



COLONY OF NATAL.

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**REPORT**

OF THE

**POSTMASTER-GENERAL**

FOR THE

**YEAR 1897.**

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PIETERMARITZBURG :

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MDCGXCXVIII.

## Errata :-

Opening para: Expunge: "financial" second line.

Para: 11. in fourteenth line read first word "office".

- do - 13. read "obtain" for "obtained" in third line.

Para: 14 in second line of sub-para: (4) expunge "the" before "Railway".

Para: 38. in sixth line read "correspondence".

- do - 54. in fourth line read "important".

To obtain the total favourable balance the Debit and Credit statements of both Departments should be referred to (pages 26-7 + 34).

Postal Balance . 31,076 " 6 " 5

Telegraph - do - 15,978 " 14 " 7

Total £ 47,055 " 1 " 0

# REPORT OF THE POSTMASTER-GENERAL AND GENERAL MANAGER OF TELEGRAPHS FOR THE YEAR 1897.

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THE HONOURABLE THE COLONIAL SECRETARY.

SIR,—I have the honour to submit my report on the Post and Telegraph Offices for the financial year ended on 31st December, 1897.

The usual returns are herewith.

## POSTAL.

1. The total number of Postal articles dealt with was 11,077,856, as compared with 9,841,466 in 1896.

2. The total number of articles registered was 108,494, as compared with 105,446 in 1896.

3. The total number of money orders issued was 45,260, representing an amount of £138,950 10s. 9d. The figures in 1896 were:—Money orders issued 38,829; amount represented £115,121 0s. 11d. The total number of money orders paid was 33,617, representing an amount £104,968 10s. 10d. In 1896 the total number paid was 32,573, and the total amount £103,652 1s. 9d.

4. The total number of private boxes let was 673, and they brought a revenue of £636 4s. 3d. The total number of private bags let was 155, and they brought rentals to the extent of £255 2s. 5d. In 1896, 566 private boxes returned a revenue of £571 5s. 9d., and 148 private bags a revenue of £231 5s. 1d. The fees on money orders totalled £1,915 17s. 6d., as compared with £1,579 1s. 6d. in 1896.

5. The total number of private boxes and private bags held by Government Officers were 84 and 25 respectively. The previous year they were 79 and 17 respectively.

6. The total earnings of the Department amounted to £70,365 12s. 4d. From postage stamps, postage, and surcharges, £53,549 10s. 3d. was derived; from fees of office £3,257 1s. 4d.; and from miscellaneous receipts £444 13s. 5d, the principal item in this last sum being £300, received from the Government of Zululand as the Zululand proportion of the subsidy of the Dundee-Nondweni postcard service, which, in the first instance, was paid by the Natal post office. Official correspondence dealt with would have brought a revenue of £8,581 3s. 4d. had it been paid for at the ordinary rates; and, similarly, private boxes and bags held by Government Departments, if charged for, would have returned a revenue of £127 11s. 6d. Newspapers conveyed free of charge for postage, if paid for at the ordinary newspaper rates, would have returned a revenue of £4,405 12s. 6d. The three items last mentioned make a total of £13,114 7s. 4d.

7. The total expenditure of the Department was £39,289 5s. 11d., and thus the earnings of the office exceeded the expenditure by the large sum of £31,076 6s. 5d.

8. In revenue there were increases under all the general heads. Under Mails, Expenditure on Ocean Contracts, which amounted to £15,000 in 1896, ceased, but there was an increase under Miscellaneous—Transit of Correspondence over Foreign lines—of over £6000.

9. Altogether the year was a very heavy one, and much inconvenience was experienced from the beginning to the end of it, owing to the want of proper staff. Postal work is hard and trying, and does not seem to be much in favour with the majority of local young men, who too frequently seek to leave the Department's service before gaining more than the merest insight into Postal duties. The insight is gained at the cost of worry to the management, inconvenience and annoyance to the Public, and over-train to the qualified members of the general staff. In the Post office, probably more than in any other Department of the service, trained clerks should be employed, as want of training of necessity leads to error and unsatisfactory work, which directly affects the general public, and commonly lead not only to irritation but to positive loss on their part.

1897

# POSTMASTER-GENERAL'S REPORT (continued).

10. The time has arrived, I think, when it would be better to import from England trained postal clerks, having a knowledge of Telegraphy, who could be employed in either the Postal or Telegraph Department.

11. The want of proper staff of late months has led to much complaint, and a great many hostile attacks have been made upon the Department. At the same time, however, complaints have been made, as at other times, in cases where the fault has not been with the Post office. In one instance a complaint was made in very strong terms of the non-delivery of a parcel at a certain address. The parcel, after a lapse of time, was discovered lying at an office in another part of the Colony, bearing an entirely different address from that which it should have borne. There were also instances of packets not being received owing to faulty systems of despatch. The faults were pointed out to, and admitted by, the Senders, who, however, stated that to adopt thorough checks would entail expense that the character of their business would not admit. Large numbers of packets were being despatched and the right number of correctly addressed wrappers were being put out, but, in cases, two, and as many as three, of these would be placed round a single packet, the result being that the inner wrappers carried no packets to the addresses marked upon them. Natives are employed to a large extent to carry correspondence to and from the Post office, and the irregularity resulting from such employment is constantly demonstrated. I will cite two instances:—

- (1) A number of letters sent to a country Post Office for despatch, addressed to places widely apart, had gone astray. The letters had been enclosed in a bag, carefully secured with straps, but it was deemed well to test the messenger. The Police were communicated with and the contents of a letter they sent as a trap were afterwards found in the possession of the Native, who confessed to having interfered with other letters he had conveyed, several of which he handed over to the Police from a hiding place.
- (2) A Native was observed to be placing something like a letter in a drain in front of one of the principal offices in the country, and was accosted. He stated he had been told by his master to place a letter which he held in the "hole" in front of the Post office, and that he was doing this. While the conversation was proceeding a third person came up and stated that he had seen a Native place several letters in the drain a few days previously. He made an attempt to stop him, but was too late.

12. A case occurred where a letter which contained two gold coins, improperly posted without being registered, was received with one of the coins missing. The coins had been very securely fastened, according to the sender's view, within cardboard, and the letter, of the type so easily distinguishable from its weight, and the cardboard, as containing money, was dropped into the letter box. In transit, one of the coins would appear to have become loose, and, breaking through the edge of the envelope, to have fallen on the floor of the terminal office, where it was found by a member of the staff. After being held for a time, to admit of any claim other than that put forward by the addressee of the letter mentioned, being received, it was given over to the latter.

13. Of course in the Post Office, as in every other institution, there must be a certain proportion of error, but this proportion, in ordinary circumstances—and by ordinary circumstances I mean such as obtained when there is a complete and fairly competent staff, and when office accommodation is sufficient, and of the right character—is reduced to a minimum by every class of work being brought as far as possible within the limits of routine. When, however, faults do occur they are always readily admitted, while those responsible are brought to account.

14. In the course of the year the following cases occurred:—

- (1) A registered letter got out of hand for about three days, at the end of which time it was recovered. Placed at the back of a number of registered letters upon shelving in the strong room of the Durban Office it would appear to have fallen behind the shelves—which had shrunk slightly—and to have dropped stage by stage to the bottom shelf, where it was discovered.
- (2) A registered letter, reported to contain a five-pound bank note, addressed to an Indian, was tendered to, and accepted by, a firm of Indian traders; subsequently the signature to the receipt obtained was repudiated by the firm, who, however, on the police being employed, paid the £5, which was handed over to the owner of the letter.
- (3) A registered letter delivered out of the regular course was stated to have had a five-pound bank note abstracted from it. The number of the note had been taken by the sender, who, however, failed to note the name of the bank of issue. The letter carrier, by whom delivery was effected, was dismissed, and two clerks, with whom certain responsibility rested, were fined.

POSTMASTER-GENERAL'S REPORT (*continued*).

- (4) Two mail bags handed to the Railway Department for conveyance to Dargle Road, and Richmond Road, respectively, were lost while in the Railway charge. Neither bag was recovered.
- (5) A registered letter containing £4 in sovereigns was lost by a clerk who had charge of it. There was evidence of want of care on his part, and he was called upon to make good the sum.
- (6) A letter carrier suspected of stealing letters was trapped by the police, and, on his premises being searched, quite a number of postal articles stolen by him were found. He was prosecuted, and sentenced to six months' imprisonment with hard labour.
- (7) A native charged with attempted fraud in connection with a money order which he endeavoured to get cashed, after he had stolen it, was convicted and sentenced to six months' imprisonment and twenty lashes.

15. There were very heavy rains pretty well throughout the Colony at the close of March, and postal communication was interfered with in various directions.

16. Certain very annoying delays to the inward English mail occurred during February and March. At first it was not very clear how the delays were taking place, but it ultimately transpired that, though in one case the delay was the result of a misunderstanding, it, in others, proceeded from the train being lightened at Nauwpoort Junction, the last station on the Cape System, where the Orange Free State Railway Department takes over the train. After correspondence, the matter was put in order, and the mail was brought through in good time.

