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Colonial Secretary's Office, 23rd January, 1884.

THE GOVERNOR directs the publication, for general information, of the following Annual Report of the Postmaster for Jamaica, for the year ended 30th September, 1883.

By command,

E. N. WALKER, Colonial Secretary.

No. 25.

SIR,

General Post Office, 19th January, 1884.

I have the honor to submit the sixteenth Annual Report of the Post Office Department, being that for the Financial Year ended 30th September, 1883.

REVENUE.

1. The total cash collections during the year amounted to £19,063 14s. 11½d. and compare with the collections of the years ended respectively 30th September, 1881 and 1882 as follows:—

Year.	Postages.			Commissions on Money Orders.			Telegraphs.			Miscellaneous.			Total.		
	£	s.	d.	£	s.	d.	£	s.	d.	£	s.	d.	£	s.	d.
1880-81	13,734	7	7½	145	11	10	2,626	5	8	442	9	3	16,948	14	4½
1881-82	13,993	9	0½	184	0	3½	3,313	5	8	301	16	2	17,792	11	2½
1882-83	14,855	15	5½	203	1	9½	3,767	10	6½	237	7	2	19,063	14	11½

2. It will be noticed that the collections of the year under review exceeded those of the preceding year by the sum of £1,271 3s. 9d. and that of such increase £454 4s. 10½d. is in respect of the collections on account of 'Telegraphs.'

3. An approximate analysis of the item of "Postages" gives the following results:—

Year.	Packet Postages.						Inland Postages.			Total.		
	To credit of United Kingdom.			To credit of Jamaica.			£	s.	d.	£	s.	d.
1880-81	£	s.	d.	£	s.	d.	10,274	4	4½	13,734	7	7½
1881-82	856	5	6½	2,603	17	8½	10,264	13	3	13,993	9	0½
1882-83	562	16	3¼	3,165	19	6½	10,580	7	9½	14,855	15	5½
	627	13	6¼	3,647	14	1¼						

4. This analysis shews that there has been an increase of £862 6s. 4½d. over the postages collected during the year 1881-82, of which the sum of £64 17s. 3½d. is in respect of the collections on behalf of the Imperial Post Office; the sum of £481 14s. 6½d. in respect of packet postages to the credit of this Colony; and the sum of £315 14s. 6½d. on account of inland postages.

5. The exodus of labourers from Jamaica to Colon which took place during the year has contributed materially to the increase in the amount of packet postages to the credit of Jamaica.

6. During the year 1881-82 the number of letters despatched to the United States of Colombia was 21,141, and the value of the postage amounted to £388 17s. 11d., while the number of letters despatched during the year under review was 41,919 and the postage was £705 0s. 9d.

7. There has also been an increase of 19,176 in the number of letters contained in the mails from the United States of Colombia; but as, under Postal Union Regulations, each country retains the postage collected, accounting subsequently by special statistics, taken for a month once in two years, for the sea and territorial transit rates, if any, the cash receipts of this colony under the head of packet postages have not been affected by such increase.

8. In addition to the sum shewn by the foregoing analysis to have been placed to the credit of the United Kingdom £2,999 was paid through the Crown Agents for the Colonies to the Imperial Post Office, on account of the contribution towards the additional loss sustained by the Mother Country as a result of the admission of Jamaica into the Universal Postal Union; and £185 14s. 2d. for sea and territorial transit rates on correspondence despatched by British packets between the 1st January, 1881, and the 31st December, 1882, to certain countries of the Postal Union, was credited to the United Kingdom in the account between this office and the General Post Office, London.

9. The sum of £25 11s. 7d. was also paid to the French Post Office for sea and territorial transit rates during the year ended 31st December, 1882, and the sum of £156 3s. 7d. to the United States for the period 1st April, 1877, to the 31st December, 1882.

10. The increase of £19 1s. 6½d. under the head of Commissions on Money Orders, notwithstanding a reduction in the scales of charges, will be best explained under the head of "Money Orders," see paragraphs 20 to 41, to which are subjoined details of the Money Order transactions.

11. The Miscellaneous Cash Receipts include £87 3s. for rent of private letter boxes at Kingston, Montego Bay and Falmouth, £23 2s. for conveyance of private letter bags; £37 15s. for fines on Mail Contractors, &c., and £89 9s. 7d., being a deduction at the rate of 10 per cent. for services performed by the Post Office, from the amounts lodged to the credit of Mail Coach Contractors on account of mail coach transactions at the head station, Kingston.

