Col. Sec. Office, 20<sup>th</sup> February, 1872.

THE GOVERNOR directs that the following Annual Report on the Post Office Department for the year ended 30<sup>th</sup> September 1871, be published for general information. By command, Edw. E Rushforth Colonial Secretary

No. 146.

General Post Office, Jamaica, 13th February, 1872:

I have the honor to submit the Fourth Annual Report on the Post Office Department, being that for the Financial Year 1870-71.

The Nett Revenue Collections for the year amounted to £13,628 16s. 1d. being in excess of those for the periods immediately preceding, as shown in the following Comparative Statement:—

Financial	Postage	Commission	Miscellane	Total.
Year		on Money	ous	
		Orders.		
	\$ s d	\$ s d	\$ s d	\$ s d
1868-69	12,119 15 10	549 13 0	95 11 4	12,765 0 2
1869.70	12,51670	380 17 1	71 18 1	12,969 2 2
1870-71	13,063 11 0	407 4 2	158 0 11	13,628 16 1

Under the head of Postages in 1870-71 is included the sum of £75 16s. ld. received from the United States' Government on account of the Sea Postage Gratuity of seven cents. per half ounce Rate, payable on Correspondence conveyed by the Vessels of the Pacific Steam Navigation Company between New-York and this island, under their Contract with the Government of Jamaica. That payment covered the Gratuities due to Jamaica on Mails conveyed to and fro from the commencement of the Contract on 5th February, until the 15th June inclusive. Up to the 30th September, a further sum of £47 12s. 6d. accrued. The postal value of the Correspondence conveyed under this Contract may be placed at £265 per annum (including the additional Communication with Colon), to which must be added a further sum of £180, being for Sea Postage Gratuities payable as above by the United States' Government. Estimated Annual, Value of Correspondence, £445. A permanent Contract would cause that Estimate to be considerably exceeded.

The United Kingdom's proportion of Packet Postages having rested at £3,145 8s. somewhat under its estimated value, the major part of the Increased Revenue noted must be Credited to Inland Correspondence.

The Money Orders, payable in the United Kingdom, issued during the year were 4,805 in number, and amounted to  $\pounds 34,053$  14s. 9d. The issue of the United Kingdom, payable in Jamaica, amounted to  $\pounds 861$  9s. 11d. and numbered. 243. The sum of  $\pounds 407$  4s. 2d. was passed to the Credit of Jamaica on Money Order Commission Account.

The Expenditure of the Department for the year is placed in the Office Records at	£13,567 3 0
From which however should be deducted for purpose of comparison, the sum of	£724 19 6½
Being for Remittance to United Kingdom on account of Postages proper to the	
preceding year.	
Total Expenditure 1870-71	£12,842 3 5½
Under the Head of Conveyance of Mails there appears an increase of	£132 18 5

owing principally to new arrangements which had to be effected in the Service between Kingston and Plantain Garden River, and to the establishment of Post Offices at Lilliput" (in the Gully District) on the borders of Manchester and St. Elizabeth, and at "Clark's Town," in the Swanswick District of the Parish of Trelawny. On the other hand; a re-arrangement of the Mail Service between Dry Harbour, Brown's Town, and Stewart Town, enabled the Department to afford that District greatly increased facilities at a merely nominal cost.

### JAMAICA GAZETTE SUPPLEMENT 7, March 1872

### P61 to 65

The Establishment of a new Post Office at Clarks' Town, and the re-opening of the Bluefields and Lilliput Offices, together with an addition to the Salary of the Postmaster of Old Harbour, on account of increased duties, also swelled the Expenditure under head of Salaries.

In the General Expenditure an item of  $\pounds 11$  8s. appears, being for the purchase of a Boat for the transport of Mails across the Dry River, Clarendon, during rainy seasons, the erection of a boat shed, and other expenses incident to its establishment.

It may not be uninteresting to note a few facts with reference to the conveyance of Mails. -- In the first place, with respect to the Ordinary Inland Mails.—The total number of miles travelled annually amounts to two hundred and forty-five thousand eight hundred and fifty-six, of which seventy-seven thousand and sixty-four are covered during the night.