17. The following arrangement was introduced in March to get the mail forward from Elandsfontein with greater expedition than could have been secured by means of the ordinary train service:—

- (1) When the fast morning train from Capetown was late only to the extent of 1½ hours, the Natal day mail was to be delayed at Elandsfontein till noon. This would then reach Charlestown at about 10 p.m., from which place its running was to be accelerated so that it should reach Durban at the scheduled time.
- (2) When the Cape train was running so late as not to be able to reach Elandsfontein by noon the Netherlands Company was to run a Special train from there at 3.38 p.m. This would reach Charlestown about midnight, and the Natal Government Railway Department was to forward the mail to a point to pick up the day mail train.
- (3) Should the Cape train be so late as not to reach Elandsfontein to connect with the special train at 3.38 p.m., the mails were to come forward by ordinary night mail.

18. The train arrangement which came into operation on the 31st January did not afford a close connection between the train carrying the Natal homeward mail, and the mail steamer at Capetown. The Natal mail was due to reach Capetown at 6 a.m., and the mail steamer was not due to leave till 4 p.m. The Transvaal Department forwarded its European mail by a special train run from Johannesburg at 4 o'clock on Monday afternoon, and it would have been a convenience if the Natal mail could have been forwarded to connect with this special train. An arrangement could not well, however, be made. As it was, the only gain to Natal would have been that the mail could have been despatched from here on Sunday night, whereas it had to be despatched on Saturday night.

19. During the year 4,676 parcels were sent to, and 15,259 received from, the United Kingdom and Foreign Countries; and Customs duties amounting to £2,690 were collected by the Department on these and handed over to the Collector of Customs.

20. Customs duties were also collected on letter packets as follows:—At P.M.Burg £131 17s., at Durban £112 12s. 1d.

21. From the beginning of the Service on the 1st of July, 6,276 postal orders were issued, and 5,695 paid. There were also 350 Cape postal orders paid in the Colony.

22. Postal Drafts business was again very limited. Of 16 drafts issued locally, 7 were honoured; and of 18 drawn upon Natal in the Cape Colony, 3 were honoured.

23. The number of postal articles returned to the senders during the year, through the Dead Letter Office, was 34,498.

24. At the close of the year there were Post Offices and Postal Agencies open as follows:—Post Offices, 140; ordinary Postal Agencies, 45; Postal Agencies at Railway Stations, 20.

## POSTMASTER-GENERAL'S REPORT (*continued*).

25. The total number of persons of all grades employed in the Department on the 31st of December was 412.

26. A fire occurred at the Post Office at Beaumont in June, and all the Government property and some correspondence on hand were destroyed.

27. A Post Cart Service was established between Ladysmith and Olivier's Hoek from the 3rd of October, and there were alterations in the Cart Services to Lower Tugela, Umzinto, and Umzimkulu, owing to the opening of the Railway to Tongaat, Park Rynie, and Richmond.

28. A larger and more conveniently fitted postal van was provided by the Railway Department for service in connection with the treatment of the European mail between Elandsfontein and Charlestown. It has been found to answer very well indeed. It is employed so that the mails for other places in the Colony than P.M.Burg and Durban, may be divided and despatched to their destination, without necessarily passing through either of the two principal offices.

29. A daily mail to and from Rhodesia was established during November, immediately after the opening of the line of Railway to Bulawayo.

30. A postal conference of the postmasters general of the Cape Colony, Natal, the Orange Free State, and the South African Republic, was held in Capetown in March, 1897, and the terms of a general South African Convention provisionally agreed upon.

31. This provided, amongst other things, for :—

- (1) The introduction of an interterritorial rate of 1d. per half ounce for letters.
- (2) The interchange of Postal orders, as an addition to the ordinary money order Service.
- (3) The interchange of Telegraph Money orders.
- (4) The increase of the limit of weight for parcels interchanged from 7 to 11 lbs.

32. The majority of the provisions of the Convention were brought into operation from the 1st July, but the Government of the South African Republic was at first opposed to the rate of 1d. per half-ounce for letters, and, as it did not agree to this rate until the end of the year, the Convention could not fully operate until the 1st of January, 1898.

33. A letter rate of a penny throughout the territory of the South African Postal Union will be recognised as comparing most favourably with a rate of 2½d. in Europe.

34. It will be well known that the minimum rates of the Universal Postal Union have now for a number of years obtained from Natal to all countries over-sea.

35. The introduction of Postal orders, locally, on the first of July, reduced the cost of remitting the fixed sums of 1s., 1s. 6d., 2s. 6d., and 5s., to 1d., and the fixed sums of 7s. 6d. and 10s. to 2d. The South African Convention provides that a postal order issued in one Subscribing Country on another, shall be paid at a charge against the payee by the paying country corresponding with the original commission.

36. The Telegraph Money Order System is being very fairly patronised, and is, no doubt, capable of affording much convenience where the places of issue and payment of a money order are at a great distance from each other.

37. The increase of the limit of weight of a parcel to 11 lbs., placing it on a level with the local and over-sea limit, was a very desirable alteration. It admits of the transmission of many articles exceeding 7 lbs. in weight, which could not be divided for despatch in separate packages.

38. A Conference of delegates from the countries of the Universal Postal Union was held at Washington in the United States of America, in May. By arrangement, the Colony of Natal was represented by the delegates of the Cape Colony. The Universal Convention was amended in a number of respects, the most important being the adoption of more liberal terms for the conveyance of mail matter over the various lines of communication. As the Natal department has ceased to maintain an ocean service, and conveys but a small quantity of foreign correspondence over its land lines, the changes made are to its benefit, as it will get its own mails conveyed over Foreign lines at less cost.

### TELEGRAPHS.

39. In the Telegraph, as in the Postal branch, there was a large increase of business, except as regards Foreign traffic, which fell off owing no doubt to interruption of the Eastern Cable. The number of Government telegrams transmitted was unusually high, the prevalence of rinderpest in the Country giving rise to the forwarding of large numbers of communications by wire.

## POSTMASTER-GENERALS' REPORT (*continued*).

40. The "Forwarded" messages of all stations numbered 330,034, the "Received" 346,253, the "Transmitted" (including second transmissions) 523,036, making a total of 1,199,323 transactions.

41. The total number of transactions in 1896 was 1,141,119. There was thus an increase of 58,204.

42. The total earnings of the Department amounted to £35,948 7s. 9d. Of this sum £25,402 15s. 3d. was received in cash, and £10,545 12s. 6d. was represented by work done for Government Departments.

43. The total expenditure of the Department was £19,969 13s. 2d. Thus the earnings of the Department exceeded the expenditure by a sum of £15,978 14s. 7d.

44. An order had to be sent to England in June for Clerks to recruit the General Staff, which was thirteen below complement, but this could not be fully executed before the close of the year, owing to the strike amongst Telegraphists in the Home Service, and to the difficulty of securing men of the requisite qualifications for the South African Service.

45. The non-arrival of recruits resulted in a very heavy strain throughout the Department, and the following message was received from the Government, bearing date the 11th of August:—

"The Government recognizes the very great pressure now bearing upon the Telegraph Department, and relies on the loyalty and energy of the several Officers of the Department to cope with the present strain."

46. In every direction the utmost loyalty was shown and the work was dealt with in a manner deserving of the highest commendation.

47. The difficulty of recruiting was not confined to the clerical section of the Staff—European boys of the right age and character were not at all times obtainable for messengerships, and it was necessary in several cases to employ youth below the limit of age generally observed.

48. The Pietermaritzburg Telephone Exchange, purchased by the Government from Mr. T. N. Price, the proprietor, for a sum of £3,560, was taken over on the 1st of July, and incorporated with the General Telegraph System.

49. It was intended to reconstruct a number of the lines, and to remodel the Exchange, expending on the work involved, and on the new apparatus, a sum of £3,000, but the non-arrival of material from England, and the want of labour, prevented more than a small part of the plan being carried out.

50. Immediately after the acquisition of the Exchange it was connected with the Government Official Exchange, established some years ago, to admit of communications being passed between Subscribers and Government Departments.

51. To the two Exchanges (private and official) there were at the end of 1897, 140 connections.

52. The amended regulations relative to the treatment of International telegrams, passed by the International Telegraph Conference held at Budapest in 1896, were brought into operation on the 1st of July. The most important alteration made was in connection with the increasing of the limit of a word in an ordinary Extra-European telegram from 10 to 15 letters.

53. From the 1st of July the Governments subscribing to the South African Telegraph Convention agreed to admit the Portuguese language in telegrams transmitted at the "ordinary" rate of charge. Previously messages in Portuguese had been charged at the "cypher" rate.

