



# Supplement to the Jamaica Gazette.

NEW SERIES.—Vol. IV.

THURSDAY, JULY 21, 1881.

No. 12.

THE GOVERNOR directs the publication, for general information, of the following Annual Report on the Post Office Department for the year ended 30th September, 1880.

Colonial Secretary's Office,  
31st December, 1880.

By command,

E. N. WALKER, Acting Colonial Secretary.

General Post Office,  
23rd December, 1880.

No. 120.

SIR,

I have the honor to submit the Thirteenth Annual Report on the Post Office Department, being that for the Financial Year ended 30th September last.

## REVENUE.

2. The subjoined is a statement of the cash collections for the year under review, as compared with those of the two preceding years:—

Year.	Postages.			Commissions on Money Orders.			Telegraphs.			Miscellaneous.			Total.		
	£	s.	d.	£	s.	d.	£	s.	d.	£	s.	d.	£	s.	d.
1877-78	13,880	4	11	239	8	8	...	...	...	325	1	0	14,444	14	7
1878-79	13,599	12	5½	279	10	7	...	...	...	343	3	10	14,222	6	10½
1879-80	13,838	11	11	158	14	8½	953	17	5	203	10	8	15,154	14	8½

3. In the item of "Postages" an increase will be observed, my remarks on which I purpose to furnish in the paragraph following the Approximate Analytical Statement of such item, which will be submitted below.

4. The item "Commissions on Money Orders" would appear from the above statement to have decreased to the extent of £120 15s. 10½d on comparison with last years transactions; but in point of fact this is not the case, as the sum of £158 14s. 8½d represents the cash collections after deducting the premium of ¾ per cent. which is payable to the Imperial Government for Money Order remittances through its Treasury Chest here, and which premium amounted during the year just ended to £100 10s. 0d.

5. For the purpose of comparison, therefore, this latter amount must be added to that shown in the above statement, when it will appear that the decrease is in reality only £20 5s. 10½d. The deduction has been made in consequence of recent alterations in the mode of keeping the Public Accounts.

6. There has been a decrease in the Miscellaneous Collections. The sum of £203 10s. 8d consists principally of fines inflicted on Mail Contractors and of the rents derived from the Private Letter Boxes at the General Post Office.

7. The following is the Comparative Analytical Statement of the item of "Postages" to which I refer in paragraph 3.

YEAR.	PACKET POSTAGE.		Inland Postages.	Total.
	To Credit of United Kingdom.	To Credit of Jamaica.		
	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.
1877-78	1,491 2 2	1,720 2 10	10,668 19 11	13,880 4 11
1878-79	1,170 12 9½	1,886 0 6½	10,542 19 1½	13,599 12 5½
1879-80	870 3 10½	2,198 8 9	10,769 19 3½	13,838 11 11

8. The continued falling off which the foregoing Approximate Analysis discloses under the head of Packet Postages to the credit of the United Kingdom, is as pointed out in the 7th paragraph of my last Annual Report, due to the reduced rates of postage which came into operation with the new Postal Treaty on the 1st April, 1879, the past financial year being the first during the whole of which the reduced rates were in force, six months of the previous year's collections having been made at the higher rates fixed by the Treaty of Berne, under which this Colony was first admitted into the Union on the 1st April, 1877.

9. On the other hand it will be noticed that there has been a continued increase under the head of Packet Postages to the credit of Jamaica. This increase is, in part, due to the fact that certain postages which were formerly placed to the credit of the United Kingdom are now carried to the credit of Jamaica, to be subsequently paid out to the Country providing the Sea-conveyance, and in part to the larger correspondence consequent on the reduced postal-rates and increased means of communication.

10. The reduction of the rates of packet postages under the Postal Union affects differently the returns of revenue proper to the United Kingdom and to Jamaica. Jamaica still retains the like proportion of postage, say 1d. per half-ounce letter, &c., as she did before she joined the Postal Union, and, therefore, reaps the full benefit of any increased circulation of correspondence consequent on the cheaper postage, whilst on the other hand the return for the United Kingdom shews the effect of the reduction of postal rates on letters from one shilling to four-pence per half-ounce. The latter result, is, however, to a certain extent counter-balanced by the payment made by this Colony under legislative authority, which for the year ended 31st March, 1878, and paid in the current year, amounted to £2,112.

11. Under the head of Inland Postage it will be observed that there has also been an increase, which is shewn by the numerical return hereunder.