12. The total amount of postage stamps sold during the year was £14,202 6s. 1d., of which the sum of £11,996 8s. 10d was sold by the Post Office and the sum of £2,205 17s. 3d. by the Stamp Commissioner to authorized Vendors, who are allowed 5 per cent. discount on the amount of their purchases. Of the sum sold by the Department £145 10s. represented the amount sold for Penny Savings Bank purposes, and transferred to the credit of the Savings Bank accordingly.

13. The amount of postage stamps purchased from the public was £290 13s. 10d. and the discount thereon, at the rate of 2½ per cent., £7 12s. 10½d., which amount has been duly placed to credit of postal revenue.

CIRCULATION OF CORRESPONDENCE.

14. The following is an estimate of the number of letters and post-cards which passed through the Jamaica Post Office during the year under review as compared with the number during the year 1880-81.

15. It is not possible to include in the comparison the number during 1881-82, for, as explained in my last Annual Report, the results of the "counts" taken periodically during that year were unfortunately amongst the very small number of books and papers which were either lost or destroyed during the fire of the 11th December, 1882.

	Outwards.		Inwards.	
	1880-81.	1881-82.	1880-81.	1881-82.
<i>Head Office Kingston—Inland Mails.</i>				
Ordinary Letters—				
Public	288,300	293,400	221,600	240,600
Official	43,600	53,400	35,700	44,000
Post cards	11,500	14,100	4,600	3,000
Registered Letters—				
Public	5,800	6,332	16,400	16,896
Official	6,211	11,700	7,275	11,621
<i>Ocean Mails—By vessels under Contract.</i>				
United Kingdom—				
Ordinary letters	105,700	109,900	127,500	135,700
Post cards	942	937	870	750
United States of America—				
Ordinary letters	30,500	38,500	28,900	32,600
Post cards	242	500	148	350
Intercolonial—				
Ordinary letters	29,800	61,600	30,000	69,900
Post cards	49	30	4	73
<i>By vessels not under Contract.</i>				
Ship letters	947	3,933	4,218	1,522
Registered letters—				
Packet and ship	2,687	3,559	3,617	3,706
	526,278	597,891	480,832	560,718

16. Between District Post Offices there passed letters and post cards, not including those to or from Kingston, the following:—

			1881-82.	1881-82.
Ordinary letters	...	...	389,100	455,800
Post cards	...	...	8,216	9,542
Registered letters	...	...	8,700	9,900
			406,016	475,242

17. It will be seen from the above that there has been a general increase over the transactions of 1880-81 in the number of letters and post cards, inland as well as packet, dealt with at the Head Office, Kingston, and in the number exchanged between District Post Offices.

OCEAN MAILS.

18. The number of vessels which conveyed mails to and from Jamaica during 1882-83, compare with similar services during the two years preceding as under:—

	OUTWARDS.						INWARDS.					
	1880-81.		1881-82.		1882-83.		1880-81.		1881-82.		1882-83.	
	Vessels.	Mails.	Vessels.	Mails.	Vessels.	Mails.	Vessels.	Mails.	Vessels.	Mails.	Vessels.	Mails.
<i>Kingston</i> —												
Contract	160	1,052	167	938	135	927	198	1,151	207	1,226	217	1,169
Non-contract	61	82	55	60	33	58	90	97	82	82	101	101
<i>Outports</i> —												
Contract	...	...	...	...	13	13	...	...	3	3	...	...
Non-contract	...	...	...	...	13	13	21	21	16	16	18	18

19. The number of transit mails which were exchanged by other Countries through the medium of the Jamaica Post Office was 1,191.

MONEY ORDERS.

20. The following are comparative statements of the transactions of the Money Order Branch during the year 1880-81, 1881-82, and the year under review:—

Between Jamaica and the United Kingdom.

	1880-81.			1881-82.			1882-83.		
	No.	Amount.		No.	Amount.		No.	Amount.	
		£	s. d.		£	s. d.		£	s. d.
Jamaica issue payable in United Kingdom	3,070	13,724	5 10	3,412	14,508	11 8	4,289	21,968	6 3
United Kingdom issue payable in Jamaica	402	1,240	10 8	401	1,294	1 1	410	1,348	1 4
Proportion of commission accruing to Jamaica	...	240	16 10	...	261	16 10	...	315	16 4½

21. The large increase which, it will be noticed, has taken place in the number and amount of Money Orders payable in the United Kingdom, as well as in the proportion of commission accruing to the Colony, is the result of the reduction of the scale of commission which took effect on the 1st April, 1883, and which was adopted at the instance of the Postmaster-General of the United Kingdom on the understanding that the Imperial Government should receive one half of one per cent. instead of one per cent. on the total amount of orders issued, Jamaica receiving a like payment in respect of the issue of the United Kingdom.