54. Later in the year the question of holding a Conference relative to Telegraph matters was raised. So far an arrangement has not been arrived at, but a proposal to admit groups of five figures or letters as single words in telegrams was generally agreed to, and adopted from the 15th of December. The concession was an important one, and there is every evidence that it has been well appreciated by the Commercial public.

55. The Department continued to supply Meteorological reports to the newspapers daily. These were regularly published, and would, no doubt, be found both interesting and useful to the General Public. Their preparation, as will be readily understood, is attended by a good deal of labour.

# POSTMASTER-GENERAL'S REPORT (continued).

56. The following Telegraph and Telephone offices were opened during the year :—

Ladysmith Camp.  
Lower Umkomaas.  
Mount Prospect.  
Rosetta.  
Sundays River.  
Tugela Ferry.  
Umzimkulu.

57. At the end of the year there were, in all, 96 stations open for the transaction of Telegraph business.

58. At the same time the total number of persons employed in the Department was 254.

59. There were interruptions of the Eastern and Western Cables as follows :—

Eastern Cable.		Western Cable.	
March	10th to March 12th.	April	14th to April 29th.
"	22nd " April 1st.	July	17th " July 27th.
May	28th " June 4th.	Aug.	7th " Aug. 9th.
July	27th " Sept. 21st.	Nov.	8th " Nov. 29th.
Oct.	14th " Oct. 20th.	"	30th " Dec. 1st.
		Dec.	3rd " " 11th.
		"	12th " " 31st.

60. In the Telegraph Engineering Branch the non-arrival from England of material—the delay being attendant upon the Engineering strike—and the difficulty of procuring labour, prevented projected works from being proceeded with as could have been desired. A good deal of work was, however, carried out—amongst other things the line from the Point office to the Observatory was reconstructed, and a new line from Durban to Musgrave Road erected; Phonopore telephone connections were established at a large number of Railway stations; a Telegraph line from Melmoth to Nongoma, and Ubombo, in Zululand, was erected; the Electric train staff system was established between Durban and South Coast Junction, and between Newcastle and Volksrust: and important progress was made with a cross Country line, carrying four wires, from Durban to Pietermaritzburg.

## GENERAL.

61. Complete Postal and Telegraph Regulations were issued and brought into operation on the 1st of July. These had had to be prepared as opportunity offered. They had been in hand for several years, and had entailed a large amount of labour. Generally they reflect the practice of the two Departments, as it has been modified from time to time, but they provided for an altered system of accounting in the Postal branch, based on the system of the English Department. The introduction of this altered system was not unattended by trouble and worry, but it was successfully effected.

62. From the 1st of June it was arranged for all overtime to be paid for in the Post office, and for Sunday duty in both the Post and Telegraph offices to be regarded as overtime. Previously overtime had been allowed again in the Post office, and in both offices Sunday duty had been regarded as forming a part of the week's duty.

63. A new Post and Telegraph office was built at Greytown, and arrangements were made for renting additional accommodation at Durban, although, at this latter place, the new rooms could not be entered upon before the close of the year.

64. Much relief will be felt at Durban by the acquisition of further space, but entirely new offices for Postal and Telegraph purposes are now badly needed at both Pietermaritzburg and Durban, where during the last few years the work has increased to a very large extent. A very great deal depends upon the accommodation provided at a Post and Telegraph office, as the work is affected throughout, and at Pietermaritzburg and Durban offices specially designed to meet all requirements, calculated to serve for years to come, and capable of being extended, should be provided. Buildings of the right character will no doubt cost a good deal of money, but the entire body of the public is interested, and any sum laid out is in no way likely to be regarded in the time to come as mis-spent.

I have the honour to be, Sir,

Your obedient Servant,

J. CHADWICK,

Postmaster-General and General Manager of Telegraphs.



[POSTAL.]

REPORT OF THE

POSTAL

POST OFFICE.			CORRESPONDENCE.						Registered Articles.	
			Letters.							
			Official.	Ordinary.	Postcards.	Parcels.	Book and Sample Packets.	Papers.		Total.
Acton Homes	...	...	621	9,074	741	101	260	5,431	16,228	74
Albert	...	...	172	5,967	195	39	169	2,319	8,861	23
Amanzimtoti	...	...	455	10,653	624	169	624	4,082	16,607	96
Avoca	...	...	867	7,679	208	121	277	5,391	14,543	175
Balgowan	...	...	208	7,505	377	91	26	2,310	10,517	144
Batstones	...	...	1,911	31,356	...	533	1,663	6,409	41,872	189
Beith	...	...	130	3,965	117	...	442	2,938	7,592	76
Beaumont	...	...	1,005	5,252	485	173	312	4,875	12,102	55
Bellair	...	...	624	29,130	624	2,782	1,222	25,142	59,524	422
Besters	...	...	143	4,459	39	65	104	2,704	7,514	157
Biggarsberg	...	...	117	5,363	...	117	156	3,146	9,399	112
Blackburn	...	...	65	2,275	13	13	143	689	3,198	18
Blackwater	...	...	377	4,589	104	286	442	1,716	7,514	50
Boston	...	...	455	4,316	182	247	399	3,376	8,975	72
Bethas Hill	...	...	91	3,042	52	39	39	1,430	4,693	28
Brakwal	...	...	130	1,258	52	39	13	949	2,441	143
Bulwer	...	...	4,082	22,659	611	923	2,587	15,769	46,631	634
Byrnetown	...	...	468	7,839	208	390	169	6,149	15,223	56
Camperdown	...	...	2,756	31,473	988	1,066	949	23,479	60,711	207
Cato Ridge	...	...	154	12,935	117	39	143	1,391	14,779	175
Charlestown	...	...	3,289	54,392	1,209	572	845	27,235	87,542	1,522
Chieveley	...	...	169	3,861	117	104	65	572	4,888	48
Clairmont	...	...	117	6,188	13	39	156	1,326	7,839	86
Carried forward	...	...	18,406	275,730	7,076	7,948	11,205	148,828	469,193	4,562

## STATISTICS.

[POSTAL.]

REPORT OF THE

POSTAL

POST OFFICE.			CORRESPONDENCE.						Registered Articles.	
			Letters.							
			Official.	Ordinary.	Postcards.	Parcels.	Book and Sample Packets.	Papers.		Total.
Brought forward	...	18,406	275,730	7,076	7,948	11,205	148,828	469,193	4,562	
Clarke Road	...	...	27,235	663	117	559	4,225	32,799	31	
Cleveland Hill	...	520	8,047	182	286	364	3,939	13,338	140	
Coleford	...	468	2,288	..	52	...	52	2,860	11	
Colenso	...	819	18,369	29	325	416	7,228	27,186	250	
Cundycleugh	...	572	2,392	91	130	416	3,783	7,384	21	
Curry's Post	...	637	9,087	468	260	780	5,746	16,978	28	
Dannhauser	...	598	26,507	520	286	559	8,818	37,288	238	
Dargie	...	1,677	11,947	858	325	910	10,010	25,727	142	
Dargle Road	...	585	9,711	182	169	1,729	6,825	19,201	292	
Deepdale	...	143	6,227	247	234	...	3,835	10,636	45	
Dew Drop	...	52	3,536	156	156	520	2,821	7,241	18	
Dronk Vlei	...	481	7,150	182	247	546	2,860	11,466	121	
Duff's Road	...	65	3,848	130	39	91	507	4,680	49	
Dumisa	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	
Dundee	...	11,665	101,041	2,600	1,872	37,007	58,933	213,118	2,158	
Dundee Coalfields	...	754	11,947	403	403	416	6,643	20,566	350	
Durban	...	105,924	2,268,356	60,788	22,321	455,338	586,677	3,499,404	24,678	
Durslage	...	182	2,093	13	39	26	1,248	3,601	...	
Edendale	...	104	13,442	78	91	52	1,807	15,574	32	
Ekutar daneni	...	585	3,016	104	169	65	1,651	5,590	65	
Elands Laagte	...	624	13,897	247	143	442	5,941	21,294	508	
Elizabethb	...	65	4,381	...	39	13	676	5,174	20	
Carried forward	...	144,926	2,830,247	75,017	35,651	511,454	873,053	4,470,348	33,759	



[POSTAL.]