#### CIRCULATION OF CORRESPONDENCE.

12. The estimates taken of the number of letters and post-cards which passed through the Jamaica Post Office during the year afford the following satisfactory results:—

	OUTWARDS.			INWARDS.		
	1877-78.	1878-79.	1879-80.	1877-78.	1878-79.	1879-80.
HEAD OFFICE, KINGSTON.						
INLAND MAILS.						
<i>Ordinary Letters:</i>						
Public	366,800	315,000	207,000	234,600	194,700	255,100
Official	36,200	32,800	41,000	37,400	27,400	42,900
Post Cards	4,900	6,000	8,500	3,100	3,100	5,300
<i>Registered Letters:</i>						
Public	6,000	7,634	8,092	18,300	16,000	20,529
Official	8,800	7,421	7,649	6,100	6,211	6,815
OCEAN MAILS.						
<i>United Kingdom:</i>						
Ordinary Letters	97,000	100,500	107,500	104,000	106,300	126,900
Post Cards	360	652	1,213	280	435	600
<i>United States of America:</i>						
Ordinary Letters	15,200	20,800	30,900	17,400	22,800	30,600
Post Cards	40	111	293	50	50	145
<i>Inter-Colonial:</i>						
Ordinary Letters	24,900	25,700	27,500	26,400	23,300	30,200
Post Cards			21			7
<i>Ship Mails:</i>						
Ordinary Letters	2,300	927	1,081	5,200	6,606	5,222
Registered Letters	2,000	2,311	2,609	2,300	3,018	3,648
	564,500	519,856	443,358	455,080	409,920	527,966

Between District Offices there passed Letters other than those to or from Kingston as under :—

	1877-78.	1878-79.	1879-80.
Ordinary Letters ...	303,000	282,400	476,100
Post Cards ...	6,300	5,928	8,788
Registered Letters ...	13,300	12,800	9,000
	322,600	301,128	493,888

13. The estimated increase which the foregoing statement exhibits over the preceding year's transactions in the number of Inland Letters must, I submit, be considered as satisfactory.

14. The apparent decrease in the number of Ordinary Letters despatched from the Head Office is due to the estimated number of letters which passed between District Offices via Kingston having, for the first time, been eliminated and properly classed with the estimated number of letters which were exchanged between District Offices. Such letters are estimated at 156,200, therefore, for the purpose of comparison, this number must be added to the letters despatched from Kingston, and be deducted from the number passing between District Offices.

15. An increase in the estimated number of Foreign Letters and Post Cards will also be observed, and is without doubt due to the admission of this Island into the Postal Union as well as to increased postal facilities as pointed out in paragraph 9.

16. The decrease which is shewn in the number of Registered Letters which passed between the District Post Offices, is, I am of opinion, attributable to the reduction which has been made by the Treasury in the rates of commission chargeable on Inland Money Orders: many persons who formerly availed themselves of the protection against loss afforded by the system of registration now making their remittances by means of Money Orders which are not registered. Postage Stamps are also to a great extent made use of as remittances through post and these too are very often not registered. To afford some idea of the extent to which postage stamps are availed of for remittances, I would state that the amount of stamps purchased during the year at the General Post Office at the authorised discount of 2½ per cent. was £385 14s. 9d.

17. While on the subject of Registered Letters I must again remark on the recklessness exhibited by the public in transmitting letters containing value through the post without having taken the precaution to register them. As an instance I would point out that in unregistered letters to my address as Head of the Department during the year, being principally applications from the interior for Money Orders, no less a sum than £1,229 2s. 10½d. was contained, and this too notwithstanding that there is not any charge made for postage or registration on letters to my address. In one case the value, represented by a cheque on the Colonial Bank, amounted to £467 19s. 3d. The miscarriage of such an amount might have caused, if not absolute loss, serious inconvenience to the remitter, and most certainly very great trouble and annoyance to the Department.

OCEAN MAILS.

18. The number of vessels which conveyed Contract Packet and Ship Mails to and from the Port of Kingston was as under :—

	Outwards.			Inwards.		
	1877-78.	1878-79.	1879-80.	1877-78.	1878-79.	1879-80.
<b>KINGSTON :</b>						
Under Contract ...	117	130	139	132	149	155
Non Contract ...	44	50	56	111	113	92
<b>OUTPORTS :</b>						
Under Contract ...	...	...	...	26	28	31
Non Contract ...	...	...	...			

19. In addition to the mails conveyed to and from Jamaica by the above opportunities 753 transit mails were received and despatched.

20. During the month of October, 1879, the Contract Mail Service between Belize and this Island ceased, that between Belize and New Orleans being substituted. The Steamers of the Royal Mail Steam Packet Company continued, however, to run between this Port and Belize until the 8th March last, when they were entirely withdrawn from the Service. Opportunities of direct mail communication with Belize have, however, been afforded by the Steamers of the West India and Pacific Company and those of the London Line.

21. On the 1st January last the new contract between the Imperial Government and the Royal Mail Steam Packet Company for the West India Mail Service took effect.