22. The scale of commission adopted and now in force is as under :—

For any sum not exceeding £2	...	...	9d.
Over £2 and not exceeding £5	...	...	1s. 6d.
“ £5 “ £7	...	...	2s. 3d.
“ £7 “ £10	...	...	3s.

—while the rate formerly collected was 6d. for each pound or fractional part thereof.

23. Out of the proportion of commission accruing to Jamaica the sum of £159 1s. 4½d. was paid to the Imperial Government at the rate of ¼ per cent. for remittances on Money Order Account through its Treasury Chest in this Island; the net profit, therefore, on Money Order transactions with the United Kingdom was £256 15s., as against £162 16s. 10d. for the year 1881-82.

Between Jamaica and the United States.

	1881-82.		1882-83.	
	No.	Amount.	No.	Amount.
Jamaica issue payable in United States	521	£ 2,574 5 8	978	£ 4,936 17 6
United States issue payable in Jamaica	63	257 2 9	143	536 6 0
Proportion of commission accruing to Jamaica	...	52 11 0	...	91 13 6

24. The transactions of 1881-82 only relate to the period 1st January, when the Money Order System in this Island was extended to the United States, to the 30th September; but, if for purpose of comparison with the year 1882-83, a proportionate amount for the period 1st October to the 31st December, 1882, be added to such transactions, the result will be to show that there has been a large increase in the number and amount of the Orders exchanged between Jamaica and the United States.

25. The sum of £44 3s. 9d. was paid at the rate of 1 per cent. to the Island Treasurer for his bills on the Crown Agents for the Colonies in settlement of the quarterly balances due to the United States Government on Money Order Account. Deducting this amount, therefore, from the amount of commission which accrued to Jamaica the net profit will be shewn as £46 9s. 9d. against £29 6s. 7d. for the period in the year 1881-82.

26. On the 1st May, 1883, the scale of commissions on Money Orders on the United States, which used to be the same as that charged for the issues on the United Kingdom, *i.e.*, 6d. in the pound or fractional part thereof, was reduced and the following scale adopted :—

For any sum not exceeding £2	...	...	1s.
Over £2 and not exceeding £5	...	...	2s.
“ £5 “ £7	...	...	3s.
“ £7 “ £10	...	...	4s.

27. The difference of ¼ per cent. in the cost of remittance of balances, and of a similar per centage in the rate of accounting for the commissions collected, rendered it impossible to reduce the charges on Money Orders on the United States to the extent to which the commissions on Money Orders to the United Kingdom had been lowered.

Between Jamaica and British Guiana.

	1881-82.		1882-83.	
	No.	Amount.	No.	Amount.
Jamaica issue payable in British Guiana	4	£ 9 17 5	2	£ 4 10 0
British Guiana issue payable in Jamaica	26	69 1 9½	38	122 5 0
Proportion of commission accruing to Jamaica	...	0 12 5	...	0 13 0

28. As the Money Order exchanges between Jamaica and British Guiana only date from September, 1881, during which month only one order amounting to £4 3s. was issued by British Guiana, the year 1880-81 is not included in the above comparative statement.

29. Although the number and amount of Money Orders received from British Guiana have increased, it will be seen that, as remarked in my last Annual Report, the system has not been taken advantage of to any extent by the public of either Colony.

30. The scale of commission on Orders issued on British Guiana was also reduced on the 1st May last from 6d. for each pound or fractional part thereof to the following :—

For any sum not exceeding £2	...	...	6d.
Over £2 and not exceeding £5	...	...	1s.
“ £5 “ £7	...	...	1s. 6d.
“ £7 “ £10	...	...	2s.

BETWEEN JAMAICA AND THE DOMINION OF CANADA.

31. In the 36th paragraph of my last report, I had to observe that the negotiations with the Postmaster-General of Canada for an exchange of Money Orders with that Dominion had not been concluded. It is now with much pleasure that I am able here to record, as a result of such negotiations, the extension of the Money Order System in this Island to Canada on the 1st July last.