REPORT OF THE

POSTAL

POST OFFICE.	CORRESPONDENCE.							Registered Articles.
	Letters.							
	Official.	Ordinary.	Postcards.	Parcels.	Book and Sample Packets.	Papers.	Total.	
Brought forward	144,926	2,830,247	75,017	35,651	511,454	873,053	4,470,348	33,759
Ennersdale ...	754	13,572	42	104	585	5,902	20,959	245
Enqabeni ..	65	4,238	...	182	195	2,271	6,951	130
Equeefa ...	325	3,692	91	143	663	4,524	9,438	63
Esidumbini (M.S.) ...	559	4,277	52	91	208	1,287	6,474	...
Estcourt ...	10,361	81,159	4,615	1,144	10,361	48,165	155,805	1,478
Fawn Leas ...	325	8,034	403	247	416	3,822	13,247	128
Florida Road ...	117	15,392	442	130	806	2,912	19,799	121
Fox Hill ...	104	3,809	65	...	13	4,251	8,242	90
Frere ...	780	9,568	1,014	208	195	5,122	16,887	206
Garden Castle ..	...	2,613	208	143	52	2,704	5,720	12
Gilletts ...	39	7,127	273	78	...	4,017	11,534	133
Glencoe Junction ...	91	7,578	52	65	26	5,720	13,532	227
Glendale ...	156	2,743	...	...	130	1,027	4,056	94
Gourton ...	832	9,529	273	338	546	5,187	16,705	162
Grahams ...	91	1,482	52	52	143	1,118	2,938	12
Greenvale ...	286	1,742	494	13	364	3,276	6,175	20
Greytown ...	8,398	78,221	1,912	2,184	15,691	62,492	168,898	1,061
Greyville ...	442	19,630	520	117	3,809	4,251	28,769	267
Grontville ...	611	10,036	572	65	26	3,822	15,132	56
Harburg ...	338	3,081	637	143	351	1,352	5,904	87
Harding ...	5,018	34,853	2,353	2,561	5,863	24,583	75,231	1,299
Hazeldene ...	52	1,300	...	17	52	745	2,166	36
Carried forward ...	174,670	3,153,923	89,087	43,676	551,949	1,071,603	5,084,908	39,686

## POSTMASTER-GENERAL (continued).

## STATISTICS.

MONEY ORDERS.						FEES OF OFFICE.				Fees on Money Orders.	Number of Free Boxes and Bags.
Issued.			Paid.			Private Boxes.		Private Bags.			
No.	Amount.		No.	Amount.		No.	Amount.	No.	Amount.		
	£	s. d.		£	s. d.		£ s. d.		£ s. d.	£ s. d.	
17,337	55,511	2 7	15,875	54,531	9 0	377	341 10 3	...	...	783 7 9	Boxes 19
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1,375	3,605	1 5	567	2,032	0 3	4	4 4 0	...	...	49 3 9	Boxes 4
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1,045	2,132	3 10	347	1,103	3 7	...	...	...	...	33 18 9	...
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948	3,455	17 7	179	503	19 10	...	...	...	...	38 15 9	...
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20,705	64,570	5 5	16,968	58,170	12 8	381	345 14 8	...	...	905 6 0	Boxes 23

[POSTAL.]

## REPORT OF THE

## POSTAL

POST OFFICE.		CORRESPONDENCE.							Registered Articles.
		Letters.							
		Official.	Ordinary.	Postcards.	Parcels.	Book and Sample Packets.	Papers.	Total.	
Brought forward	...	174,670	3,153,923	89,087	43,076	551,949	1,071,603	5,084,908	39,686
Helpmakaar	...	572	13,351	403	806	463	9,971	25,571	282
Hermansberg	...	4,186	22,581	1,066	611	2,717	8,242	39,403	261
Highbury	...	1,326	9,776	221	507	1,352	500	13,682	86
Highflats	...	295	4,333	52	173	295	4,073	9,221	142
Highlands	...	1,079	21,814	1,898	312	1,118	11,206	37,427	317
Hilton Road	...	312	8,710	169	117	2,028	5,720	17,056	199
Hope Town	...	2,834	1,288	494	463	...	7,566	12,650	106
Hosken's	...	676	3,328	...	104	...	1,456	5,564	58
Howick	...	6,500	45,188	3,692	1,495	16,536	22,061	95,472	882
Howick Rail	...	26	10,517	91	91	455	6,552	17,732	139
Ifafa	...	858	5,720	65	156	533	4,563	11,895	166
Illovo	...	702	7,371	91	143	156	2,743	11,206	246
Imbezane	...	455	1,657	117	78	208	1,196	3,711	33
Impendhle	...	1,872	9,100	286	598	78	5,096	17,030	209
Inadi	...	364	3,289	26	...	117	1,105	4,901	73
Inanda	...	182	9,529	221	91	78	1,677	11,778	...
Incuanga	...	1,260	6,188	117	13	13	806	8,397	69
Ingagane	...	351	7,930	65	65	780	4,030	13,221	156
Ingele	...	247	2,769	26	182	234	1,807	5,265	144
Ingogo	...	143	5,148	169	52	182	2,301	7,995	36
Ingogo Rail	...	442	10,088	182	117	182	6,231	17,242	70
Insuzi	...	182	5,226	39	117	104	741	6,409	59
Carried forward	...	199,534	3,368,824	98,577	49,972	579,583	1,181,246	5,477,736	43,419

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[POSTAL.]

## REPORT OF THE

## POSTAL

POST OFFICE.			CORRESPONDENCE.						Registered Articles.	
			Letters.							
			Official.	Ordinary.	Postcards.	Parcels.	Book and Sample Packets.	Papers.		Total.
Brought forward	...	199,534	3,368,824	98,577	49,972	579,583	1,181,246	5,477,736	43,419	
Inzinga	...	143	4,251	221	26	234	507	5,382	16	
Isipingo	...	3,094	17,905	507	182	4,303	5,629	3,620	257	
Ixopo	...	5,811	34,749	3,211	1,872	17,342	29,406	92,391	868	
Indian Postmaster, Durban	...	221	10,270	65	...	351	299	11,206	...	
„ „ Ladysmith.		65	5,499	208	13	...	208	5,993	...	
„ „ Pietermaritzburg		...	4,043	...	...	...	...	4,043	...	
Kearsney	...	1,222	18,239	429	546	624	9,139	30,199	240	
Kershaws	...	169	5,317	156	156	559	3,172	9,529	...	
Krantzkloof	...	78	2,028	26	13	117	1,053	3,315	52	
Ladysmith	...	14,047	211,731	2,665	187	39,052	94,614	362,296	4,268	
Lidgetton	...	299	10,543	377	182	221	6,799	18,421	248	
Lower Tugela	...	1,235	8,021	78	234	1,248	4,043	14,859	352	
Lower Umkomaas	...	1,612	23,894	390	481	416	9,698	36,491	307	
Maitlandfield	...	533	3,965	390	143	624	4,901	10,556	83	
Malvern	...	52	17,238	195	156	104	7,176	24,921	72	
Manderston	...	195	10,196	169	156	65	7,300	12,081	141	
Mapumulo	...	1,859	15,509	260	390	78	7,163	25,259	350	
Meran	...	182	3,133	13	39	52	195	3,614	15	
Middelrest	...	...	2,665	...	13	26	2,184	4,888	20	
Middleton	...	559	3,588	78	169	572	185	5,151	...	
Mid Illovo	...	1,092	1,378	325	325	39	1,196	4,355	60	
Misgunst	...	195	2,561	130	117	78	139	3,220	25	
Carried forward	...	232,197	3,785,547	108,470	55,372	645,688	1,370,252	6,197,526	50,793	

## STATISTICS.

[POSTAL.]

## REPORT OF THE

## POSTAL

POST OFFICE.	CORRESPONDENCE.							Registered Articles.
	Letters.		Postcards.	Parcels.	Book and Sample Packets.	Papers.	Total.	
	Official.	Ordinary.						
Brought forward ...	232,197	3,785,547	108,470	55,372	645,688	1,370,252	6,197,526	50,793
Moguntia ...	832	4,645	52	208	260	3,432	9,438	148
Mooi River ...	1,144	45,084	1,833	598	598	15,834	65,091	402
Mount Edgecombe ...	624	19,825	273	195	182	5,681	26,780	301
Mount Moriah ...	234	2,782	...	104	26	1,924	5,070	65
Mount Prospect ...	26	1,690	...	26	26	1,040	2,808	53
Muden ...	143	4,758	26	65	364	2,678	8,034	5
Murchison ...	247	2,860	143	143	26	2,028	5,447	84
Musgrave Road ...	2,977	72,969	2,223	754	22,386	15,613	116,922	831
Ndwedwe ...	1,300	2,912	91	78	104	1,011	5,496	81
Newcastle ...	10,088	125,801	4,979	1,911	21,151	80,964	244,894	2,280
New Germany ...	78	5,902	91	52	182	2,314	8,619	23
New Hanover ...	546	12,090	1,534	260	1,755	8,463	24,648	245
New Leeds ...	...	4,472	208	117	234	2,392	7,423	14
New Scotland ...	130	7,189	156	91	65	1,638	9,269	16
Ngobevu ...	273	3,055	52	143	65	3,185	6,773	93
Nonoti ...	13	1,612	13	...	52	...	1,690	...
Noodsberg ...	949	12,415	884	442	702	5,057	20,449	136
Noodsberg Road ...	1,235	6,942	1,040	91	3,029	3,575	15,912	197
Normandien ...	273	5,057	26	104	182	4,914	10,556	96
Northdene ...	91	5,642	143	52	286	1,963	8,177	103
Nottingham ...	559	11,102	260	299	1,118	5,070	18,408	56
Nottingham Road ...	611	27,066	1,196	333	195	14,846	44,447	258
Carried forward ...	254,570	4,171,426	123,693	61,638	698,676	1,553,874	6,863,877	56,285

## POSTMASTER-GENERAL (continued).

## STATISTICS.

MONEY ORDERS.				FEES OF OFFICE.				Fees on Money Orders.	Number of Free Boxes and Bags.
Issued.		Paid.		Private Boxes.		Private Bags.			
No.	Amount.	No.	Amount.	No.	Amount.	No.	Amount.		
	£ s. d.		£ s. d.		£ s. d.		£ s. d.	£ s. d.	
25,720	78,836 11 1	18,558	63,173 11 8	438	394 9 0	...	...	1,096 16 0	Boxes 29
...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
244	767 7 11	32	78 17 3	...	...	...	...	10 2 3	...
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374	860 0 11	124	363 9 8	...	...	...	...	14 1 9	...
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2,261	5,706 5 2	905	3,739 5 1	48	49 5 3	...	...	82 12 3	Boxes 7
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28,599	86,170 5 1	19,619	67,355 3 8	486	443 14 3	...	...	1,203 12 3	Boxes 36

[POSTAL.]