22. Under such contract the first Packet in the month is timed to leave Southampton on the 2nd at 6 p.m., and is due at Kingston, Jamaica, via St. Thomas and Port-au-Prince, on the 20th at 8 a.m., the return mail leaving Kingston on the 25th at 8 a.m., and being due at Plymouth, via Jacmel and Barbados, on the 13th of the month following at 3 a.m.]

The second Packet in the month is appointed to leave Southampton on the 17th at 6 p.m., and is due at this port, via Barbados and Jacmel, at 8 a.m. on the 5th of the following month, if the preceding month had thirty days, and on the 4th if it had thirty-one. The return Packet is fixed to leave Jamaica at 8 a.m. on the 10th, if the previous month had thirty days, and on the 9th if it had thirty-one, and is due at Plymouth, via Port-au-Prince and St. Thomas, on the 28th at 9 p.m.

23. From the 1st January last, Jamaica was substituted for St. Thomas as the terminal station of the Packet Mail Service between Halifax and Bermuda and the West Indies, performed by the Cunard Line under contract with the Imperial Government.

24. By the Time Table of this Service the Steamers are appointed to arrive here every fourth Wednesday and to depart every fourth Thursday, but may leave earlier should the arrival of the Contract Packet from Colon admit.

25. This alteration has not only placed Jamaica in direct communication with Halifax and Bermuda, but has also afforded another opportunity for correspondence with the United States and with Great Britain.

26. The Fortnightly Mail Service between this Port and the United States has been most regularly and satisfactorily maintained during the year by the Steamers of the Atlas Steamship Company. The result of such regularity, added to the reduction in the Union Rates of Postage, to which I have already referred, has been to increase the number of letters received from and despatched to the United States during the year, as shewn by the foregoing Numerical Return.

27. Advantage is taken of the Mail Service between this and the United States to exchange mails with the United Kingdom.

#### MONEY ORDERS.

28. A comparison of the transactions of the Money Order Branch of the year under report, with those of the preceding two years, give the following results:—

	1877-78.			1878-79.			1879-80.		
	No.	Amount.		No.	Amount.		No.	Amount.	
		£	s. d.		£	s. d.		£	s. d.
Jamaica Issue payable in United Kingdom ...	2,964	15,936	6 0	3,342	16,222	14 7	3,216	15,077	13 9
United Kingdom Issue payable in Jamaica ...	338	1,245	3 3	323	1,115	8 8	384	1,406	12 0
Proportion of Commission accruing to Jamaica ...	...	239	8 8	...	279	10 7	...	259	4 8½

29. There has been a decrease on the preceding year's transactions of 126 in the number, and of £1,145 0s. 10d. in the amount of remittances by Money Orders, which, as a consequence, has had the effect of decreasing the collections on Commission Account, and the proportion of that Commission which accrues to the Colony.

30. From the amount of Commission which is shewn to have accrued to Jamaica, the sum of £100 10s. 0d. being, as pointed out in the 4th paragraph, the amount paid for remittances on Money Order Account through the Imperial Treasury Chest, must be deducted.

#### EXPENDITURE.

31. The following is a Comparative Statement of the Expenditure for the year as compared with that of the two preceding years:—

Year.	Head Office.	District Offices.	Mail Conveyance.				Miscellaneous.	Total.
			Inland.		Ocean.			
	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	
1877-78	- 3,615 0 5	1,978 16 1	6,567 3 8	1,654 4 5	1,073 15 1	14,888 19 8		
1878-79	- 3,812 1 2	2,008 12 0	6,739 4 5	1,627 11 7	1,073 9 2	15,260 18 4		
1879-80	- 3,845 1 10	1,995 17 5	6,737 14 5	5,019 5 5	898 1 9	18,496 0 10		

32. The above figures show that the total expenditure for the year ended 30th September last has increased, and that such increase is to be found under the head of Ocean Mail Conveyance.

In that amount, however, are included payments to the extent of £3,949 7s. 6d. made during the year to the Atlas Company for the conveyance of mails between Jamaica and New York, whereas during the preceding year, 1878-79, only one payment of £340, being one month's subsidy, was made by this Department to that Company.

For the purpose of comparison, therefore, of the expenditure for the three years ended 30th September, the above payments to the Atlas Company must be deducted, when the expenditure on account of Ocean Mail Conveyance will appear as under:—

1877-78	...	...	£1,654 4 5
1878-79	...	...	1,487 11 7
1879-80	...	...	1,069 17 11

The falling-off has been caused by the reduced remittances to the United Kingdom consequent on reduced collections, as explained under the head of Revenue.

33. There was, as the outcome of the Incremental System, only a slight increase under the head of Salaries at the Head Office.
34. There has been a decrease under the head of Miscellaneous.
35. The expenditure under the head of District Officers and Inland Mail Conveyance is so nearly the same in amount as it was last year as not to require comment.
36. I take this opportunity to again mention that which I pointed out in my last year's Report, viz., that the Subsidy to the Atlas Steamship Company, the vote for which is now administered by this Department, was formerly paid by the Treasurer direct, hence the necessity for the deductions referred to in the 32nd paragraph. The sum of £3,949 7s. 5d. represents the payments to the Company during the year, after deducting the sum of £130 12s. 6d for fines imposed for over time.

