

Fin. Sec. Office, 8th December, 1869.

THE GOVERNOR directs the publication, for general information, of the accompanying Report on the Post Office Department for the year 1867-68.

By command,

EDW. E. RUSHWORTH, *Fin. Sec.*

MR. SULLIVAN TO MR. RUSHWORTH.

General Post Office, 3d December, 1869.
No. 35.

SIR,—I regret that so much time should have been lost furnishing the Report on the Transactions of the Post-Office Department for the year 1867-68, called for in your Letter of the 28th September last, No. 2919; but the delay has been from causes beyond my control.

It has occurred to me, as the Governor desires this Report to be the first of an annual series, that it may not be out of place to submit, in a comparative form,

the transactions of the Department, commencing with the first financial year after its transfer to local control in August, 1860.

I therefore now have the honor to furnish that Return, and also a Statement, shewing the working of the Money Order Branch of the Office, from the inauguration of the system in November, 1863, together with a few explanatory remarks.

In 1860 the postage upon Correspondence circulating within the Colony was as follows:—On a Letter not exceeding half ounce in weight, 4d. if conveyed a distance of not exceeding sixty miles; 6d. if conveyed over sixty, but not exceeding one hundred miles; 8d. if conveyed over one hundred miles.

In 1861 2d. rate was made to include Letters conveyed, either a distance of not exceeding thirty miles, or for delivery within a Parish; and the rate of Postage on a Letter conveyed more than one hundred miles was reduced to 6d. if it did not exceed a quarter ounce in weight; heavier letters remaining at the higher rate of 8d.

The provisions of the Book Post were also extended, so as to include Samples of Merchandize, &c. the charge being 1d. per oz. The Book Post Rate previously 1d. per oz. being at the same time reduced to $\frac{1}{2}$ d. per oz.

In 1862 the Rate of Postage on a Letter conveyed not exceeding sixty miles was reduced to 3d.—4d. being made the charge for all further distances.

In 1865 the 4d. Rate of Postage was abolished, leaving 3d. as the maximum charge for a Letter not exceeding the single Rate of $\frac{1}{2}$ oz. The Scale of progression by the double Rate remaining unaltered.

On Packet Letters in 1863 the Rate of Postage on Letters transmitted by the Contract Steamers to and from the United Kingdom was increased by the Post Office Authorities in London to one shilling per single rate of $\frac{1}{2}$ oz. the previous rate having been 6d. The Postage on Letters forwarded by Private Ship being simultaneously reduced from 6d. to 3d.

In 1868 the Law authorized a charge for inland conveyance, to be made on certain Packet Correspondence received for delivery in, or posted at Kingston, which had previously enjoyed an exceptional exemption from any charge beyond a sea rate.

The rate of progression on Book and Sample Post circulating within the Colony was also altered.

These alterations are alluded to, as in their action they must have affected the Postal Receipts.

From 1860 to 1866 the Department also benefitted by the Postage on Correspondence with America, conveyed by the direct line of Steamers under Contract with the Jamaica Government, not only in the matter of Postage, but also by the aggregate Remittances from the American Government, being for gratuities on such,

Correspondence paid for at the rate of seven cents (3½d.) for each Letter so conveyed.

The transactions of the Money order Branch of this Department, which commenced operations in November, 1863, are shewn in the Return now furnished.

An erroneous extension of the Rules in May, 1865, caused a correspondingly beneficial result to the Revenues of that year.

In 1866, from July to November, the rate of Commission (originally fixed on a scale of two per cent) was temporarily increased to three per cent. The original rate of two per cent being thereafter reverted to until May, 1868, when the scale of charge was reduced to 1½d. per cent.

In the Financial year 1867—68 the principal events were the establishment of a third Mail with the Country Districts in each week, and the passing of a comprehensive Law regulating the Post Office.

Until the year 1847 there had been only one communication in each week with the Country Districts.