The Packet Mails give an additional Service of 29,856

Total Miles travelled per annum 275,712

The rates of speed vary from seven to three miles an hour,, and the rates of payment for such Services are from 8½d. to 1d. per mile travelled. The Country Mails despatched from and received at the General Post Office weigh as under :—

	ORDINARY MAILS.					
OUTWARDS.	Maximum.	Minimum	Average.			
	Lbs.	Lbs.	Lbs:			
North Western'	195	90	128			
South Western	180	90	124			
North Eastern	50	25	37			
South Eastern	65	24	38			
INWARDS.						
North Western	95	65	76			
South Western	89	35	67			
North Eastern	30	15	20			
South Eastern'	39	15	23			

	PACKET		
OUTWARDS.'	Maximum.	Minimum.	Avertre.
North Western .	517	340	422
South Western	480	296	389
North Eastern	75	47	61
South Eastern.	63	35	51
INWARDS,			
North Western	95	54	77
South Western	78	40	63
North Eastern'	22	12	17
South Eastern	20	14	18

The first Outward Post, after the arrival of the second Packet in each month, is overweighted to the average extent stated below, on account of Magazines, etc. received from England by the respective Agents as Freight; and by them forwarded to destination in the Country Districts per Post :

	LDS.	
North Western	220	Not included in average
South Western	209	Weight of Ordinary
North Eastern	62	Mail previously stated.
South Eastern	60	
South Eastern	00	

### JAMAICA GAZETTE SUPPLEMENT 7, March 1872

### P61 to 65

The result of several Estimates places the items if Inland Correspondence passing through the Post Office during the year as under, in respect of aggregate Weight and Number :

	Weight in Pounds	Number
Letters	13,544	704,300
Books	18,950	37,900
Newspapers	16,050	256,800

Total Lbs. 48,544, 999,000

The Packet Correspondence average as under :-

		Number.
Letters		169,600
Books		20,400
Newspapers		173,000
	Total No.	363,000

The Estimates taken unfortunately did not include the weight of Packet Correspondence.

The average weight of a Letter may be stated at about one-third of an ounce; of a Book Packet at eight ounces; of an Inland Newspaper at one ounce; and of a Packet Newspaper at three ounces.

The number of Registered Letters received at and despatched from the General Post Office during the year, was-

Packet 2,150 Inland 18,166 Total Number 20,316 dealt with at the General Post Office.

The Letters, duly registered, bear however but small proportion to the number of Unregistered Letters, containing value, which are transmitted through the Post Office. Letters containing value to the extent of £338 3s. 9d. having been refused, or being unclaimed, found their way into the Returned Letter Branch during the year, and were, in due course, restored to their respective Writers. It is much to be regretted that the public prefer, apparently as a matter of calculation, to send Letters, containing considerable sums of money, Unregistered rather than pay the small additional charge of fourpence to save the risk from which Registration would guard them. The Law, as the public is well aware, declares that the Department shall not be responsible in a pecuniary point of view for the safe conveyance of a Registered Letter any more than for that of an ordinary Letter. Nevertheless, when on investigation it appears that a Registered Letter has really been lost—that there is no reasonable doubt that its contents were what they were described to be, and were of moderate amount, and that the person in fault is an officer of the Post Office, it has been the practice of the Department to cause the amount to be made good. The exclusive privilege of the Post Office does not extend to the conveyance of money, nor indeed to anything- but Letters. In France the posting of an Unregistered. Letter, containing money or other valuable article, is (or at any rate was until recently) treated as a penal offence. In Jamaica the Post Office Law,

"No. 18 of 1868, provides, that any Letter or thing "markd *Registered*, or containing value, posted without having been duly registered, is liable to a Registration Fee of eight pence." That authority is, when possible, carried into operation, the impounded Letter being treated in all other respects as though it had been duly registered.

The system of registration provides almost absolute security. The arrangements of the Department afford the means of tracing, when necessary, every Registered Letter from its posting to its delivery.

It is commonly asserted that to Register a Letter is simply to draw attention to the fact, that such Letter is worth stealing, to guard against. That the contrary is the fact may be gathered from the Records of the Department, which do not disclose a single instance during the period under review in which a Registered Letter has miscarried.

The neglect to register a Letter containing Money or Other valuable may be almost termed criminal while the temptation offered, both to the Servants of the Department and to other persons, through whose hands such

## JAMAICA GAZETTE SUPPLEMENT 7, March 1872

### P61 to 65

Letter must pass, is taken into consideration. The public are also careless of their own interests regard to the manner of posting, many Letters being posted open or insufficiently closed. Every Registered Letter, and indeed every Letter whose contents are of value, should be carefully fastened.

In the opinion of the practical Officers of the Imperial Department, the most effectual mode is first, to wafer the Letter and then to seal it with wax, care being taken in a hot climate, to use the kind of wax prepared for the purpose.

The number of Valentines posted on or about the 14th February, 1871, at the General Post Office amounted to one thousand five hundred and eighty-two, as against one thousand two hundred and ninety-five in the previous year and one thousand one hundred and sixty seven in the year before that.