MAIL CONVEYANCE.

37. The floods which prevailed in October, 1879, particularly on the night of Saturday, the 11th of that month, caused a temporary interruption of the Inland Mail Service, especially on the North-Western line between Spanish Town and St. Ann's Bay, and on the South-Eastern line between Kingston and Morant Bay. The rains had so destroyed the Bog Walk Road as to render travelling over it after dark unsafe. The hour of despatch of the Northside mails had, therefore, to be altered from 3 P. M. to 12 M.; but the original hour was reverted to on the 13th December, 1879.

38. The Cyclone which passed over the Island on the night of the 18th August last did not cause more than a few hours delay in the conveyance of the mails.

39. There has not been any alteration in any of the postal routes during the year.

MAIL COACH.

40. The Mail Coach, subsidized by Government, between Kingston and Mandeville, has, I am glad to be able to report, continued to work satisfactorily, and to prove a source of convenience. The receipts during the year were as under and have been credited to the Contractor:—

Passengers' Fares	...	£402 0 0
Freight on Parcels	...	37 3 3
		£439 3 3

41. The Receipts on account of Fares exceed those of last year by £24, and on account of Freight by £15 3s. 3d.; but the receipts for the year ended 1879 were only for a period of eleven months, the coach having been first started on the 4th November, 1878.

42. On the 1st October, 1879, the charge for parcels by Mail Coach was reduced from sixpence to threepence per pound, or per one hundred cubic inches; and the result has, I am glad to say, justified the reduction.

RETURNED LETTER BRANCH.

43. The Correspondence dealt with in the Returned Letter Branch during the year was as under:—

Class of Correspondence.	Paid.	Unpaid.
Letters returned to United Kingdom	1,128	572
“ reported to Writers in Kingston	2,006	885
“ “ “ Country	3,618	2,503
“ destroyed, being illegible or anonymous	741	512
“ “ Writers not found	1,392	1,468
Newspapers returned to Publishers	2,464	...

The total loss to the Revenue on the above was £42 3s. 8d. There were 52 unclaimed letters which were found to contain value to the amount of £489 6s. 10d. and which were registered and reposted to the writers.

INLAND TELEGRAPHS.

44. In the thirty-eighth paragraph of my last Annual Report, I expressed the hope that I should be able to include in this year's Report an interesting and satisfactory account of the Telegraph Branch, and it is with extreme pleasure I now find myself in a position to furnish such a Report.

45. On the 20th October, 1879, Telegraphic communication between Kingston and Saint Ann's Bay was established, and on the 30th September last the undermentioned Stations, seventeen in number, had been opened:—

Kingston	On the 20th October, 1879.
Saint Ann's Bay	“ 20th “
Linstead	“ 23rd “
Spanish Town	“ 29th “
Moneague	“ 29th November
Dry Harbour	“ 6th December.
Port Maria	“ 18th “ “
Annotto Bay	“ 20th “ “
Buff Bay	“ 1st January, 1880.
Port Antonio	“ 8th “ “
Falmouth	“ 28th February “
Montego Bay	“ 4th March, “
Duncans	“ 23rd “ “
Brown's Town	“ 30th “ “
Lucea	“ 25th June, “
Savanna-la-Mar	“ 5th August “
Grange Hill	“ 12th “ “

46. The Stations which remained to be opened on the 30th September last were:—

Black River, Santa Cruz, Lacovia, Mandeville, Shooters Hill, Porus, May Pen, Chapelton, Alley, Old Harbour, Manchioneal, Bath, Plantain Garden River, Port Morant and Morant Bay.

47. Since the end of the year those at Black River, Santa Cruz, Lacovia, Mandeville, Porus, May Pen, Alley, Chapelton and Old Harbour have been opened, and at this date are in full operation. It will not be long ere the remaining Stations are opened and the Telegraphic Circuit made complete.

48. The Clerks for all the Stations have been trained at the school at the Head Station.

49. The gross receipts on Telegraph Account were as follows:—

Stamp sold	...	£1,010	1	9
Additional charge on books containing Message Forms	...		1	9
Books of Rules sold	...		0	3
			<hr/>	
			£1,011	14
				0

50. The number of messages sent and received during the year was 17,453, as shewn by the Abstract which is herewith submitted, and from which may be gathered the number of messages sent from and received at each Station.