In the month of July of that year, however, a second Mail Communication in each week was inaugurated, notwithstanding an expression of opinion, on the part of some, that postal communication once a week was amply sufficient for the requirements of the Colony. It is curious that a like sentiment prevailed with respect to the further improvement now under report.

In July, 1868, a third Country Mail was established, thus substituting a tri-weekly for the old bi-weekly system, which had then existed just twenty-one years.

After due consideration of the many points which from time to time presented themselves, whilst the subject was under review, it was at length determined that the Mails should be despatched from the General Post Office, Kingston, on Tuesday, Thursday, and Saturday in each week at three p. m. and that the Return Mail should be timed to reach Kingston at nine a. m. on Thursday, Saturday, and Tuesday; and that the Saturday an Outward Mail should be resting at Mandeville, on the South Western Route, and at St. Ann's Bay on the North Western, to avoid Sunday traffic.

The Cost of establishing the additional Weekly Mail was considerably lessened from several causes.

For instance certain of the old Contractors, to whom payments in excess of sixpence per mile travelled had hitherto been made, were invited and agreed to accept that rate as the basis of their future Contracts.

Again, wherever possible in the case of outlying Of-

fices, i. e. Offices not situate on the Main Lines of Communication—Mail Conveyance by means of Foot Messengers was substituted for the more expensive system previously existing.

A further economy was effected in the matter of Special Expenses for the conveyance of overdue Packet Mails, &c. (a fruitful source of annoyance and expense), by the insertion, in the Contracts of Agreement, of an undertaking to perform such extra services without extra charge beyond the aggregate amount stated in the Bond.

Under the head of Expenditure for Special Expresses for the nine months ended 30th June, 1868, the sum of £165 appears, which if an average for the remaining quarter of the year be added, would have made the total charge for Special Expresses for 1867—68 £200.

It is believed that the total Expenditure for 1868-69 for Special Services, which will include all cases of Extraordinary Mail Conveyance not under Contract, will not exceed £50.

Whilst on the subject of Mail Conveyance it may be mentioned that an annual economy, which from previous experience may be estimated at £150, was effected in 1862, by transferring the onus of providing and repairing the portmanteaux for conveyance of the Mail Bags from the Department to the Contractors.

In November, 1862, Post Offices were opened at Newport, in Manchester, and at Malvern, in St. Elizabeth.

In August, 1863, a Post Office was established at Richmond, in connection with the American Mission there.

And in January, 1866, the Bluefields Office was opened.

The Post Office at Highgate was closed on the 30th June, 1868, the Office at Richmond being found to be sufficient for the District.

The last alteration to which I have to allude is the vacation, in April, 1867, of the premises hitherto occupied as a General Post Office, in Kingston, and the removal of the Departmental Staff to the ground floor of the old Court House, in this City, by which an annual economy of £150 in the matter of Rent has been effected.

I have, &c.

(Signed)

FRED. SULLIVAN, *Actg. Postmaster for Jamaica.*

*The Honorable the Financial Secretary,
Spanish-Town.*

STATEMENT, Shewing the Transactions of the Money Order Branch of the General Post Office, Jamaica, from the Commencement of the System in November, 1863, to the Financial Year ending 30th September, 1868.