32. The terms of the Money Order Convention concluded between this Colony and the United States have been accepted as the basis of the agreement come to with Canada for an exchange of Money Orders, and, as in the case of the United States, \$4.87 cents. have been agreed on as the equivalent of the British Pound Sterling.

33. The following is a statement of the Money Order transactions with Canada during the period 1st July to the 30th September, 1883 :—

	No.	Amount.		
		£	s.	d.
Jamaica issue payable in Canada	30	216	13	7
Canadian issue payable in Jamaica	4	15	16	5
Proportion of commission accruing to Jamaica	...	3	5	10

34. The sum of £2 0s. 6d. was paid at the rate of 1 per cent. for remittances to Canada by means of the Island Treasurer's Bills of Exchange on the Crown Agents for the Colonies, therefore the net profit to Jamaica on Money Order commission account with Canada was £1 5s. 4d.

35. The rate of adjustment of the commission account between Jamaica and Canada has been fixed at one half of one per cent. on the total amount of orders issued by either Country, and the Money Order account between the two offices is adjusted quarterly.

36. The scale of commission on Money Orders drawn on Canada is identical with that quoted above for Orders issued on the United States.

BETWEEN JAMAICA AND BARBADOS.

37. Simultaneously with the extension of the Money Order System in this Island to Canada an arrangement was come to at the instance of the Government of Barbados for the exchange of Money Orders with that Colony.

38. The following is an account of the transactions with Barbados between the 1st July and the 30th September last :—

	No.	Amount.		
		£	s.	d.
Jamaica issue payable in Barbados	9	18	14	3
Barbados issue payable in Jamaica	4	8	14	4
Proportion of commission accruing to Jamaica	...	0	6	5

39. There was not any charge for remittances in settlement of account as the balances being small have been remitted in cash.

40. The commission account between Jamaica and Barbados is adjusted at the rate of one half of one per cent.

41. The scale of commission charged on orders issued in Barbados is the same as that charged on orders issued on British Guiana and stated above.

EXPENDITURE.

42. The following is an abstract of the expenditure for the year as compared with that of the two years preceding :—

Year.	Salaries.		Mail Conveyance.		Services.	Total.
	Head Office.	District Offices.	Inland.	Ocean.		
	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.
1880-81 ...	3,893 9 9	1,936 19 6	6,781 14 0	5,014 2 11	1,390 19 3	19,017 6 2
1881-82 ...	3,993 5 4	1,986 0 8	7,114 17 8	4,568 7 2	1,032 12 11½	18,695 3 9¼
1882-83 ...	4,112 8 4	2,004 0 0	7,162 2 4	4,512 12 10	1,570 18 4½	19,362 1 10½

43. The foregoing abstract shows that there has been a net increase of £666 8s. 1d. in the expenditure of the year under review over that of the year preceding, thus :—

INCREASE.

Salaries, head office	...	...	£119 3 0
“ district offices	...	...	17 19 4
Mail conveyance, inland	...	...	47 4 8
Services	...	...	528 5 5
			<hr/>
			£722 12 5

DECREASE.

Mail conveyance, ocean	...	...	55 14 4
			<hr/>
			£666 18 1

44. The increase under the head of salaries at the head office is the result of the annual incremental system.

45. The increase in salaries at district offices is accounted for by the fact that the payments for salaries in the case of certain district post offices in 1881-82 were only for a portion of that year during which such offices were established.

46. The increase under the head of inland mail conveyance is also attributable to the payments in the preceding year being only in respect of a portion of the year for certain mail services, including the mail coach service between Kingston and Saint Ann's Bay, which was established on the 1st November, 1881.

47. The net decrease in the item of ocean mail conveyance may be explained thus :—

DECREASE.

In amount of subsidy paid to the Atlas Company for steam service between Kingston and New York	...	...	£403 2 6
In ship letter gratuities	...	...	15 15 8
			<hr/>
			£418 18 2

INCREASE.

Proportion of postage payable to the United Kingdom	£245 5 8	
Transit rates payable to Postal Union Countries	117 18 2	363 3 10
		<hr/>
		£55 14 4

48. The above decrease in the amount of the subsidy paid to the Atlas Company represents the difference between the amount of the penalties imposed on the Company for "overtime" during the year under review and the amount imposed during the previous year.

49. The fines deducted from the annual subsidy of £4,080 during 1882-83 amounted to £577, while those in 1881-82 amounted to £173 17s. 6d.