51. The above results are, I submit, both interesting and satisfactory,—interesting as affording proof that the convenience is generally appreciated by the public, and satisfactory as shewing that the Telegraph is likely to prove, if not a source of revenue, at any rate self supporting. I may here mention that the Return for last month would alone give an estimate of 42,000 messages for the current year, although there are several Stations either not yet open or which were not in full work for the whole of November.

52. The Expenditure amounted to £1,842 0s. 11½d as follows:—

Salaries	...	£948	1	4
Wages	...	123	8	4
Porterage	...	23	0	3
Services	...	746	11	½
			<hr/>	
			£1,842	0
				11½

53. The item of £23 0s. 3d, for Porterage represents the amounts paid for the conveyance of messages beyond the "Free limits" of Stations, which amounts were paid in Stamps at the transmitting Stations by the senders. The amounts so paid are, therefore, included in the amount of stamps shewn to have been sold.

54. On turning to the Return of Gross Revenue and Expenditure hereunto appended, a detailed statement of the item of Services will be found; and it will be seen that it principally includes Bonuses to Clerks on becoming proficient, Telegraph Stores and School Materials imported from the United States, Travelling Charges and Rent.

55. On the 30th September last the Telegraph Staff consisted of:—

1 Superintendent	2 Assistant Superintendents
13 Telegraph Clerks	1 Assistant Telegraph Clerk.

56. Of the above Staff one Assistant Superintendent is stationed at St. Ann's Bay, the other at Savanna-la-Mar, for the more ready detection and rectification of irregularities. There is a Clerk at each Station, and an additional Clerk at St. Ann's Bay on account of extra-work as a transmitting Station.

57. The nature of Telegraph Work will not allow of more than four or five Stations being placed on the same circuit or section of the line without the transmission of messages being impeded from overcrowding: hence the necessity for repeating or transmitting Stations every fifty or sixty miles. At each such Station it will, I think, be necessary to employ a second Clerk as at St. Ann's Bay, to avoid delay to public business.

58. A Staff of Auxiliary Clerks to be employed and paid only in case of necessity is being trained, and will be made available of in case of illness of the Permanent Staff or on occasion of press of business from whatever cause.

59. The Auxiliary Staff will form a reserve from which the Permanent Staff will be assisted in the present and recruited in the future.

60. It has been necessary to employ a paid Messenger at each Country Station for the delivery of Telegrams within the "Free-limits." At Kingston there are two such Messengers.

61. The "Free-limit" is in Kingston the same as that fixed for the house-delivery of letters, and in the country extends to one mile from the Telegraph Station.

62. For messages conveyed over one mile, and not exceeding three miles from the Station, a charge is made of 6d for each mile or part of a mile beyond the free delivery. For delivery at places beyond three miles the charge is 1s per mile, counting from the Telegraph Station. Unless porterage, where required, is paid by the sender, the message will be delivered through the Post Office as an ordinary letter.

63. The hurricane of the 18th August last caused a suspension of all telegraphic communication, which was not restored until the undermentioned dates:—

Between Kingston and Spanish Town on the 20th August, 1880.

Between Kingston and Linstead on the 25th August, 1880.

Between Kingston and St Ann's Bay on the 30th August, 1880.

Between Kingston and Dry Harbour to Savanna-la-Mar on the 31st August, 1880.

Between Dry Harbour and Sav-la-Mar, and the intermediate Stations, communication was restored on the 21st August last.

The Stations from Port Maria to Port Antonio were not re-connected with the main line until the 11th September last.

64. In consequence of the illness of the Telegraph Clerk, the Station at Moneague was unavoidably closed during the year on the following dates:—

5th March to 10th April.

5th May to 4th July.

19th August to 30th September.

The Station is, however, I am glad to say now open, and in charge of an Acting Clerk, and will, in a few days, be handed over to the Clerk who has been trained for the office.

65. Adhesive Stamps of the respective values of one shilling and three pence have been imported and issued especially for telegraph purposes, postage and revenue stamps not being used in order to keep distinct the receipts under this head of Revenue. The Shilling Stamp is available for the pre-payment of messages not exceeding twenty words, and the Three-Penny denomination for the pre-payment of the further charge made for each five words, or fractional part thereof, after the first twenty words, or for portorage.

66. For public convenience books containing twenty message forms, with an embossed stamp of the value of one shilling on each form, have also been issued. The books are interleaved with blank paper, so that by means of the carbonic-ink-paper, which is delivered with each book, copies of the messages sent may be retained by the sender. These books, which are sold at the rate of 20s. 3d., each, the additional charge of 3d. being made for the binding, &c., have been very much appreciated, particularly by the mercantile portion of the community.

67. Similar books have been provided for the use of Public Departments: the word "Official" having been printed across the face of each stamp. The respective Departments pay for these books at the rate of 20s 3d, in order that the full value of the work done by the Telegraph Office may be brought to account. The only *free* messages are those strictly on the business of this Department.

