

Closed.

Addington, Christchurch
 Adelaide Road (Branch Office), Wellington
 Anderson's Bay, Dunedin
 Bingsland, Christchurch
 Caledonian Road, Christchurch
 Callaghan's Gully, Hokitika
 Cashel Street East, Christchurch
 Forbury, Dunedin
 Ferntown, Nelson
 Five-Mile Beach, Hokitika

Kaikorai, Dunedin
 Kensington, Dunedin
 Kew, Dunedin
 Knightstown, Christchurch
 Larry's Creek, Westport
 Mornington, Dunedin
 Murrayville, Dunedin
 Mahakipawa, Blenheim
 Maruia Junction, Westport
 North-East Valley, Dunedin

Phillipstown, Christchurch
 Queen's Redoubt, Auckland
 St. Albans, Christchurch
 The Glen, Dunedin
 The Willows, Napier
 Upper Waikaia, Dunedin
 Waikari, Dunedin
 Waipapu, Napier
 White's Point, Westport
 West Wanganui, Nelson.

The number of offices closed was large, but this is explained by the fact that 18 were "suburban post offices," which, on the extension of the letter-carriers' deliveries at Dunedin, Christchurch, Wellington, and Auckland, were no longer required.

The total number of post offices open on the 31st December last was 846. The following table gives the number of offices in the several postal districts, compared with the number open the previous year:—

TABLE showing the Number of Post Offices Open in the several Postal Districts for the Years 1878 and 1879.

Postal Districts.	1879.				1878.			
	Chief Offices.	Second-class Post Offices.	Sub-Post Offices.	Totals.	Chief Offices.	Second-class Post Offices.	Sub-Post Offices.	Totals.
Auckland	1	2	172	175	1	2	162	165
Thames	1	...	13	14	1	...	10	11
New Plymouth	1	...	14	15	1	...	16	17
Napier	1	2	50	53	1	2	51	54
Wanganui	1	...	21	22	...	...	...	...
Wellington	1	...	60	61	1	1	69	71
Nelson	1	1	26	28	1	1	27	29
Westport	1	...	16	17	1	...	19	20
Greymouth	1	...	24	25	1	...	22	23
Hokitika	1	...	29	30	1	...	28	29
Blenheim	1	2	14	17	1	2	14	17
Christchurch	1	2	128	131	1	3	156	160
Timaru	1	...	37	38	...	...	...	...
Oamaru	1	...	17	18	...	...	...	...
Dunedin	1	1	145	147	1	2	165	168
Invercargill	1	1	51	53	1	1	46	48
Chatham Islands ... ..	...	...	2	2	1	...	1	2
Totals	16	11	819	846	14	14	786	814

REVENUE AND EXPENDITURE.

The cash revenue and the expenditure (inclusive of the estimated outstanding liabilities) of the Postal Department for the nine months ended 31st March, 1880, are set forth in the following statement:—

REVENUE.			EXPENDITURE.		
	£	s. d.		£	s. d.
Sale of postage stamps	80,943	14 9	Salaries	33,747	1 3
Money order commission	5,665	5 7	Conveyance of mails by sea	39,507	17 3
Fees for private boxes and bags	3,116	6 0	" inland mails	23,482	16 2
Miscellaneous receipts	7,567	9 5	" mails by railway	5,554	3 0
Imperial postage receipts	15,887	18 6	Contingencies	3,515	18 6
San Francisco service, payments by non-contracting colonies	2,500	0 0	Liabilities	11,900	0 0
	115,680	14 3			
Balance of expenditure over revenue	2,027	1 11			
	£117,707	16 2		£117,707	16 2

The revenue for the nine months was estimated at £101,200; but the receipts exceeded this amount by £14,480 14s. 3d.

As an explanation of this very large increase, it should be stated that the Savings Bank profits for the years 1878 and 1879, amounting to £6,982 15s. 5d., were paid over to the Post Office account in March last, and the sum was dealt with as revenue of the financial period. Hitherto these profits have been treated as incidental receipts; but it has been decided that the item shall for the future be regarded as postal revenue.

The sum appropriated for postal services for the nine months ended 31st March last was £119,144 10s. 1d.; the expenditure, including liabilities of £11,900, amounted to £117,707 16s. 2d., or £1,436 13s. 11d. less than the appropriations.

Excluding the item of Savings Bank profits, the ordinary postal revenue collected for the nine months was at the rate of £144,930 per annum. The receipts for the financial year ended 30th June, 1879, amounted to £129,906 13s. 5d. The annual increase was, therefore, £14,923 6s. 7d., or 11.49 per cent.