

GOVERNMENT NOTICES.

Col. Sec. Office, 15th March, 1871.

THE GOVERNOR directs the publication, for general information, of the accompanying Report on the Post Office Department for the year 1869—70.

By command,

WILLIAM A. G. YOUNG,
Acting Colonial Secretary.

SIR,

I have the honor to submit the third Annual Report on the Post Office Department, together with the under-mentioned Returns for the Financial Year 1869-70.

- 1.—Statement of the Actual Amount of Postal Revenue collected and lodged to the Credit of the Public during 1869-70, as compared with the preceding twelve month.
- 2.—Return of the General Revenue and Expenditure of the General Post Office for the Financial Year ended 30th September, 1870.
- 3.—Statement of the Transactions of the Money Order Branch during 1869-70
- 4.—Statement of the Transactions of the Returned Letter Branch for the six months ended 30th September, 1870.

The Cash Statement, No. 1, shews that the Collections for the year under report amounted to £12,969 2s. 2d. as against £12,765 0s. 2d. in the preceding year.

The increased Expenditure will be found under the heads of Conveyance of Mails, and proportion of Postage due to United Kingdom.

The Money Order Business, as shewn in Return 3, fell off during the year under report. The total Credit to Jamaica, on account of Commissions, being only £381 12s. 0d. as against £448 14s. 7d. in 1868-69.

A Return, No. 4, shewing the Transactions of the Returned Letter Branch is now for the first time submitted.

This Return only covers six months, the present classified Form of Record not having been in use for the whole year.

In items of Public interest during the year 1869-70, the Post Office Records are comparatively barren.

A Post Office was, on the 1st October, 1870, established at Siloah, in the Nassau District of the Parish of St. Elizabeth, and the Post Offices at St. David's, Gayle, and Clarendon had to be temporarily closed during part of the year, failing the Services of a Postmaster.

Representation from this Colony having been made

as to the public inconvenience, and indeed as regards the Country Districts, the positive grievance sustained in consequence of the irregular departure of the second Homeward Steamer in the Month, which, according to contract, was timed to leave Jamaica on the 24th of the Month, but which, as a fact, could not even reach Jamaica from Colon until the following day, (this Department however, governed by the Time Table, being obliged to bring back the Return Packet Express unnecessarily early, thus depriving Country Districts of opportunity for Correspondence), the Imperial Department altered the Time Table of the Royal Mail Steam Packet Company, fixing the morning of the 25th as the time of departure from Jamaica—an alteration which has worked satisfactorily.

Commencing in December, 1869, the Railway was made available for the conveyance of the Country Mails.

The only further improvement effected worthy of note was the extension, at the commencement of the Financial Year, of the increment system of Salaries to the Officers and Subordinate Staff of the General Post Office, who were at the same time duly classified.

I have the honor to be, Sir,

Your obedient Servant,

FRED. SULLIVAN, *Postmaster for Jamaica.*

12th January, 1871.

To the Honorable the Colonial Secretary,
Spanish Town.