	JAMAICA ISSUE.								UNITED KINGDOM ISSUE.													
	Payable in United Kingdom.			Paid in United Kingdom.			Void Order Account.		Payable in Jamaica.		Paid in Jamaica.		Void Order Account.									
	No.	Amount.		No.	Amount.		Forfeited to Revenue.	Repaid to Remitter.	No.	Amount.		No.		Amount.								
	£.	s.	d.		£.	s.	d.	£.	s.	d.	£.	s.	d.	£.	s.	d.						
30th September, 1864.....	1,369	8,567	14	9	1,290	8,116	18	7	...	...	71	293	16	0	64	276	18	4	...			
... .. 1865.....	7,428	65,452	14	6	7,280	64,220	1	8	1	5	0	110	485	7	1	105	468	5	3	...		
... .. 1866.....	6,845	57,061	13	1	6,668	55,521	9	10	1	4	0	169	673	2	2	162	660	5	4	5	10	0
... .. 1867.....	5,142	41,128	18	2	5,252	42,152	15	11	7	5	0	205	766	17	4	199	732	19	8	2	10	0
... .. 1868.....	5,196	40,577	2	5	5,004	39,060	3	10	17	9	0	230	898	5	9	228	893	7	9	4	0	0
	25,980	212,788	2	11	25,494	209,011	9	10	27	4	0	785	3,117	8	4	758	3,031	16	4	12	0	0

STATEMENT (continued).

Total Commission Collected on Orders Issued in Jamaica on United Kingdom.	Proportion of Jamaica Commission placed to Credit of United Kingdom.	Proportion of Jamaica Commission placed to Credit of Jamaica.	Proportion of Commission on United Kingdom Issue to Credit of Jamaica.	Additional Credit to Jamaica being Commission on Transfer of Orders.	Total Credit to Jamaica on Commission Account.
£. s. d.	£. s. d.	£. s. d.	£. s. d.	£. s. d.	£. s. d.
188 8 0	65 13 1	122 14 11	2 12 11	0 2 0	125 9 10
1339 13 0	451 1 3	888 16 9	4 5 2	1 8 0	894 9 11
1266 4 0	399 7 9	866 16 3	6 3 7	0 4 0	873 3 10
931 6 6	291 6 11	639 19 7	7 4 11	0 10 6	647 15 0
787 6 3	289 9 8	497 16 7	8 6 5	1 3 6	507 6 6
4513 2 9	1496 18 8	3016 4 1	28 13 0	3 8 0	3048 5 1

General Post Office, 3d Dec. 1869.

FRED. SULLIVAN, Acting Postmaster for Jamaica

Dec. 16, 1869.]

THE JAMAICA GAZETTE.

COMPARATIVE Return of the Revenue of the Jamaica Post Office, as shewn by the Records of the Department for the Eight Financial Years 1860 to 1868 inclusive.

I T E M S.	1860—61.	1861—62.	1862—63.	1863—64.	1864—65.	1865—66.	1866—67.	1867—68.	REMARKS.
	£. s. d.	£. s. d.	£. s. d.	£. s. d.	£. s. d.	£. s. d.	£. s. d.	£. s. d.	
Unpaid Postages Collected at District Offices } including Surcharges.....	5,197 11 3	4,611 16 9	4,120 10 8	4,024 3 11	3,936 10 3	3,792 19 7	3,778 10 5	3,752 14 0	
Unpaid Postages from United Kingdom.....	50 7 3	67 9 4	351 17 1	325 8 4	307 1 7	312 12 7	269 7 5½	222 4 8	
Unpaid Postages on Ship Letters.....	96 18 3	122 19 8	184 6 7	169 5 4	163 15 10	186 17 0	115 4 11	112 18 0	
Unpaid Postages from Foreign Places.....	244 0 3	178 17 7	126 5 2	130 6 8½	147 3 10	133 13 8	133 0 5½	244 1 3	
Unpaid Postages Collected at the General } Post Office on Inland Correspondence.....	1,464 7 2	1,369 7 6	1,091 4 0	1,131 12 10	1,112 12 8	1,102 1 8	1,033 7 10	995 11 11	
Redirected Packet Letters.....	...	...	...	...	...	...	33 14 10	29 3 10	Alteration in form of Aent.
Stamps Sold.....	4,450 6 3	5,132 12 4	5,488 16 7	5,896 18 7	5,849 4 3	6,447 11 8	5,968 12 1	6,134 10 5	
Rent of Subscriber's Boxes.....	36 15 0	33 6 6	39 7 6	35 3 6	33 1 6	32 11 0	67 14 6	64 1 0	
Commission on Money Orders.....	...	...	...	115 3 11	894 9 0	585 1 10	827 15 6	521 12 9	
Late Letter Fees, and Fees for Detention of } Packet Letters in Kingston.....	90 6 1	109 1 10	94 7 0	98 4 0	111 9 9	112 3 0	86 16 6	51 2 6	
Miscellaneous Receipts.....	4 6 5	..	3 13 2	7 2 4	6 1 10	2 16 0	33 1 2	40 15 11	
American Gratuity Account.....	43 15 4	163 11 0	...	30 18 10	25 12 6	593 13 1	208 5 2	..	
Paid (in Money) Letters to United Kingdom....	104 19 4	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	{ In the absence of Colo- } { nial Postage Labels... }
Refund from Sureties of late Postmaster of } Port Royal for Registered Letters Stolen... }	...	...	...	...	27 0 0	...	...	...
Gross Revenue in each Year.....	11,783 12 7	11,789 2 6	11,500 7 9	11,964 8 3	12,611 3 0	13,302 1 1	12,553 10 10	12,168 16 3	
Nett Collections in each Year....	11,134 1 8	11,369 16 4	11,101 5 3	11,353 9 1	11,868 17 9	12,586 16 1	11,953 14 0	11,362 3 4	

