZEALAND
Map showing
Telegraph and Telephone Lines

31ST MARCH 1897.



Cape Maria Van Diemen

North Cape

Waipapakauri

Awamui

Kaitia

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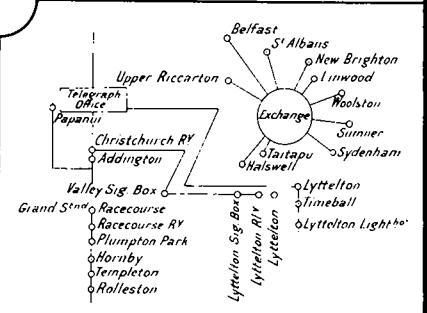
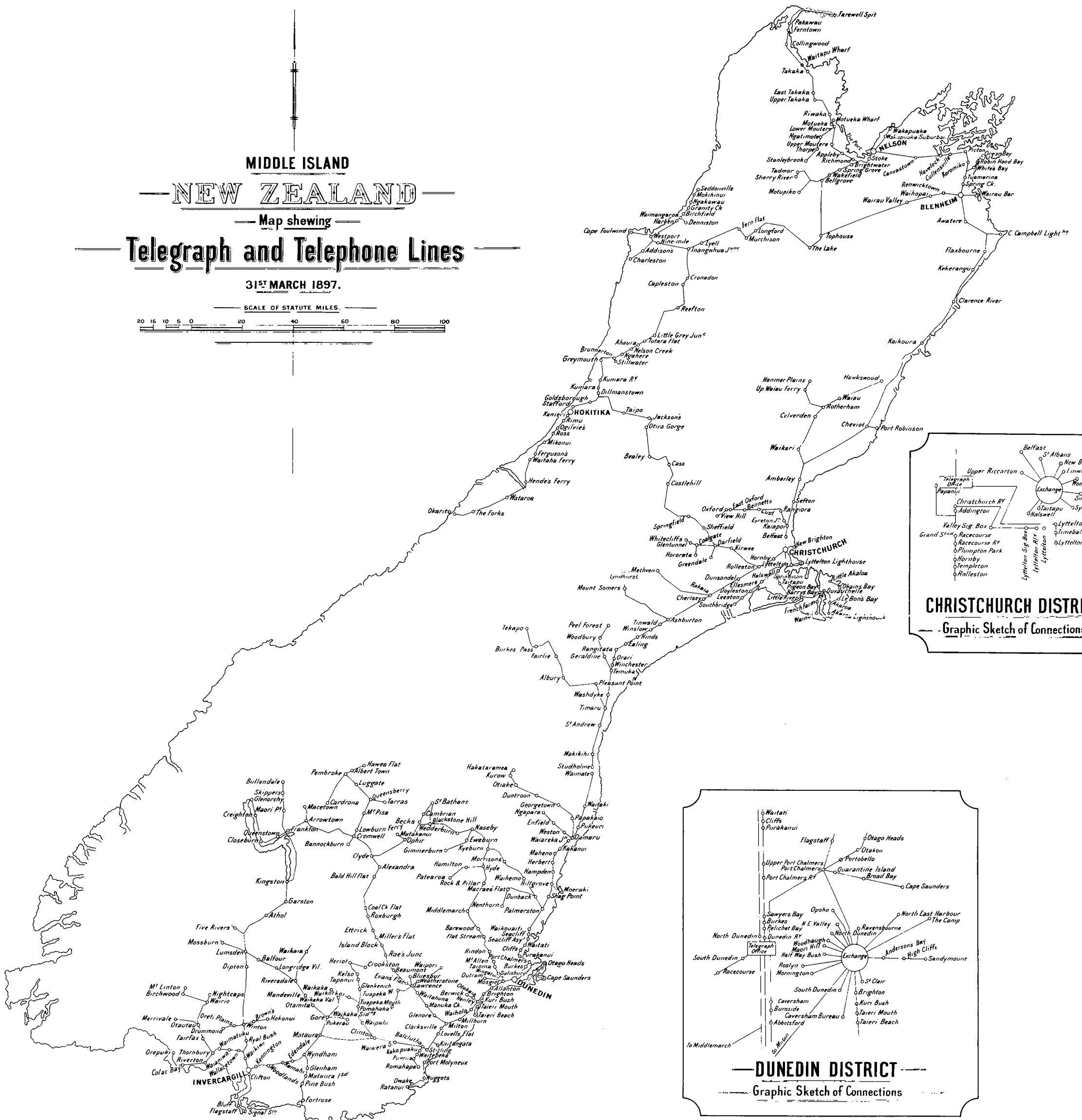
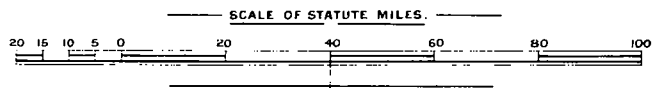
Kaitia

Kaitia

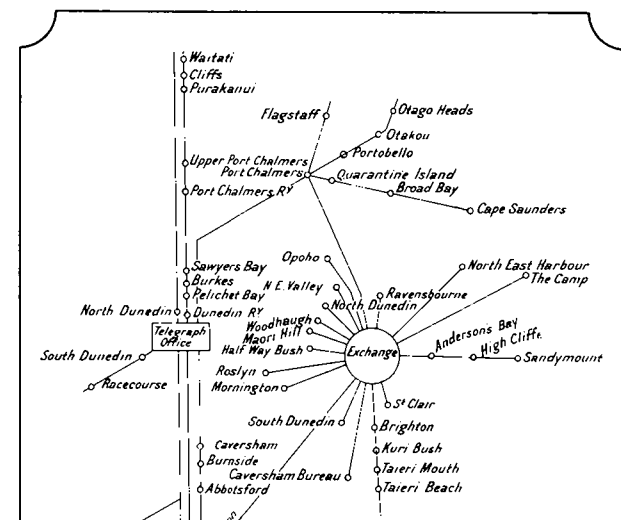
Kaitia

MIDDLE ISLAND
— NEW ZEALAND —
— Map shewing —
Telegraph and Telephone Lines

31ST MARCH 1897.



CHRISTCHURCH DISTRICT
— Graphic Sketch of Connections —



DUNEDIN DISTRICT
— Graphic Sketch of Connections —