## REPORT OF THE

## POSTAL

POST OFFICE.		CORRESPONDENCE.							Registered Articles.
		Letters.							
		Official.	Ordinary.	Postcards.	Parcels.	Book and Sample Packets.	Papers.	Total.	
Brought forward	...	254,570	4,171,426	123,693	61,638	698,676	1,553,874	6,863,877	56,285
Olivier's Hoek	...	1,794	5,538	65	416	936	2,990	11,739	130
Onderbrook Spruit	...	182	2,334	78	78	351	1,118	4,641	21
Ottawa	...	338	6,357	221	...	819	702	8,437	140
Phoenix	...	208	3,978	104	13	156	2,305	6,764	134
Pietermaritzburg	...	188,773	1,474,304	28,899	18,395	421,993	559,669	2,692,053	35,787
Pieters	...	156	2,028	13	13	52	858	3,120	91
Pinetown	...	975	55,419	1,534	416	4,693	24,115	87,152	218
Point	...	8,580	80,951	2,184	286	17,290	16,952	126,243	3,297
Port Shepstone	...	4,719	23,803	884	702	2,626	15,093	47,827	1,035
Reunion	...	78	4,095	26	13	117	1,092	5,421	12
Richmond	...	7,007	41,535	1,508	1,209	11,713	31,759	94,731	427
Richmond Road	...	182	11,287	312	39	104	8,346	20,270	301
Riet Valley	...	143	2,171	...	65	13	...	2,392	3
Riet Vlei	...	767	13,546	182	559	1,385	7,566	24,505	180
Rockvale	...	195	2,210	130	299	195	715	3,744	...
Rorkes Drift	...	117	5,213	143	91	299	1,807	7,670	148
Rosebank	...	104	2,275	39	130	13	949	3,510	...
Rosetta	...	156	20,480	1,742	208	26	4,836	27,448	9
Salem	...	194	1,300	104	...	364	2,300	4,762	12
Scotston	...	598	4,784	91	286	572	3,029	9,360	40
Seven Oaks	...	624	10,530	208	273	442	9,490	21,567	116
South Coast Junction	...	312	6,201	78	26	884	4,901	12,402	161
Carried forward	...	470,772	5,952,265	162,238	85,155	164,219	2,254,986	10,089,635	98,574

POSTMASTER-GENERAL. (continued).

## STATISTICS.

MONEY ORDERS.						FEES OF OFFICE.						Fees on Money Orders.	Number of Free Boxes and Bags.				
Issued.			Paid.			Private Boxes.			Private Bags.								
No.	Amount.		No.	Amount.		No.	Amount.		No.	Amount.							
	£	s.	d.		£	s.	d.		£	s.	d.	£	s.	d.			
28,599	86,170	5	1	19,619	67,355	3	8	486	443	14	3	...	...	1,203	12	3	Boxes 36
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9,664	28,298	18	7	11,881	29,811	0	5	172	176	15	0	...	...	411	18	0	Boxes 40
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2,009	7,023	19	0	302	739	3	7	15	15	15	0	...	...	96	4	9	Boxes 8
1,086	4,103	17	2	187	740	5	11	...	...	...	...	...	...	45	5	6	...
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311	845	9	9	324	1,284	5	11	...	...	...	...	...	...	12	6	6	...
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[POSTAL.]

## REPORT OF THE

## POSTAL

POST OFFICE.		CORRESPONDENCE.							Registered Articles.
		Letters.							
		Official.	Ordinary.	Postcards.	Parcels.	Book and Sample Packets.	Papers.	Total.	
Brought forward	...	470,772	5,952,265	162,238	85,155	1,164,219	2,254,986	10,089,635	98,547
Southdowns	...	260	2,483	130	78	182	1,014	4,147	..
Spitzkop	...	260	7,840	...	156	...	6,812	15,068	42
Springfield	...	845	9,867	403	364	468	6,864	18,811	149
Spring Grange...	...	117	3,926	...	52	325	3,809	8,229	27
Springvale	...	65	6,461	13	156	312	1,833	8,840	162
Stamford Hill	...	221	23,179	390	221	13	14,469	38,493	188
Stanger	...	3,900	75,517	4,940	1,989	6,981	39,845	133,172	1,360
Sunday's River	...	689	3,419	39	143	78	2,418	6,736	118
Sydenham	...	234	13,130	286	182	585	3,848	18,265	73
Tongaat	...	2,623	29,562	559	572	2,210	14,391	49,920	417
Thornville	...	169	3,380	...	...	52	3,159	6,760	39
Tugela Ferry	...	256	572	...	17	17	558	1,420	28
Ulundi	...	234	1,911	52	104	65	1,625	3,991	12
Umbilo	...	273	9,087	26	26	273	5,083	14,768	162
Umgeni	...	767	13,182	286	...	39	11,323	25,597	237
Umhlali	...	4,498	14,313	312	377	4,459	8,073	32,032	490
Umhlangeni	...	793	6,461	221	403	546	2,392	10,816	124
Umlaas Bridge...	...	52	1,144	13	...	13	819	2,041	...
Umtamvuna	...	975	6,019	13	442	130	4,264	11,843	328
Umsindusi Rai	...	182	3,679	26	...	169	871	4,927	59
Umsinga	...	3,055	12,145	195	520	2,158	6,084	24,157	587
Umsinisini	...	195	962	13	39	26	663	1,898	...
Carried forward	...	491,438	6,200,504	170,155	90,996	1,183,320	2,395,203	10,531,616	103,199

## STATISTICS.



[POSTAL.]

REPORT OF THE

POSTAL

POST OFFICE.			CORRESPONDENCE.						Registered Articles.	
			Letters.							
			Official.	Ordinary.	Postcards.	Parcels.	Book and Sample Packets.	Papers.		Total.
Brought forward	...	491,438	6,200,504	170,155	90,996	1,183,320	2,395,203	10,531,616	103,199	
Umtwalumi	...	78	3,549	78	13	65	377	4,160	...	
Umzumbi (M.S.)	...	130	3,861	143	117	39	1,261	5,551	...	
Umzinto	...	10,257	54,756	2,041	2,119	14,417	37,375	120,965	1,220	
Undeen	...	715	5,148	143	338	390	3,536	10,270	59	
Underberg	...	104	3,302	52	65	234	1,482	5,239	...	
Upper Tongaat	...	832	6,032	91	65	377	2,197	9,597	60	
Umzimkulu	...	1,677	18,889	1,196	1,300	598	8,138	31,798	281	
Van Reenen	...	1,339	22,997	364	299	221	5,616	30,836	353	
Vants Drift	...	650	4,745	13	273	442	4,043	10,166	281	
Verulam	...	12,025	82,602	1,768	858	23,374	47,437	168,064	1,592	
Wartburg	...	364	4,453	884	87	745	3,848	10,381	69	
Waschbank	...	650	19,831	208	234	416	5,239	26,078	458	
Weenen	...	2,054	16,731	585	520	403	9,152	29,445	298	
Wessels Nek	...	143	9,542	78	52	65	2,600	12,480	219	
Wilgefontein	...	91	2,912	13	26	103	2,262	5,707	26	
Willow Grange	...	715	9,165	442	130	1,807	6,890	19,149	60	
Woodside	...	624	7,982	234	325	468	5,746	15,379	89	
York	...	429	8,970	676	273	598	5,551	16,497	230	
Zunckels	...	455	5,135	1,247	91	273	2,535	9,736	..	
Zwaartkop	...	91	3,198	52	65	13	1,326	4,745	...	
Postmaster-General	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	
Totals	...	524,861	6,493,804	180,463	98,246	1,228,668	2,551,814	11,077,856	108,494	

## POSTMASTER-GENERAL (continued).

## STATISTICS.

MONEY ORDERS.						FEES OF OFFICE.				Fees on Money Orders.	Number of Free Boxes and Bags.	
Issued.			Paid.			Private Boxes.		Private Bags.				
No.	Amount.		No.	Amount.		No.	Amount.	No.	Amount.			
	£	s. d.		£	s. d.		£ s. d.		£ s. d.	£ s. d.		
43,174	182,363	4 9	32,729	101,479	10 9	673	636 4 3	...	...	1,832	9 6	84 Boxes
...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
825	3,300	14 2	228	988	0 10	...	...	...	...	36	14 6	..
...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
985	2,612	10 7	626	2,416	6 9	...	...	...	...	37	7 9	...
...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
276	674	1 3	34	84	12 6	...	...	...	...	9	5 9	...
...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	155	254 1 5	...	...	25 Bags
45,260	198,950	10 9	33,617	104,968	10 10	673	636 4 3	155	254 . 5	1,015	17 6	84 Boxes 25 Bags

[POSTAL.]