50. The increase in the proportion of postage paid to the United Kingdom includes the sum of £185 14s. 2d. for sea and territorial transit rates under the Postal Union Treaty already referred to at paragraph 8 under the head of "Revenue."

51. The increase under the head of "Services" is made up principally of the following items :—
Contingencies, £62 19s. 9½d., as a result of the fire of the 11th December, 1882; Travelling Charges £170 0s. 6d., consequent on a complete inspection of District Post Offices during the year; Premium on

Money Order Remittances £76 1s. 1d., by reason of increased Money Order collections; ernt, £94 14s. 11d., consequent on removal of the Control Branch to "Blundell Hall" premises after the fire of 11th December, 1882; *Twine and Wax*, £80 17s. 10d., included for the first time in Post Office expenditure, having been previously supplied through the Government Stationery Store; and £50 10s. 4d. for the manufacture of postage stamps.

52. If for purpose of comparison with revenue, £3,503, the amount of the subsidy paid to the Atlas Company, and £191 12s. 3d., the amount of the premiums on Money Order remittances, be deducted from the total expenditure of £19,362 1s. 10½d., it will be seen that the result, £15,667 9s. 7½d., is only £371 5s. 1¾d. in excess of the cash receipts for the year on postal revenue account.

53. It is necessary in considering revenue and expenditure to deduct the cost of Money Order remittances, because the *net* amount of commissions on Money Orders accruing to the Colony is stated in the cash receipts.

54. The Vote for Steam Communication round the Island was also administered by this Department, and the sum of £1,833 6s. 8d. was paid therefor to the Agents of the Atlas Steamship Company for services during the year, but the amount is not included in the expenditure of the Post Office.

MAIL COACH.

55. The following are the collections on Mail Coach account :—

Service.	Passengers' Fares.			Parcels.			Total.		
	£	s.	d.	£	s.	d.	£	s.	d.
Kingston and Mandeville	479	0	6	80	13	3	559	13	9
Kingston and St. Ann's Bay	680	10	0	112	10	6	793	0	6
	£1,159	10	6	192	3	9	1,352	14	3

56. The collections exceed those of the previous year by the sum of £62 2s. 5d. in the case of the service between Kingston and Mandeville, and by the sum of £109 12s. 9d. in the case of the service between Kingston and St. Ann's Bay. It must be borne in mind that in the case of the latter service, which was established on the 1st November, 1882, the collections during 1881-82 were only in respect of eleven months' transactions.

57. After deducting 10 per cent. for remuneration to the District Postmasters at the several booking stations and for services performed at the head station, Kingston, the above collections have been placed to the credit of the respective Contractors; the amount retained in the case of the services at Kingston being placed to the credit of the revenue.

RETURNED LETTER BRANCH.

58. The following is a statement of the correspondence dealt with in the Returned Letter Branch :—

CLASS OF CORRESPONDENCE.	No. of Paid.	No. of Unpaid.
Letters returned to the United Kingdom	427	111
Letters reposted to writers in Kingston	2,734	602
Letters reposted to writers in country	5,280	1,974
Letters destroyed, addresses being illegible or anonymous	1,104	634
Letters destroyed, writers not found	2,651	1,682
Newspapers returned to publishers	3,135	23

£48 0s. 2½d. was the amount of unpaid postage which was lost to the revenue in respect of the above dead letters.

59. The number of letters which were found to contain value to the amount of £61 8s. 7d. was 177; they were reposted in due course to the writers.

TELEGRAPHS.

60. The gross receipts of the Telegraph Branch compare with those of the year 1880-81 and 1881-82 as under :—

	1880-81.	1881-82.	1882-83.
	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.
Stamps sold ...	2,592 10 0	3,306 2 3	3,712 5 0
Additional charge on books containing message forms ...	3 9 0	4 4 6	4 1 3
Cash collected subsequent to fire of 11th December in absence of stamps ...	...	...	60 17 10
	2,595 19 0	3,310 6 9	3,777 4 1

—the increase over the receipts of 1881-82 being £456 17s. 4d.

61. I submit that the annual increase in the revenue on account of Telegraphs since the establishment of the system on the 20th October, 1879, must be considered as satisfactory and be accepted as evidence of the fact that the public duly appreciate the convenience.

62. The total number of messages which were sent and received during the year was 67,530 as against 58,862 during 1881-82, being an increase of 8,668.