The Records of the Returned Letter Branch shew that during the year one thousand three hundred and seventy one Letters were returned to the United Kingdom, and to places abroad, as Unclaimed or Refused, of which eight hundred and eighty-nine were unpaid to the amount of £25 14s. 7d. Out of two thousand four hundred and thirty-one Newspapers returned in like manner, there were two thousand three hundred and thirty-three unpaid, upon which £10 3s. 3d. had been charged. These amounts would, in due course, be credited to Jamaica in the Accounts with the Imperial Department.

Of Inland Letters Refused or Unclaimed-

2606 were reposted to writers resident in Kingston

5157 were reposted to writers resident in the Country.

7763 Total of Letters reposted to writers.

The total loss to the Revenue on Unclaimed Letters and Newspapers amounted to  $\pounds 59$  7s. 11d. Among the Unclaimed or Refused Letters there were seventy-one, containing value to the aggregate amount of  $\pounds 338$  3s. 9d. which had not been registered.

These were carefully returned to the respective writers.

The Postage on Letters, &c. to certain Foreign places having to be paid in advance, an insufficient prepayment obliges the Department to detain and return any such Letter to the writer, involving the writer not only annoyance hut perhaps loss and the Department in the disagreeable duty of opening private Correspondence. The latter evil would be avoided in most cases if merchants and others were to make use of Envelopes with their Names and Address embossed or impressed thereon.

The Table of Postages recently issued by the Department affords accurate information for public guidance. In conclusion I have to submit herewith the customary Returns for the Financial Year now under review.

I have the honor to be, Sir, Your obedient Servant, FRED. SULLIVAN, *Postmaster for Jamaica* 

*The Honorable the Colonial Secretary, Spanish. Town.* 

# JAMAICA GAZETTE SUPPLEMENT 7, March 1872 P61 to 65 RETURN shewing the Gross Revenue and Expenditure of the Post Office during the Financial Year ended 30<sup>th</sup> September 1871

REVENUE.	£. s. d.	EXPENDITUR.E	£. s. d.
		FIXED ESTABLISHMENT.	
Unpaid Postages Collected at District Offices, including Surcharges	4,086 16 0	Salary of Postmaster for Jamaica	600 0 0
	*	Salaries of Clerks	1,752 3 1
Unpaid Postages from the United Kingdom	213 5 1	Allowance for Assistance	132 0 8
		Wages of Messengers and Office Woman	322 11 7
Unpaid Postages on Ship Letters	216 0 9	Salaries of Island Postmasters	1,510 8 1
		SERVICES EXCLUSIVE OF ESTABLISHMENT.	
Unpaid Postages from Foreign Places	344 16 4	TRANSPORT.	
		Travelling Charges	150 5 7
Unpaid Postages Collected at the General Post Office on Inland	1,193 19 4	CONVEYANCE OF MAILS.	
Correspondence	*	By Contractors	4,912 15 2
*		Special Expresses	63 15 0
Redirected Packet Letters	55 19 7	Ship Letter Gratuities	38 16 0
		Proportion of Postage due to United Kingdom	3,870 7 7
Stamps Sold	7,731 11 11	REVENUE SERVICES.	,
		Repairing Mail Bags	1 2 0
Rent of Subscribers' Boxes	54 12 0	Candle and Oil Account	6 10 0
		Stationery	24 12 3
Commissions on Money Orders	407 4 2	Making Mail Bags	26 2 6
		Pistol and Yard Cleaner	8 19 4
Fees for Detention of Packet Letters in Kingston	18 17 6	Allowance to Officers for Services performed out of Office Hours	50 0 7
<i>U</i>		Messengers' Uniforms	7 13 0
Fine Account	25 0 1	Repairs to Couriers Clocks	630
		Water Supply at the General Post Office	4 0 0
Gratuity Paid by the United States' Government upon Letters conveyed	75 16 1	Date Stamps, Obliterators, and Commission on Money Orders in	25 0 6
between Jamaica and New York by the Vessels of the Pacific Mail Steam		Payment	
Ship Company		House Delivery of Letters in the Halfway Tree District of St. Andrew	1 5 0
		Rent of Premises for District Post Office of St Ann's Bay	930
Miscellaneous Receipts	4 13 2	Cost of Establishment of Boat, &c. at Dry River, Clarendon, for	11 8 0
*		transport of Mails	
		Contingencies	32 1 1
			13,567 3 0
		DRAW BACK ENTRIES.	,
		Redirected Letters	399 10 9
		Unclaimed Letters sent through returned Letter Branch	225 5 3
		Packet Redirected and Dead Letter Account	55 19 7
		Governor's Postage Account	32 8 0
		Poundage on Stamps sold	76 0 11
		Postage Stamps transmitted to Florence, Berlin, and Brussels	2 4 4
		Refund to Old Deputies of Balances at their credit	181
		Amount due by Mrs. J. A. Williams, late Postmistress of Savanna-la-	2 0 0
		Mar, written off as irrecoverable	
	£14428 12 0		£14,361 19 11