THE JAMAICA GAZETTE.

[Dec. 16, 1869.

General Post Office, 3d December, 1869.

FRED. SULLIVAN, Acting Postmaster for Jamaica.

COMPARATIVE Return of the Expenditure of the Jamaica Post Office, as shown by the Records of the Department for the Eight Financial Years 1860 to 1868 inclusive.

I T E M S.	1860—1861.	1861—1862.	1862—1863.	1863—1864.	1864—1865.	1865—1866.	1866—1867.	1867—1868.
	£. s. d.	£. s. d.	£. s. d.	£. s. d.	£. s. d.	£. s. d.	£. s. d.	£. s. d.
FIXED ESTABLISHMENT.								
Salary of Postmaster for Jamaica	600 0 0	600 0 0	600 0 0	600 0 0	600 0 0	600 0 0	600 0 0	600 0 0
Salaries of Clerks	1073 11 1	1,185 0 0	1,225 0 0	1,255 0 0	1,344 18 4	1,386 15 0	1,447 0 0	1,519 2 0
Allowance for Assistance	100 0 0	100 0 0	100 16 0	113 12 0	133 16 0	133 4 0	133 0 0	133 12 0
Wages of Messengers	216 19 7	228 0 0	250 13 7	254 0 0	259 4 0	259 4 0	270 18 0	288 12 0
Office Woman	20 16 0	20 16 0	20 16 0	20 16 0	21 4 0	20 16 0	22 10 0	23 8 0
Salaries of Island Postmasters	1223 7 10	1,223 16 3	1,326 7 5	1,380 0 0	1,388 13 4	1,397 0 0	1,425 0 0	1,407 3 6
Personal Allowance to Postmaster for Jamaica	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	25 5 0
SERVICES EXCLUSIVE OF ESTABLISHMENT.								
TRANSPORT.								
Traveling Charges	5 7 0	39 12 0	155 18 0	85 18 0	124 19 0	110 10 0	142 6 9	100 16 3
CONVEYANCE OF MAILS.								
By Contractors	3981 6 8	3,999 2 0	4,003 14 0	4,016 15 9	4,071 16 8	4,061 7 0	3,939 13 4	4,089 12 4
Special Expresses	139 8 0	119 0 5	56 13 0	163 11 10	36 15 0	94 10 6	186 9 4	174 17 6
Ship Letter Gratuities	19 10 6	16 10 10	27 6 6	49 2 0	30 11 8	31 17 0	39 15 1	51 10 9
Proportion of Postage due to United Kingdom	1392 11 9	1,412 3 3	2,077 15 7	2,588 1 2	2,562 17 4½	2,710 11 11	2,475 10 7	2,496 18 0
REVENUE SERVICES.								
Rent of Premises	150 0 0	131 5 0	125 0 0	135 8 4	150 0 0	150 0 0	87 10 0	.....
Repairing Mail Bags	44 16 9	35 0 0	23 0 7	18 15 0	13 7 6	17 12 6	12 18 3	0 3 0
Candle and Oil Account	22 1 7	25 9 6	14 2 3	16 8 0	18 2 9	18 6 3	11 8 3	10 3 3
Printing	39 9 0	62 3 0	77 4 0	68 15 6	134 18 9	67 16 6	98 12 0	44 1 0
Stationery	90 4 2	152 13 6	52 13 1	25 11 9	24 11 10	96 16 9	30 5 2	39 11 4