63. The expenditure on account of Telegraphs was £3,709 7s. 5d. and affords the following comparison with that for the years 1880-81 and 1881-82:—

	1880-81.	1881-82.	1882-83.
	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.
Salaries ...	1,694 18 10	1,933 8 11	2,143 18 9
Wages ...	290 13 0	350 12 9	382 19 3½
Services ...	1,290 10 0½	1,005 12 8½	1,182 9 4½
	3,276 1 10½	3,289 14 4½	3,709 7 5

64. The foregoing exhibits an increase of £419 13s. 0½d. over the expenditure of the previous year, the principal items of such increase being under the head of salaries and services.

65. The increase under salaries is, in part, the result of the annual incremental system as applied to the salaries of the Superintendent of Telegraphs and of the two Assistants to the Superintendent, and in part to the employment of Auxiliary Operators in providing for the duties at the several district stations during the temporary absence of the Clerks in charge from illness or other causes. The increase is also in part due to the fact that during the previous year the payments for salaries of Clerk at certain stations opened during that year were only in respect of a portion of the year.

66. The increase under the head of services is due, chiefly, to the larger importation of stores rendered necessary by the destruction in the fire of 11th December, 1882, of almost the entire stock on hand at the head station, Kingston.

67. A station was opened on the 28th February at Cold Spring, adjacent to the military cantonment at Newcastle, and the station at Port Morant which had been closed on the 15th September, 1881, on the ground of its not being self-supporting, was re-opened on the 14th August, 1883, on the necessary guarantee against loss being forthcoming.

68. There were 37 Telegraph Stations in operation on the 30th September last.

69. Before concluding my remarks on the Telegraph Branch, it is with pleasure that I am able to refer to the assistance which this Department was able to offer to the "Transit of Venus Expedition" during the month of November, 1882, in connection with their "telegraphic longitude operations" between Kingston and Montego Bay. Dr. Ralph Copeland, the head of the expedition, officially informed me that the operations had been perfectly successful as far as it was then possible to perceive; and expressed the thanks of the expedition for the aid rendered.

MISCELLANEOUS.

70. During the month of June, 1883, Reply Paid Post Cards for use between places in Jamaica as well as between certain places in the Universal Postal Union were issued for the first time.

71. The Reply Post Card consists of a double card folded in the centre; one portion being intended for use by the poster and the other portion to be torn off and used in reply by the addressee. Each portion of the card is impressed with a stamp representing the amount of the postage chargeable thereon viz:—

For town or office delivery	...	...	...
For use between Post Offices in the Island	...	...	½d.
For transmission to certain places in the Postal Union	...	...	1d.
	...	...	1½d.

72. The number of packets received from abroad and detained for inspection of their contents by the Customs' Authorities was 391. They were found to contain dutiable articles to the value of £435 3s. 5d., upon which the duty collected was £55 19s. 4d.

73. The fire of the 11th December, 1882, entirely destroyed the building in which the Head Telegraph Station was maintained, and which was immediately opposite to the premises in which the fire originated. It also burnt the Government Savings Bank Building, on the second floor of which was the Control Branch of this Office; while the Money Order Office, the Returned Letter Branch and the Mail Coach Office were on the ground floor, the intermediate or first floor being occupied by the Savings Bank; but I am glad to report that through the exertions of the Staff very few of the records and vouchers of the Department were lost.

74. Telegraphic communication between the District Stations and the Head Station was only temporarily suspended after the fire, as on the following morning, from about 9.30 a.m., messages were taken at the Circulation Branch of the Post Office and, through the good offices and prompt co-operation of the Manager of the Government Railway, were sent over the wires of that Institution to the District Stations at Spanish Town and Old Harbour for transmission to their destinations.

75. Direct communication was partially restored on the evening of the 13th December, 1882, and entirely so on the following day, the 14th.

76. That the public duly appreciated the facilities which were thus afforded to them was shewn by the fact that, during the remainder of the week in which the fire took place, about 1,200 messages were transmitted to and from Kingston.

77. In conclusion, I have to submit the usual Annual Returns.

I have &c.,

FRED. SULLIVAN.

The Hon. the Colonial Secretary, Kingston.

Return showing the Gross Revenue and Expenditure of the Post Office Department during the Financial Year ending 30th September, 1883.