FRED SULLIVAN, Postmaster for Jamaica

STATEMENT shewing the Transactions of the Money Order Branch of the General Post Office, Jamaica, for the Financial Year ending 30th September, 1871.

	JAMAIC	A ISSUE			UN	COMMISSION ACCOUNT			
Payable in Ur	Payable in United Kingdom Void Order Account		Payable in Jamaica		Paid in Jamaica		Void Order Account	Total Commissions Collected on Orders in Jamaica on the United Kingdom	
Number	Amount	Forfeited to Revenue	Repaid to Remitter	Number	Amount	Number	Amount	Amount	
	£sd	£sd	£sd		£sd		£sd	£sd	£sd
4805	34,053 14 9		14 3 0	243	861 9 11	255	930 0 1	18 15 0	71979

	COMMISSION ACCOUNT.									
Proportion of Jamaica Commission placed to Credit of the 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 Amount to be carried to Revenue on Commission Account	Actual Amount paid to Credit Revenue on Commission Account during the Period					
£sd	£sd	£sd	£sd	£sd	£sd					
323 18 9	396 1 0	8 4 8	0 12 0	404 17 8	407 4 2					

FRED. SULLIVAN, Postmaster for Jamaica.

STATEMENT showing the Transactions of the Returned Letter Branch of the General Post Office, Jamaica, for the Financial Year ending 30th Sept. 1871.

		ers returned to agdom, &c.			ewspapers to United om, &c.	Letters Re-posted to Writers Resident in Kingston.		Letters Re-posted to Writers Resident in the Country.			Total of Letters Re-posted to Writers in Jamaica			Letters destroyed being Anonymous or with illegible Signatures			
Paid		Unpaid	Paid		Unpaid	Paid		Unpaid	Paid		Unpaid	Paid		Unpaid	Paid		Unpaid
No	No	Amount	No	No	Amount	No	No	Amount	No	No	Amount	No	No	Amount	No	No	Amount
486	889	£25 14 7	98	2333	£1033	682	1924	£22 8 8	1293	3864	£54 12 0	1975	5788	£7708	312	938	£1498

	Returned Letters Destroyed being unclaimed by Writers		recoverable on Redirection not Letters Returned to recoverable from I		Total Loss to Revenue on Letters	Total Loss on Newspapers Returned to Publishers as or Refused Postage irrecoverable		No. and Amount of Contents of Unclaimed Letters, not Registered found to contain Value and Reposted to Writers		REMARKS
Paid	U	npaid	id United Kingdom etc Writers in Jamaica							
No	No Amount Amount		Amount	Amount	No Amount		No	Amount		
392	1569	£23 19 10	£11 6 8	£199	£51 5 11	2832	£8 2 0	71	£338 3 9	

FRED. SULLI VAN, Postmaster for Jamaica.

### SUPPLEMENT TO THE JAMAICA GAZETTE.

No. 146.

62

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Financial Year.	Postages.	Commission on Money Orders.	Miscellane- ous.	Total.
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The United Kingdom's proportion of Packet Postages having rested at £3,145 8s. somewhat under its estimated value, the major part of the Increased Revenue noted must be Credited to Inland Correspondence.

The Money Orders, payable in the United Kingdom, issued during the year were 4,805 in number, and amounted to £34,053 14s. 9d. The issue of the United Kingdom, payable in Jamaica, amounted to £861 99. 11d. and numbered 243. The sum of £407 4s. 2d. was passed to the Credit of Jamaica on Money Order Commission Account.

The Expenditure of the Department for the year is placed in the Office Records at £13,567 3 0 From which however should be de-

ducted for purpose of comparison, the sum of 724 19 61 Being for Remittance to United

Kingdom on account of Postages proper to the preceding year.

Total Expenditure 1870-71	£12,842 3 51
Under the Head of Conveyance	of

Mails there appears an increase of £132 18 5

owing principally to new arrangements which had to be effected in the Service between Kingston and Plantain Garden River, and to the establishment of Post Offices at "Lilliput" (in the Gully District) on the borders of Manchester and St. Elizabeth, and at "Clark's Town," in the Swanswick District of the Parish of Trelawny.