Making Mail Bags	43 5 3	193 15 1	26 3 4	55 11 9	12 13 6	1 0 0	33 17 2	14 19 9
Pistol and Yard Cleaner	9 16 0	9 16 0	9 16 0	9 16 0	9 16 0	9 16 0	9 16 0	9 16 0
Office Furniture Repairs, &c.	24 16 3	19 10 1	80 15 10	35 4 9	35 14 9	36 6 8	176 6 4	56 6 8
Allowance to Officers attending to Despatch of Morning Supplemental Mails	.....	28 0 0	28 0 0	32 10 0	34 10 0	22 10 0	17 0 0	14 0 0
Expenses during the Fires in Kingston, March, and December, 1862	.....	22 0 4	6 11 0	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
Couriers' Clocks	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	72 0 0	.....
Extra Assistance	.....	6 0 0	.....	12 16 6	32 5 2	61 6 6	25 19 3	.....
Refund to Contractors for Losses	.....	.....	70 0 0	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
Refund to Seamen for Stolen Letters	.....	.....	9 10 0	6 0 0	11 10 0	.....	.....	.....
Messengers' Uniforms	.....	12 7 0	17 9 0	10 19 0	20 9 0	1 16 0	11 9 0	3 6 0
Balance for Irrecoverable Law Expenses	.....	.....	.....	22 3 6	0 18 9	.....	.....	.....
Expenses of Post Office Commission	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	60 12 3	.....	.....
Expenses of Removal	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	60 0 0	.....
Contingencies	119 15 5	70 3 1	119 9 2	84 16 3	87 6 10	122 10 0	99 9 6	82 8 3
Nett Expenditure	9317 2 10	9,712 3 4	10,504 14 4	11,061 13 1	11,161 0 2½	11,472 4 10	11,428 14 0	11,185 13 4
DRAWBACK ENTRIES.								
Redirected Letters	188 5 10½	207 0 11	368 11 4	317 7 6	305 6 0	374 18 7	343 16 5	400 11 10
Unclaimed Letters sent through returned Letter Branch	122 19 0½	131 2 10	116 3 11	147 17 0	158 8 8	171 18 8	191 15 7	196 4 6
Packet Redirected and Dead Letter Account	25 3 2	35 16 9	19 13 10	30 14 9	42 8 3	42 0 7	34 10 6	29 3 10
Governor's Postage Account	43 1 2	22 6 5	28 5 8	19 1 6	40 13 8	49 3 10	.....	20 8 5
Poundage on Stamps sold	43 12 10	50 6 4	53 17 4	57 16 3	57 2 0	63 6 2	58 10 11	60 3 4
Gross Expenditure	9740 4 11	10,158 16 7	11,111 5	11,634 10 1	11,764 18 9½	12,173 12 8	12,057 7 5	11,892 5 3

General Post Office, 3d December, 1869.

FRED. SULLIVAN, Acting Postmaster for Jamaica.

Dec. 16, 1869.]

THE JAMAICA GAZETTE.

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