

| Telegraph—                                    | 1890.         | 1900.         | Increase per Cent. |
|-----------------------------------------------|---------------|---------------|--------------------|
| Number ordinary telegrams ...                 | 1,465,992     | 2,792,871     | 90·51              |
| Value ...                                     | £71,307 15 4  | £93,474 14 2  | 31·09              |
| Number urgent telegrams ...                   | 35,667        | 154,406       | 332·91             |
| Value ...                                     | £4,749 17 4   | £10,251 8 9   | 115·86             |
| Number Press telegrams ...                    | 192,882       | 267,919       | 38·9               |
| Value ...                                     | £8,785 7 10   | £11,866 19 8  | 35·08              |
| Number bureau communications ...              | 39,840        | 239,432       | 500·98             |
| Value ...                                     | £1,111 4 0    | £6,830 10 7   | 514·85             |
| Total number paid messages ...                | 1,734,381     | 3,454,628     | 99·19              |
| Total value ...                               | £85,954 4 6   | £122,423 13 2 | 42·43              |
| Number Government messages ...                | 226,780       | 365,079       | 60·98              |
| Value ...                                     | £26,070 12 7  | £37,680 1 2   | 44·53              |
| Total number messages, all codes ...          | 1,961,161     | 3,819,707     | 94·77              |
| Total value ...                               | £112,024 17 1 | £160,103 14 4 | 42·92              |
| Number of offices ...                         | 540           | 977           | 80·93              |
| Telephone-exchange connections ...            | 2,592         | 8,190         | 215·97             |
| Postal—                                       |               |               |                    |
| Number of letters and letter-cards posted ... | 21,501,937    | 37,421,228    | 74·03              |
| Number of post-cards posted ...               | 991,065       | 1,858,064     | 87·5               |
| " newspapers " ...                            | 8,691,522     | 12,347,374    | 42·1               |
| " parcels " ...                               | 121,292       | 199,220       | 64·2               |
| " post-offices open ...                       | 1,185         | 1,686         | 42·36              |
| Total revenue ...                             | £222,881      | £316,202      | 41·87              |

POST-OFFICE SAVINGS-BANKS.

The Post-Office Savings-Banks show a marked increase both in the volume of business and in the total amount at credit of depositors. Last year the excess of deposits (£4,170,428) over withdrawals (£3,827,416) amounted to £343,012 over the previous year, and the interest credited to depositors to £146,169, while the total accumulated savings stood on the 31st December at £5,809,552, an average of £29 8s. 7d. to credit of each of the 197,408 depositors.

Compared with the year ended 31st December, 1890, the increase is almost phenomenal, the total at credit having increased from £2,441,876 to £5,809,552, or at the rate of 137·91 per cent., representing an increase in the average amount at credit of each account of £4 6s. 3d. The interest paid in 1900 was £146,169, as against £92,319 in 1890, an increase equal to 58·33 per cent.

Classifying the accounts, it will be found that those with balances up to £100 increased from 90,115 to 178,405, or 97·97 per cent.; from £100 to £200, from 4,750 to 11,173, or 135·22 per cent.; from £200 to £300, from 1,502 to 5,151, or 242·94 per cent.; and above £300, from 841 to 2,679, or 218·54 per cent. The total number of accounts open increased from 97,208 to 197,408, or 103·08 per cent. Attached is a comparative statement for the years 1890–1900.

NUMBER OF ACCOUNTS WITH BALANCES.

| Year.                                | Up to £100. | £100 to £200. | £200 to £300. | Above £300. | Total all Classes |
|--------------------------------------|-------------|---------------|---------------|-------------|-------------------|
| 1890 ...                             | 90,115      | 4,750         | 1,502         | 841         | 97,208            |
| 1900 ...                             | 178,405     | 11,173        | 5,151         | 2,679       | 197,408           |
| Increase per cent. of 1900 over 1890 | 97·97       | 135·22        | 242·94        | 218·54      | 103·08            |

|                                                                        | £         | s. | d. |
|------------------------------------------------------------------------|-----------|----|----|
| Balance at credit of the 97,208 depositors on 31st December, 1890 ...  | 2,441,876 | 8  | 7  |
| Balance at credit of the 197,408 depositors on 31st December, 1900 ... | 5,809,552 | 5  | 3  |
| Increase per cent. in amount at credit of depositors ...               | 137·91    |    |    |
| Interest paid depositors, 1890 ...                                     | 92,319    | 0  | 6  |
| " " 1900 ...                                                           | 146,169   | 2  | 5  |
| Percentage on increase ...                                             | 58·33     |    |    |