## REPORT OF THE

## DEBIT AND

Expenditure.							Amounts.			Totals.		
							£	s.	d.	£	s.	d.
Salaries	...	...	...	...	...	...	12,784	5	1	12,784	5	1
CONTINGENT AND OTHER EXPENSES—												
Commission on Sale of Stamps	...	...	...	...	...	...	681	6	6			
Overtime Attendance, Sorting Seaborne Mails	...	...	...	...	...	...	492	11	1			
Petty Expenses, including Date Stamps, &c.	...	...	...	...	...	...	275	18	8			
Travelling Expenses	...	...	...	...	...	...	48	6	6			
Commission to Postmasters not wholly employed on Money Order duties	...	...	...	...	...	...	3	15	0			
Remuneration to Stationmasters as Postmasters...	...	...	...	...	...	...	97	2	7			
										1,599	0	4
MAILS—										14,383	5	5
Contract, Union Steamship Company	...	...	...	...	...	...	...					
Contract, Castle Packets Company	...	...	...	...	...	...	...					
Private Ships, Letters sent by	...	...	...	...	...	...	352	6	6			
Landing and Shipping Mails	...	...	...	...	...	...	418	15	8			
Inland Contracts	...	...	...	...	...	...	8,821	18	4			
Native Carriers' Wages	...	...	...	...	...	...	2,290	1	5			
Rations and Clothing to Carriers	...	...	...	...	...	...	972	10	11			
Mail Bags, Supply and Repair of	...	...	...	...	...	...	233	9	4			
Special Trains, Elandsfontein to Natal Border (English Mail)	...	...	...	...	...	...	944	14	0			
European Letter Carriers	...	...	...	...	...	...	1,795	11	1			
Travelling Allowances to Officers employed in Sorting Van	...	...	...	...	...	...	264	1	6			
										16,093	8	9
MISCELLANEOUS—												
Transit of Correspondence over Foreign Lines	...	...	...	...	...	...	6,989	16	9			
Commission on Money Orders	...	...	...	...	...	...	586	10	7			
Supply of Postage Stamps	...	...	...	...	...	...	766	4	5			
										8,342	11	9
RENT—												
Rent, Durhan Post and Telegraph Offices	...	...	...	...	...	...	470	0	0	470	0	0
Balance in favour of the Department	...	...	...	...	...	...	...			31,076	6	5
										70,365	12	4

## POSTMASTER-GENERAL (continued).

## CREDIT STATEMENT.

Revenue.	Amounts.	Totals.
	£ s. d.	£ s. d.
Sale of Postage Stamps, Postage, and Surcharges ... ..	...	53,549 10 8
<b>FEES OF OFFICE—</b>		
Poundage on Postal Orders ... ..	56 15 8	
Private Box Rents ... ..	636 4 3	
Private Bag Rents ... ..	254 1 5	
Commission on Stamps Purchased ... ..	2 14 0	
Fees on Money Orders issued ... ..	1,915 17 6	
Commission on Money Order Accounts ... ..	391 8 6	3,257 1 4
<b>SALE OF GOVERNMENT PROPERTY ... ..</b>	0 8 0	
<b>FORFEITED MONEY ORDERS ... ..</b>	63 19 1	
<b>SUMS REFUNDED TO TREASURY ... ..</b>	49 13 0	
<b>SPECIAL RECEIPTS ... ..</b>	22 13 10	
<b>GENERAL DEPOSITS ... ..</b>	5 10 6	
<b>FINES ... ..</b>	2 9 0	
<b>REIMBURSEMENT ... ..</b>	300 0 0	444 13 5
Approximate Value of Official Correspondence dealt with ...	8,581 3 4	
Rent, calculated at ordinary rate, of Private Boxes and Bags set apart for Government Departments ... ..	127 11 6	
Approximate Postage on Newspapers conveyed unstamped within the Colony ... ..	4,405 12 6	13,114 7 4
		70,365 12 4

[Postal.]

## REPORT OF THE POSTMASTER-GENERAL (continued).

STATEMENT SHOWING TIMES OF ARRIVAL AT, AND DEPARTURE FROM, CAPE TOWN OF ENGLISH-NATAL MAIL AND TIMES OF RECEIPT AT PIETERMARITZBURG AND DURBAN DURING 1897.

Steamer.	Arrival at Capetown.		Departure from Capetown.		Arrival at Maritzburg P.O.		Arrival at Durban P.O.		Remarks.
	Date.	Hour.	Date.	Hour.	Date.	Hour.	Date.	Hour.	
Roslin Castle ...	Dec. 31	5.13 p.m.	Dec. 31	9.0 p.m.	Jan. 4	6.0 a.m.	Jan. 4	6.40 a.m.	
	[1896]		[1896]						
Mexican ...	Jan. 7	12.40 a.m.	Jan. 7	9.0 p.m.	" 11	5.50 a.m.	" 11	6.40 a.m.	
Hawarden Castle ...	" 13	9.30 a.m.	" 13	1.55 p.m.	" 17	12.10 p.m.	" 17	4.50 p.m.	
Norman ...	" 19	4.20 a.m.	" 19	1.55 p.m.	" 23	12.10 p.m.	" 23	4.50 p.m.	
Tantallon Castle ...	" 26	6.5 a.m.	" 26	1.55 p.m.	" 30	1.37 p.m.	" 30	5.35 p.m.	
Tartar ...	Feb. 4	2.35 a.m.	Feb. 4	9.0 p.m.	Feb. 8	1.5 p.m.	Feb. 8	5.15 p.m.	
Norham Castle ...	" 9	8.40 p.m.	" 10	10.0 a.m.	" 14	12.30 p.m.	" 14	4.45 p.m.	
Moor ...	" 17	3.10 p.m.	" 17	9.0 p.m.	" 21	12.25 p.m.	" 21	4.50 p.m.	
Dunottar Castle ...	" 23	1.4 p.m.	" 23	9.0 p.m.	" 27	12.25 p.m.	" 27	4.50 p.m.	
Scot ...	Mar. 2	5.0 a.m.	Mar. 2	11.0 a.m.	Mar. 6	2.46 p.m.	Mar. 6	7.20 p.m.	
Dunvegan Castle ...	" 9	12.40 a.m.	" 9	1.10 a.m.	" 13	12.25 p.m.	" 13	4.50 p.m.	
Mexican ...	" 18	4.20 p.m.	" 18	5.0 p.m.	" 22	12.25 p.m.	" 22	4.55 p.m.	
Roslin Castle ...	" 23	9.50 p.m.	" 23	11.0 p.m.	" 27	12.21 p.m.	" 27	4.50 p.m.	
Norman ...	" 30	5.40 a.m.	" 30	6.0 a.m.	April 2	12.27 p.m.	April 2	4.50 p.m.	
Hawarden Castle ...	April 7	4.51 p.m.	April 7	9.0 p.m.	" 3	6.46 p.m.	" 3	10.50 p.m.	
Tartar ...	" 15	1.55 p.m.	" 15	9.0 p.m.	" 11	12.27 p.m.	" 11	4.50 p.m.	
Tantallon Castle ...	" 20	12.25 p.m.	" 20	9.0 p.m.	" 19	12.25 p.m.	" 19	5.15 p.m.	
Moor ...	" 28	8.30 a.m.	" 28	1.0 p.m.	" 24	12.30 p.m.	" 24	5.15 p.m.	
Norham Castle ...	May 5	12.26 p.m.	May 5	9.0 p.m.	May 1	6.44 p.m.	May 1	10.45 p.m.	
Scot ...	" 11	6.24 a.m.	" 11	1.0 p.m.	" 9	12.20 p.m.	" 9	4.40 p.m.	
Dunvegan Castle ...	" 18	5.30 a.m.	" 18	9.0 a.m.	" 15	2.23 p.m.	" 15	4.45 p.m.	
Mexican ...	" 26	12.0 a.m.	" 26	9.0 p.m.	" 21	2.50 p.m.	" 21	6.55 p.m.	
Roslin Castle ...	June 2	1.57 p.m.	June 2	9.0 p.m.	" 30	12.15 p.m.	" 30	4.35 p.m.	
Norman ...	" 8	8.15 a.m.	" 8	1.0 p.m.	June 6	12.25 p.m.	June 6	4.50 p.m.	
Hawarden Castle ...	" 16	7.26 a.m.	" 16	9.0 a.m.	" 12	12.25 p.m.	" 12	4.50 p.m.	
Tartar ...	" 24	1.45 a.m.	" 24	9.0 p.m.	" 19	6.32 p.m.	" 19	10.20 p.m.	
					" 20	12.17 p.m.	" 20	4.30 p.m.	
					" 28	12.30 p.m.	" 28	4.50 p.m.	