68. It may be advisable to mention that the Returns of Messages Sent and Received, which are from time to time published, do not include the "Service Messages" which are sent by the Department or by the Public Works Department with reference to the maintenance of the line. In such returns messages which have been paid for are *alone* included.

69. I cannot conclude the remarks on this most interesting portion of my duty without again bearing tribute to the general good will and faithfulness with which the Telegraph Staff has performed the very responsible and important work entrusted to it.

#### MISCELLANEOUS.

70. Between the 1st December, 1879, and the end of the Financial Year, 229 packets containing jewelery and other articles liable to Customs duty have been received from places abroad, and been detained for inspection by the Customs' Authorities. The value of the contents of such packets amounted to £285 18s. 6d., and the duty paid thereon to £35 10s. 1d.

71. Under the Postal Union Treaty it is forbidden to send by post any letter or packet containing coin, jewelery or precious articles, or anything liable to Customs duties, and in the event of any such letter or packet being received it is dealt with in accordance with the internal legislation of the Country.

72. The practice of the Imperial Post Office is to return such packets to the Countries of origin; but this Department elects to deal with them in the following manner, which it will be observed is less inconvenient to the Addressees, viz.:—

Any packet supposed to contain anything contrary to the above quoted regulation is detained, and a notice of such detention is sent requesting the Addressee either in person, or by an Agent, to attend at the General Post Office for the purpose of having the packet opened in the presence of an Officer of Customs, and of paying into his hands the amount of Import duty ascertained by him to be due thereon.

73. It may not be out of place if I here mention that on the 27th February last the Control Branch of the Department was removed from the upper floor of the Old Court House which it partly occupied, to the third floor in the Government Savings Bank building where it is now permanently stationed, the upper part of the Court House, which was temporarily vacated for the Ball which was to have been given to the Officers of H. M. S. "Bacchante" and ships of the North American and West Indian Squadron, having been given up as a Town Hall. Any inconvenience which might have been experienced by the removal of the Branch from the Building in which the Circulation Branch is still kept, has been to a very great extent overcome by the establishment of communication by Telephone between the respective Branches.

74. The usual Annual Returns are herewith submitted.

I have, &c.,

(Signed)

FRED. SULLIVAN,  
Postmaster for Jamaica.

The Honorable the Acting Colonial Secretary,  
Kingston.

Return shewing the Gross Revenue and Expenditure of Post Office Department during the Financial Year ending 30th September, 1880.

	£	s.	d.	£	s.	d.		£	s.	d.	£	s.	d.
To Postage on Unpaid Correspondence received at District Offices ...	761	1	9										
" Postage on Unpaid Correspondence received from the United Kingdom ...	75	16	4										
" Postage on Unpaid Ship Letters ...	124	6	7										
" Postage on Unpaid Correspondence received from British Possessions and Foreign Countries ...	122	19	6										
" Postage on Unpaid Correspondence received at the General Post Office ...	236	19	8½										
" Stamps sold by the Department ...	10,919	15	1½										
" Stamps sold by the Stamp Commissioner ...	1,913	7	1										
" Rent of Private Letter Boxes ...	62	7	2										
" Rent of Private Letter Bags ...	13	13	0										
" Commissions on Money Orders ...	158	14	8½										
" Fees for detention of Packet Letters in Kingston ...	25	3	0										
" Fine Account ...	151	6	6										
" Discount on Stamps purchased from the Public ...	10	3	7½										
				14,575	14	1							
<b>TELEGRAPHS.</b>													
To Stamps sold by Telegraph Department ...	1,010	1	9										
" Additional charge on A 1 and B. Books ...	1	9	3										
" Books of Rules sold to the Public ...	0	3	0										
				1,011	14	0							
To Amount Carried forward ...				£15,587	8	1							
<b>SALARIES :</b>													
By Salary of Postmaster for Jamaica ...								800	0	0			
" Salaries of Clerks ...								2,060	17	6			
" Salary of Travelling Supervisor ...								229	3	4			
" Wages of Assistant to Postmaster of Spanish Town ...								33	17	5			
" Allowance for Assistance ...								139	14	0			
" Messenger from General Post Office to Railway Station ...								20	16	3			
" Wages of Auxilliary Letter Carriers ...								73	12	0			
" Messenger from Spanish Town Post Office to Railway Station ...								12	0	0			
" Wages of Sorters and Letter Carriers ...								520	18	9			
" Salaries of District Postmasters ...								1,890	0	0			
" Personal Allowance to District Postmasters ...								60	0	0			
											5,840	19	3
<b>CONVEYANCE OF MAILS :</b>													
By Contractors ...								6,730	10	5			
" Special Expresses ...								142	12	6			
" Ship Letter Gratuities ...								17	2	1			
" Packet Mail Services ...								7	4	0			
" Proportion of Postage placed to the credit of United Kingdom ...								880	1	5			
" Steam Communication with New York ...								3,949	7	6			
" Transit Rates payable to Countries other than United Kingdom ...								172	14	5			
											11,899	12	4
<b>SERVICES :</b>													
By Making and repairing Mail Bags ...								26	19	6			
" Lighting Account ...								3	16	10			
" Amount paid by Crown Agents ...								4	2	0			
" Advertising ...								47	11	0			
" Yard Cleaner ...								4	8	0			
" Allowance to Officers for services performed out of Office hours ...								145	4	6			
" Letter Carriers' Uniforms ...								51	3	0			
" Water supply at General Post Office ...								8	2	0			
" Travelling Charges ...								16	16	0			
" Contingencies ...								150	12	10			
" Locks imported ...								4	15	9			
" Premium paid by Treasurer on Commissariat Certificates ...								100	10	0			
" Poundage on Stamps sold by District Postmasters and at General Post Office ...								106	0	0			
" Discount on Stamps sold by Stamp Commissioner ...								85	7	10			
											755	9	3
<b>DRAWBACK ENTRIES :</b>													
By Re-directed Letters ...								119	17	10			
" Unclaimed Letters sent through Returned Letter Branch ...								164	8	9			
" Specimens of Postage Stamps transmitted to Foreign Countries ...								6	4	10½			
											290	11	5½
<b>TELEGRAPHS :</b>													
By Salary of Superintendent ...								308	6	8			
" Salaries of Clerks ...								639	14	8			
" Wages of Messengers at Head Office ...								31	9	10			
Carried forward ...								£ 979	11	2	18,786	12	3½