	£	s.	d.	£	s.	d.		£	s.	d.	£	s.	d.		
POST OFFICE :								SALARIES :							
Postages on Unpaid Correspondence received at District Post Offices	594	9	5				Salary of Postmaster for Jamaica	...	...	800	0	0	
Postages on Unpaid Correspondence received from the United Kingdom	114	17	10				Salaries of Clerks	...	...	2,469	0	0	
Postages on Unpaid Correspondence received from British Possessions and Foreign Countries	120	13	1½				Wages of Sorters, Letter Carriers, &c.	...	...	600	8	7	
Postages on Unpaid Ship Letters	42	9	4½				Wages of Auxiliary Letter Carriers	...	...	78	0	0	
Postages on Unpaid Correspondence received at the General Post Office	137	3	1½				Packet Newspaper Sorters	...	...	144	6	0	
Stamps sold by the Department				£12,141	18	10	Salaries of District Postmasters	...	...	1,992	0	0	
Less amount sold on account of Savings Bank Deposits				145	10	0	Wages of Messenger conveying Mails between the General Post Office and Railway Station	...	...	20	13	9	
				11,996	8	10	Wages of Messenger conveying Mails between Spanish Town Post Office and Railway Station	...	...	12	0	0	
Stamps sold by the Stamp Commissioner	2,205	17	3										6,116	8	4
Rent of Private Letter Boxes	87	3	0				COMMISSIONS ON SALE OF STAMPS :								
Fees for Conveyance of Private Letter Bags	23	2	0				Poundage on Stamps sold by the Department	...	...	119	0	3	
Commissions on Money Orders	203	1	9½				Discount on Stamps sold by the Stamp Commissioner	...	...	108	11	9	
Fees for detention of Country Letters per Packet for delivery in Kingston	23	17	6										227	12	0
Fine Account	37	15	0				CONVEYANCE OF MAILS :								
Miscellaneous Collection	89	9	11				Contractors	...	...	7,154	18	4	
Discount on Stamps purchased from the Public	7	12	10½				Special Mail Services	...	...	36	10	10	
Registered Letter Envelopes sold	1	3	1½				Packet Mail Services	...	...	7	4	0	
				15,685	4	1½	Transit Rates payable to Postal Union Countries other than the United Kingdom	...	...	181	15	2	
Carried forward				£15,685	4	1½	Steam Communication with New York	...	...	3,503	0	0	
							Steam Communication round the Island	...	...	1,833	6	8	
							Proportion of Postage placed to credit of the United Kingdom	...	...	809	12	8	
							Ship Letter Gratuities	...	...	18	5	0	
													13,544	12	8
							SERVICES :								
							Contingencies	...	...	181	13	8½	
							Letter Carriers' Uniforms	...	...	55	5	7	
							Water Supply	...	...	8	6	0	
							Lighting Account	...	...	11	5	8	
							Advertising	...	...	74	11	3	
							Mail Bags and Wrappers	...	...	23	11	2	
							Travelling Charges	...	...	259	9	0	
							Allowance to Officers for Services performed out of office hours	...	...	144	17	6	
							Rent of Post Offices	...	...	183	11	7	
							Twine and Wax	...	...	80	17	10	
							Office Furniture	...	...	10	6	3	
							Manufacture of Stamps and Post Cards	...	...	50	10	4	
							Dated Stamps and Type	...	...	22	13	6	
							Repairing Clocks, &c.	...	...	1	2	0	
							Taxes on Post Office premises at Montego Bay	...	...	7	1	11	
													1,115	3	3½
													21,003	16	3½
							Carried forward						

Statement showing the Transactions of the Money Order Branch of the General Post Office, Jamaica, with the United Kingdom for the Financial Year ended 30th September, 1883.

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.				
4,289	21,968 6 3	8 4 6	9 18 3	410	1,348 1 4	414	1,367 18 10	0 19 11	452 18 6				
Proportion of Jamaica Commission placed to the credit of the United Kingdom.	£ s. d.	Proportion of Jamaica Commission placed to credit of Jamaica.	£ s. d.	Proportion of Commission on United Kingdom issue placed to credit of Jamaica.	£ s. d.	Additional credit to Jamaica being Commission on Transfer of Orders.	£ s. d.	Total amount which accrued to Jamaica Commission Account.	£ s. d.	Actual amount paid to credit of Revenue on Commission Account during the period.	£ s. d.	Amount of Premiums paid on Remittances to the United Kingdom.	£ s. d.
	150 16 10½		302 1 7¼		13 9 9		0 5 0		315 16 4½		159 1 4½		156 15 0

Statement showing the Transactions of the Money Order Branch of the General Post Office, Jamaica, with the United States for the Financial Year ended 30th September, 1883.