[Postal.]

## REPORT OF THE POSTMASTER-GENERAL (continued).

STATEMENT SHOWING TIMES OF ARRIVAL AT, AND DEPARTURE FROM, CAPE TOWN OF ENGLISH-NATAL MAIL AND TIMES OF RECEIPT AT PIETERMARITZBURG AND DURBAN DURING 1897.

Steamer.	Arrival at Capetown.		Departure from Capetown.		Arrival at Maritzburg P.O.		Arrival at Durban P.O.		Remarks.
	Date.	Hour.	Date.	Hour.	Date.	Hour.	Date.	Hour.	
Tantallon Castle ...	June 29	8-5 a.m.	June 29	1-0 p.m.	July 3	12-47 p.m.	July 3	5-30 p.m.	
Moor ...	July 7	5-40 a.m.	July 7	1-0 p.m.	" 9	6-24 p.m.	" 10	10-30 p.m.	
Norham Castle ...	" 14	11-55 a.m.	" 14	9-0 p.m.	" 10	12-17 p.m.	" 11	4-50 p.m.	
Scot ...	" 20	8-40 a.m.	" 20	9-0 p.m.	" 18	12-22 p.m.	" 18	4-50 p.m.	
Dunvegan Castle ...	" 27	3-30 a.m.	" 27	9-0 a.m.	" 24	1-43 p.m.	" 24	5-30 p.m.	
Mexican ...	Aug. 5	6-25 a.m.	Aug. 5	9-0 a.m.	" 30	12-58 p.m.	" 30	5-0 p.m.	
Roslin Castle ...	" 11	4-15 a.m.	" 11	9-0 a.m.	Aug. 8	3-42 p.m.	Aug. 8	8-0 p.m.	
Norman ...	" 17	5-25 a.m.	" 17	9-0 a.m.	" 14	12-25 p.m.	" 14	5-0 p.m.	
Hawarden Castle ...	" 27	9-15 a.m.	" 27	9-0 a.m.	" 15	12-19 p.m.	" 15	4-55 p.m.	
Tartar ...	Sept. 1	4-40 p.m.	Sept. 1	9-0 p.m.	" 20	12-25 p.m.	" 20	4-50 p.m.	
Tantallon Castle ...	" 7	7-45 a.m.	" 7	9-0 p.m.	" 31	12-15 p.m.	" 31	4-50 p.m.	
Moor ...	" 15	5-10 p.m.	" 15	9-0 p.m.	Sept. 5	12-25 p.m.	Sept. 5	4-50 p.m.	
Norham Castle ...	" 22	9-8 a.m.	" 22	9-0 p.m.	" 11	12-22 p.m.	" 11	4-50 p.m.	
Scot ...	" 28	12-15 a.m.	" 28	9-0 a.m.	" 19	12-17 p.m.	" 19	4-50 p.m.	
Dunottar Castle ...	Oct. 4	8-22 p.m.	Oct. 5	9-0 a.m.	" 26	12-24 p.m.	" 26	4-50 p.m.	
Mexican ...	" 13	6-10 p.m.	" 13	9-0 p.m.	Oct. 1	12-25 p.m.	Oct. 1	4-50 p.m.	
Dunvegan Castle ...	" 19	4-15 a.m.	" 19	9-0 a.m.	" 8	12-22 p.m.	" 8	4-50 p.m.	
Norman ...	" 26	4-0 a.m.	" 26	9-0 a.m.	" 17	12-23 p.m.	" 17	4-50 p.m.	
Roslin Castle ...	Nov. 3	4-7 p.m.	Nov. 3	9-0 p.m.	" 22	12-22 p.m.	" 22	4-50 p.m.	
Tartar ...	" 10	7-37 p.m.	" 4	9-3 a.m.	" 29	6-22 p.m.	" 29	10-30 p.m.	
Hawarden Castle ...	" 17	9-40 p.m.	" 11	9-0 a.m.	Nov. 7	12-19 p.m.	Nov. 7	4-50 p.m.	
Moor ...	" 24	5-10 a.m.	" 18	9-0 a.m.	" 14	12-22 p.m.	" 14	4-50 p.m.	
Tantallon Castle ...	" 30	3-0 p.m.	" 24	9-0 a.m.	" 21	12-18 p.m.	" 21	4-50 p.m.	
Scot ...	Dec. 7	3-0 a.m.	" 30	9-0 p.m.	" 27	12-22 p.m.	" 27	4-50 p.m.	
Dunottar Castle ...	" 14	3-42 p.m.	Dec. 7	9-0 a.m.	Dec. 4	12-22 p.m.	Dec. 4	4-50 p.m.	
Briton ...	" 21	4-25 a.m.	" 14	9-0 p.m.	" 10	12-22 p.m.	" 10	4-50 p.m.	
Norham Castle ...	" 29	2-0 a.m.	" 21	9-0 a.m.	" 18	12-28 p.m.	" 18	4-53 p.m.	
			" 29	9-0 a.m.	" 24	6-32 p.m.	" 24	10-30 p.m.	
					Jan. 1	6-5 p.m.	Jan. 1	10-30 p.m.	

[1898]

[1898]

[TELEGRAPH.]

## RETURN OF REVENUE AND TRAFFIC, YEAR ENDED 31st DECEMBER, 1897.

Stations.	No. of Messages forwarded.	No. of Messages received.	Number of Messages Transmitted (including Second Transmission).	Total.	Value of Government Work.	Revenue.	Total Earnings including Government Work.	Remarks.
Albertina ...	95	80	...	175	0 7 0			Railway work not included, Free State office worked by Natal Department. Railway work not included
Avoca ...	236	395	...	631	1 6 0			
Balgowan ...	301	226	...	527	0 14 0			" "
Bellair ...	1,533	2,177	...	3,710	3 15 0			" "
Beres Road ...	180	...	...	180	0 3 0			" "
Besters ...	129	114	...	243	0 7 0			" "
Boston ...	353	275	...	628	17 18 6			" "
Bothas Hill ...	148	131	...	279	0 9 0			" "
Brakwal ...	59	35	...	94	0 8 0			" "
Bulwer ...	1,864	1,264	2,036	5,164	106 8 0			" "
Camperdown ...	527	704	...	1,231	12 10 6			" "
Cato Ridge ...	252	236	...	488	0 12 6			" "
Charlestown ...	3,626	3,171	22	6,819	71 4 0			" "
Chieveley ...	109	86	...	195	0 13 0			" "
Clairmont ...	344	351	...	695	1 6 0			" "
Colenso ...	854	496	...	1,350	46 19 6			" "
Dannhauser ...	632	611	...	1,243	5 7 0			" "
Dargle Road ...	692	645	...	1,337	3 0 0			" "
Duffs Road ...	167	211	...	378	6 3 6			" "
Dundee ...	8,377	7,584	1,798	17,759	158 13 0			" "
Dundee Coalfields ...	1,042	756	...	1,798	1 12 0			" "
Durban ...	130,785	132,182	127,252	390,219	2,018 12 3			" "
Durban Rail ...	1,415	35	20	1,470	11 19 6			" "
Elands Laagte ...	1,306	1,152	...	2,458	5 10 6			" "
Ennersdale ...	687	712	...	1,399	16 1 0			" "
Estcourt ...	3,254	4,066	28	7,348	116 18 6			" "
Estcourt Rail ...	1,146	164	...	1,310	18 19 0			" "
Fox Hill ...	71	75	...	146	0 1 0			" "
Frere ...	620	599	...	1,219	5 15 6			" "
Gillitts ...	343	374	...	717	1 7 6			" "
Glencoe Junction ...	1,254	411	52	1,717	8 5 6			" "
Greytown ...	3,497	3,125	2,326	8,948	110 7 6			" "
Greyville ...	382	765	...	1,147	0 6 0			" "
Harding ...	3,207	2,404	...	5,611	249 2 6			" "
Highlands ...	950	735	...	1,685	55 16 0			" "
Hilton Road ...	479	495	...	974	0 16 0			" "
Howick ...	2,678	2,345	1,512	6,535	106 13 6			" "
Howick Rail ...	759	616	...	1,375	5 4 6			" "
Illovo ...	384	271	10	665	12 17 0			" "
Impendhle ...	344	326	...	670	20 15 6			" "
Inchanga ...	827	421	14	1,262	5 19 0	25,402 15 3	35,518 7 9	" "
Ingagane ...	460	306	...	766	1 0 6			" "
Ingogo ...	475	445	...	920	6 13 0			" "
Isipingo ...	965	868	...	1,833	12 10 6			" "
Ixopo ...	3,260	2,210	1,654	7,124	276 8 0			" "
Krantzkloof ...	89	66	...	155	0 11 6			" "