Return shewing the Gross Revenue and Expenditure of Post Office Department during the Financial Year ending 30th September, 1880—continued.

		£	s.	d.			£	s.	d.
To Amount brought forward	...	15,587	8	1	TELEGRAPHS—continued.				
					Brought forward				
					979 11 2 18,786 12 3½				
					“ Wages of Office Woman at Head Office ... 6 0 0				
					“ Wages of Messengers at Out-stations ... 85 18 6				
					“ Porterage ... 23 0 3				
					“ Contingencies ... 69 17 1½				
					“ Telephones ... 37 3 11				
					“ Bonuses ... 120 0 0				
					“ Stores and School Materials ... 29 11 6				
					“ Advertising ... 13 8 9				
					“ Office Furniture .. 15 13 6				
					“ Travelling Charges ... 333 12 3				
					“ Rent ... 123 17 5				
					“ Amount paid by Crown Agents ... 0 19 4				
					“ Water Supply ... 3 7 3				
					————— 1,842 0 11½				
					DRAWBACK ENTRY:				
					By Refunds ... 0 18 3				
					————— 0 18 3				
Total Revenue	...	£15,587	8	1	Total Expenditure	...	£20,629	11	6

JULY 21, 1881.]

SUPPLEMENT TO THE JAMAICA GAZETTE.

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*Statement shewing the Transactions of the Money Order Branch of the General Post Office for the Financial Year ended 30th September, 1880.*

JAMAICA ISSUE.				UNITED KINGDOM ISSUE.					COMMISSION ACCOUNT.
Payable in United Kingdom.		Void Order Account.		Payable in Jamaica.		Paid in Jamaica		Void Order Account.	Total Commissions collected on Orders issued in Jamaica on the United Kingdom.
No.	Amount.	Forfeited to Revenue.	Repaid to Remitter.	No.	Amount.	No.	Amount.	Amount.	Amount.
	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.		£ s. d.		£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.
3,216	15,077 13 9	...	3 7 3	384	1,406 12 0	369	1,406 11 5	3 0 0	395 3 6

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 placed to credit of Jamaica.	Additional credit to Jamaica being Commission on transfer of Orders.	Total Amount which accrued to Jamaica Commission Account.	Actual Amount paid to credit of Revenue on Commission Account during the period.	Amount of Premiums paid on Remittances to United Kingdom.
£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.
150 9 2½	244 14 3½	14 1 5	0 9 0	259 4 8½	158 14 8½	100 10 0

FRED. SULLIVAN,

Postmaster for Jamaica.

General Post Office,  
23rd December, 1880.

Statement showing the Transactions of the Returned Letter Branch of the General Post Office for the Financial Year ended 30th September, 1880.