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[March 7, 1872.

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In the General Expenditure an item of  $\pm 11$  8s. appears, being for the purchase of a Boat for the transport of Mails across the Dry River, Clarendon, during rainy seasons, the erection of a boat shed, and other expenses incident to its establishment.

It may not be uninteresting to note a few facts with reference to the conveyance of Mails.

In the first place, with respect to the Ordinary Inland Mails.—The total number of miles travelled annually amounts to two hundred and forty-five thousand eight hundred and fifty-six, of which seventy-seven thousand and sixty-four are covered during the night.

The Packet Mails give an additional Service of 29,856

Total Miles travelled per annum

275,712

The rates of speed vary from seven to three miles an hour, and the rates of payment for such Services are from 8<sup>1</sup>/<sub>2</sub>d. to 1d. per mile travelled. The Country Mails despatched from and received at the General Post Office weigh as under :---

ORDINARY MAILS.

UTWARDS.			
	Maximum. Lbs.	Minimum.	Average.
		Lbs.	Lbs.
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South Western	180	90	124
North Eastern	50	25	37
South Eastern	65	24	38
NWARDS.			
North Western	95	65	78
South Western	89	35	67
North Eastern	30	15	20
South Eastern	39	15	23

#### PACKET MAILS.

OUTWARDS.			
	Maximum.	Minimum.	Average.
North Western	517	340	422
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North Eastern	75	47	61
South Eastern	63	35	51
INWARDS.			2
North Western	95	54	77
South Western	78	40	63
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The first Outward Post, after the arrival of the second Packet in each month, is overweighted to the average extent stated below, on account of Magazines, &c. received from England by the respective Agents as Freight, and by them forwarded to destination in the Country Districts per Post:

North Western South Western North Eastern South Eastern	Lbs. 220 209 62 60	Not included in average Weight of Ordinary Mail previously stated.
South Eastern	60	fian previously stated.
14 - C	1 17.1	

in the Swanswick District of the Parish of Trelawny. The result of several Estimates places the items of On the other hand; a re-arrangement of the Mail Ser- Inland Correspondence passing through the Post Office

March 7, 1872.]	SUPPLEMENT	TO THE	JAMAICA	GAZETTE.
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du	ring the year	ag under	e in r	enact of a	arrante Weight	ter is worth stealing, and to invite the risk you seek
	d Number:	as anaci	, III (	espect or a	ggregate weight	to guard against. That the contrary is the fact may b
			Wei	ght in Pou	inds. Number.	gathered from the Records of the Department, which
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	Newspape	rs		16,050	256,800	
						or other valuable may be almost termed criminal, when
		Total	Lbs.	48,544	No. 999,000	the temptation offered, both to the Servants of the De
						partment and to other persons, through whose hand
,	The Pecket	Correspo	ndone	a overage	as under :	such Letter must pass, is taken into consideration
	THO T WORCO	Correspo	nuçin	e average	Number.	The public are also careless of their own interests in
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# Packet 2,150 Inland 18,166

Total Number 20,316 dealt with at the General Post Office.

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The number of Valentines posted on or about the 14th February, 1871, at the General Post Office amounted to one thousand five hundred and eighty-two, as against one thousand two hundred and ninety-five in the previous year, and one thousand one hundred and sixtyseven in the year before that.

The Records of the Returned Letter Branch shew that during the year one thousand three hundred and seventy-one Letters were returned to the United Kingdom, and to places abroad, as Unclaimed or Refused, of which eight hundred and eighty-nine were unpaid to the amount of £25 14s. 7d. Out of two thousand four hundred and thirty-one Newspapers returned in like manner, there were two thousand three hundred and thirty-three unpaid, upon which £10 3s. 3d. had been charged. These amounts would, in due course, be credited to Jamaica in the Accounts with the Imperial Department.

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7763 Total of Letters reposted to writers.

The total loss to the Revenue on Unclaimed Letters and Newspapers amounted to £59 7s. 11d. Among the Unclaimed or Refused Letters there were seventyone, containing value to the aggregate amount of  $\pounds 338$  3s. 9d. which had not been registered.

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In conclusion I have to submit herewith the customary Returns for the Financial Year now under review.

> I have the honor to be. Sir. Your obedient Servant,

FRED. SULLIVAN, Postmaster for Jamaica

The Honorable the Colonial Secretary, Spanish Town.

63 -13

R E V E N U E.			EXPENDITURE.			
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FRED. SULLIVAN, Postmaster for Jamaica.