Ladysmith ...	8,900	10,479	33,128	52,507	339	3	6
Ladysmith Rail ...	1,962	166	764	2,892	27	0	6
Ladysmith Camp ...	1,124	1,218	...	2,342	125	15	8
Lidgetton ...	372	416	...	788	3	4	0
Lower Tugela ...	1,458	923	900	3,281	72	5	6
Lower Umkomaas ...	702	782	...	1,484	7	7	6
Malvern ...	414	706	...	1,120	0	16	0
Manderston ...	165	181	...	364	0	9	6
Mooi River ...	2,113	1,880	...	3,993	21	8	6
Mount Edgecombe ...	1,162	971	...	2,133	1	17	6
Mount Prospect ...	51	52	...	103	2	17	0
Musgrave Road, Durban ...	2,714	6,193	...	8,907	8	17	6
Newcastle ...	8,962	7,953	15,842	32,757	428	18	1
Newcastle Rail ...	1,331	47	...	1,378	78	4	0
New Hanover ...	503	450	...	953	23	6	4
Northdene ...	178	204	...	382	10	14	3
Nottingham Road ...	1,635	1,956	...	3,591	89	10	7
Ottawa ...	139	167	...	306	7	12	6
Phoenix ...	230	229	...	459	14	2	0
Pietermaritzburg ...	65,868	95,497	325,898	487,263	2,992	10	10
"    Rail ...	3,581	173	30	3,784	198	3	9
Pieters ...	53	78	...	131	3	7	0
Pinetown ...	1,251	1,838	...	3,089	60	17	10
Point ...	13,521	10,288	...	23,809	593	1	4
Port Shepstone ...	3,608	2,756	82	6,446	176	14	9
Reunion ...	122	185	...	307	8	5	6
Richmond ...	2,946	3,022	...	5,968	134	5	7
Richmond Road ...	2,020	2,044	...	4,064	97	16	2
Rosetta ...	279	292	...	571	15	8	6
South Coast Junction ...	533	505	...	1,038	33	7	0
Stamford Hill ...	415	630	...	1,045	24	14	0
Stanger ...	3,472	3,087	5,376	11,885	165	10	10
Sandays River ...	118	114	...	232	6	8	10
Tongaat ...	840	895	...	1,735	59	0	10
Tugela Ferry ...	115	88	...	203	2	15	6
Umbilo ...	360	473	...	833	22	17	0
Umgeni ...	756	1,272	...	2,028	42	6	6
Umhlali ...	679	633	...	1,312	27	7	0
Umsindasi ...	140	195	...	335	12	8	6
Umsinga ...	1,349	862	204	2,415	32	9	7
Umzimkulu ...	488	512	...	1,000	16	14	9
Umzinto ...	3,052	2,417	3,794	9,263	121	11	10
Vanreenen ...	1,254	804	...	2,058	38	14	6
Vants Drift ...	484	408	...	892	23	9	0
Verulam ...	4,947	5,251	294	10,492	216	5	9
Waschbank ...	1,173	1,071	...	2,244	75	17	10
Wessels Nek ...	832	678	...	1,510	54	13	2
Willow Grange ...	223	208	...	431	12	10	6
York ...	185	214	...	399	9	13	6
Zwaartkop ...	98	124	...	222	5	7	0
Total ...	330,034	346,253	523,036	1,199,323	10,115	12	6

Office opened in July  
Railway work not included

Office opened in March. [included.  
Railway work not

Office opened in May.

Railway work not included.

Office opened in March. [included.  
Railway work not

Office opened in January.  
Railway work not included.  
Office opened in March.  
Railway work not included.

Office opened in February.  
Railway work not included.



[TELEGRAPH].

REPORT OF THE POSTMASTER-GENERAL (*Continued.*)

## COMPARATIVE STATEMENT.

## ALL STATIONS.

				Forwarded.	Received.	Transmitted.	Total.	Value of Government Work.	Revenue.	Total.
								£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.
Year ended 31st December, 1896	...	...	...	307,247	323,504	510,368	1,141,119	7,887 19 5	24,815 17 9	32,703 17 2
Do. 31st December, 1897	...	...	...	330,034	346,253	523,036	1,199,323	10,115 12 6	25,402 15 3	35,518 7 9
Increase	...	...	...	22,787	22,749	12,668	58,204	2,227 13 1	586 17 6	2,814 10 7

[TELEGRAPH.]

## RETURN OF CABLE TRAFFIC FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31st DECEMBER, 1897.

Month.	Number of Messages received from the Eastern and Western Companies for Transmission to South African Stations.	Number of Messages collected in South Africa and handed to the Eastern and Western Companies for transmission abroad.	Total.	Payments to Eastern and Western Telegraph Companies	Payments made by Eastern Telegraph Co. for Messages handed to Department for re-transmission.	Value of Government Messages received from Eastern Telegraph Co. for re-transmission.	Total Earnings by Department on Messages received from Eastern Co. for re-transmission.
				£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.
January ... ..	4,070	3,005	7,075	7,295 16 10	368 10 6	28 5 1	396 15 7
February ... ..	3,257	2,670	5,927	6,360 2 7	308 14 0	14 16 10	323 10 10
March ... ..	2,782	2,062	4,844	4,598 15 11	247 6 0	19 18 4	267 4 4
April ... ..	3,949	3,966	7,915	7,448 6 0	327 12 11	35 11 7	363 4 6
May ... ..	3,402	3,228	6,630	7,160 10 0	288 13 3	31 8 8	520 1 11
June ... ..	3,051	2,971	6,022	6,516 11 1	223 7 0	9 18 1	233 5 1
July ... ..	3,753	3,855	7,608	7,363 7 9	311 12 1	24 0 0	335 12 1
August ... ..	1,335	656	1,991	281 6 9	98 3 9	14 19 0	113 2 9
September ... ..	1,384	1,136	2,520	2,641 6 11	108 3 8	3 10 8	111 14 4
October ... ..	2,929	2,498	5,427	5,417 0 6	234 2 0	5 13 8	239 15 8
November... ..	5,070	5,287	10,357	9,225 5 6	405 14 11	29 15 2	435 10 0
December... ..	5,314	5,836	11,150	9,610 10 0	426 2 3	26 19 11	453 2 2
	40,296	37,170	77,466	73,918 19 10	3,348 2 4	244 17 0	3,592 19 4

££

[TELEGRAPH.]

## REPORT OF THE POSTMASTER-GENERAL (Continued.)

## DEBIT AND CREDIT STATEMENT, YEAR ENDED 31st DECEMBER, 1897.

Expenditure.	Amount.	Revenue.	Amount.
	£ s. d.		£ s. d.
Salaries ... ..	15,304 2 10	Cash Receipts (Ordinary Fees) ... ..	23,187 10 10
Rent ... ..	360 0 0	Reimbursements ... ..	1,439 10 3
Battery and Instrument Materials ... ..	502 19 2	Fees of Office ... ..	652 12 6
Petty Expenses, including Date Stamps, Obliterating Ink, etc. ... ..	154 19 0	Sums Refunded ... ..	32 3 4
Percentage paid to Station Masters and others for forwarding paid messages ... ..	378 11 5	Special Receipts ... ..	1 12 7
Portage and other Disbursements recovered in Revenue ... ..	23 3 3	General Deposits ... ..	3 4 0
Uniform Clothing for European Messengers ... ..	213 13 10	Miscellaneous ... ..	86 1 9
Stationery, Printing, and Stamps ... ..	599 17 11	Official Telephone connections, calculated at ordinary private rate ... ..	418 0 0
Travelling Expenses ... ..	175 6 8	Maintenance of line between Darban and Observatory .	12 0 0
Overtime ... ..	847 2 10		
House Allowance in lieu of Quarters to Telegraph Officers ... ..	140 0 0		
Maintenance of Line ... ..	974 11 4		
Contribution to International Telegraph Bureau, Berne ... ..	13 16 9		
Maintenance, &c., Telephone Exchange ... ..	281 8 2		
Balance in favour of Department ... ..	15,978 14 7	Value of Government work ... ..	10,115 12 6
	35,948 7 9		35,948 7 9