Total of Letters Returned to the United Kingdom, &c.			Letters Reposted to Writers resident in Kingston.			Letters Reposted to Writers resident in the Country.			Total of Letters Returned to Writers in Jamaica.			Letters destroyed, being anonymous or with illegible signatures.			Returned Letters destroyed, being unclaimed by Writers.																				
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.																		
		£ s. d.			£ s. d.			£ s. d.			£ s. d.			£ s. d.			£ s. d.																		
1,128		572	17	6	11½	2,006		885	15	10	0½	3,618		2,503	46	10	3½	5,624		3,388	62	0	4	741		512	8	6	10	1,392		1,468	24	8	7½
Inland Postage not recoverable on Letters Returned to the United Kingdom, &c.			Inland Postage for Redirection not recoverable from Writers in Jamaica.			Total Loss to Revenue on Letters			Total Loss on Newspapers Returned to publishers as unclaimed or refused—postage irrecoverable.			Number and Amount of Contents of Unclaimed Letters not Registered, but found to contain value and Reposted to Writers.			Remarks.																				
Amount.			Amount.			Amount.			Paid.		Unpaid.		No.		Amount.		Total Number dealt with.																		
		£ s. d.			£ s. d.			£ s. d.	No.		No.		Amount.				Letters—Packet, 1,706																		
		8			14			5½									" Inland, 13,177																		
					0			13									Newspapers—Inland, 2,464.																		
								42									2,464																		
								3									52																		
								8									489																		
																	6																		
																	10																		

POST OFFICE TELEGRAPHS JAMAICA.

Abstract of Number of Messages transmitted from the opening of the Telegraph Line on 20th October, 1879 to 30th September, 1880.

Sent From	RECEIVED AT																	Date when each Station was opened.	
	Kingston.	Spanish Town.	Linstead.	Moneague.	St. Ann's Bay.	Dry Harbour.	Brown's Town.	Duncans.	Falmouth.	Montego Bay.	Lucea.	Grange Hill.	Sav-la-Mar.	Port Maria.	Annotto Bay.	Buff Bay.	Port Antonio.		Totals Sent.
Kingston	...	591	587	104	534	39	112	23	408	598	60	2	72	341	224	142	296	4,133	20th October, 1879.
Spanish Town	557	...	141	25	47	1	8	...	15	19	1	...	...	52	12	11	5	894	29th October, 1879.
Linstead	663	135	...	33	44	2	7	3	24	19	...	...	2	2	4	...	...	938	23rd October, 1879.
Moneague	158	37	34	...	55	2	11	...	8	3	1	...	...	2	...	...	4	315	29th November, 1879.
St. Ann's Bay	582	61	24	54	...	48	115	13	244	174	11	...	6	88	13	7	110	1,550	20th October, 1879.
Dry Harbour	49	3	1	3	67	...	30	8	57	36	3	...	...	5	...	...	5	267	6th December, 1879.
Brown's Town	136	6	10	12	97	28	...	16	138	49	1	...	2	...	1	...	1	497	30th March, 1880.
Duncans	19	...	5	...	21	9	12	...	77	27	6	...	1	1	2	4	6	190	23rd March, 1880.
Falmouth	453	15	14	8	207	52	143	76	...	628	33	4	17	14	5	9	41	1,719	28th February, 1880.
Montego Bay	737	24	21	...	207	21	28	20	685	...	200	5	112	21	2	9	11	2,103	4th March, 1880.
Lucea	93	...	...	1	10	4	1	8	38	214	...	8	47	...	...	1	1	426	25th June, 1880.
Grange Hill	6	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	5	12	13	...	15	...	...	...	...	51	12th August, 1880.
Sav-la-Mar	94	3	1	1	8	...	2	1	21	148	43	11	...	1	...	1	2	337	5th August, 1880.
Port Maria	334	50	3	1	104	4	1	...	20	28	...	...	...	...	144	16	227	932	18th December, 1879.
Annotto Bay	317	7	1	...	19	...	1	2	5	4	...	...	...	186	...	102	396	1,040	20th December, 1879.
Buff Bay	175	9	1	...	7	...	...	9	10	12	...	...	...	12	92	...	316	643	1st January, 1880.
Port Antonio	368	5	...	3	127	9	3	5	43	4	...	...	1	203	330	317	...	1,418	8th January, 1880.
Totals Received	4,741	946	843	245	1,554	219	474	184	1,798	1,975	372	30	275	928	829	619	1,421	17,453	

NOTES.

I.—The results of the Storm on the night of the 18th August, 1880, suspended all Telegraph operations :—

II.—Communication was restored between Kingston and other Stations as under :—

- Spanish Town on 20th August.
- Linstead on 25th August.
- St. Ann's Bay on 30th August.
- Dry Harbour to Savanna-la-Mar, inclusive, on 31st August.

III.—Between Dry Harbour and Savanna-la-Mar and intermediate Stations communication was restored on 21st August.

IV.—The Stations from Port Maria to Port Antonio, inclusive, were not reconnected with Main Line until 11th September.

V.—The Stations at Moneague was unavoidably closed on the following dates :—  
March, 5 to April, 10 ; May, 5 to July, 4 ; August, 19 to September, 30.

General Post Office,  
23rd December, 1880.

FRED. SULLIVAN,  
Postmaster for Jamaica.