JAMAICA ISSUE.				UNITED STATES ISSUE.					Commission Account.				
Payable in the United States.		Void Order Account.		Payable in Jamaica.		Paid in Jamaica.		Void Order Account.	Total Commissions collected on Orders issued in Jamaica on U. S. A.				
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.				
978	4,936 17 6	...	3 0 0	143	536 0 6	139	537 17 6	...	124 14 0				
Proportion of Jamaica Commission placed to the credit of the United States.	£ s. d.	Proportion of Jamaica Commission placed to credit of Jamaica.	£ s. d.	Proportion of Commission on United States issue placed to credit of Jamaica.	£ s. d.	Additional credit to Jamaica being Commission on Transfer of Orders.	£ s. d.	Total amount which accrued to Jamaica Commission Account.	£ s. d.	Actual amount paid to credit of Revenue on Commission Account during the period.	£ s. d.	Amount of Premiums paid on Remittances to the United States of America.	£ s. d.
	37 0 9		87 13 3		4 0 3		...		91 13 6		47 9 9		44 3 9

Statement showing the Transactions of the Money Order Branch of the General Post Office, Jamaica, with the Dominion of Canada for the Financial Year ended 30th September, 1883.

JAMAICA ISSUE.				CANADA ISSUE.					COMMISSION ACCOUNT.				
Payable in Canada.		Void Order Account.		Payable in Jamaica.		Paid in Jamaica.		Void Order Account.	Total Commissions collected on Orders issued in Jamaica on Canada.				
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.				
30	216 13 7	...	...	4	15 16 5	4	15 16 5	...	4 16 0		
Proportion of Jamaica Commission placed to the credit of the Dominion of Canada.	£ s. d.	Proportion of Jamaica Commission placed to credit of Jamaica.	£ s. d.	Proportion of Commission on Canada issue placed to credit of Jamaica.	£ s. d.	Additional credit to Jamaica being Commission on Transfer of Orders.	£ s. d.	Total amount which accrued to Jamaica on Commission Account.	£ s. d.	Actual amount paid to credit of Revenue on Commission Account during the period.	£ s. d.	Amount of Premiums paid on Remittances to the Dominion of Canada.	£ s. d.
	1 12 6		3 3 6		0 2 4		...		3 5 10		1 5 4		2 0 6

Statement showing the Transactions of the Money Order Branch of the General Post Office, Jamaica, with British Guiana for the Financial Year ended 30th September, 1883.

JAMAICA ISSUE.				BRITISH GUIANA ISSUE.				COMMISSION ACCOUNT.					
Payable in British Guiana.		Void Order Account.		Payable in Jamaica.		Paid in Jamaica.		Void Order Account.	Total Commissions collected on Orders issued in Jamaica on British Guiana.				
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.				
2	4 10 0	...	...	38	122 5 0	37	122 16 8	0 5 0	0 1 6		
Proportion of Jamaica Commission placed to the credit of British Guiana.		Proportion of Jamaica Commissions placed to credit of Jamaica.		Proportion of Commission on British Guiana 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 British Guiana.	
£ s. d.		£ s. d.		£ s. d.		£ s. d.		£ s. d.		£ s. d.		£ s. d.	
0 0 6		0 1 0		0 12 0		...		0 13 0		0 13 0		...	

Statement of the Transactions of the Money Order Branch of the General Post Office, Jamaica, with Barbados for the Financial Year ended 30th September, 1883.

JAMAICA ISSUE.				BARBADOS ISSUE.				COMMISSION ACCOUNT.					
Payable in Barbados.		Void Order Account.		Payable in Jamaica.		Paid in Jamaica.		Void Order Account.	Total Commissions collected on Orders issued in Jamaica on Barbados.				
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.				
9	18 14 3	...	...	6	12 18 10	4	8 14 4	...	0 7 0		
Proportion of Jamaica Commission placed to the credit of Barbados.		Proportion of Jamaica Commission placed to credit of Jamaica.		Proportion of Commission on Barbados 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 Barbados.	
£ s. d.		£ s. d.		£ s. d.		£ s. d.		£ s. d.		£ s. d.		£ s. d.	
0 1 10		0 5 2		0 1 3		...		0 6 5		0 6 5		...	

FRED. SULLIVAN, Postmaster for Jamaica.

