

P. and O. and Orient Lines (Federal Mail-service).

| DR. | | £ | s. | d. | £ | s. | d. |
|---|-----|-------|----|----|-------|----|----|
| Payments to P. and O. and Orient Lines | ... | 1,503 | 13 | 11 | | | |
| Transit charges across Australia | ... | 46 | 18 | 11 | | | |
| Transit charges across European Continent | ... | 266 | 17 | 11 | | | |
| Gratuities (to and from Australia) | ... | 1,101 | 17 | 0 | | | |
| | | | | | 2,919 | 7 | 9 |
| | | | | | | | |
| CR. | | £ | s. | d. | £ | s. | d. |
| Postages collected in the colony | ... | 1,278 | 14 | 0 | | | |
| Postages from London and foreign offices | ... | 756 | 11 | 3 | | | |
| | | | | | 2,035 | 5 | 3 |
| | | | | | | | |
| Net loss to the colony | ... | | | | £884 | 2 | 6 |

The number of letters, books, and newspapers conveyed from and to the United Kingdom by the Peninsular and Oriental and the Orient packets were: Received—338,335 letters, 200,375 books, and 807,222 newspapers; despatched—62,891 letters, 7,308 books, and 31,255 newspapers.

RETURN showing the several Subsidised Mail Steam Services, the Subsidy Payments for the Year 1892, the Dates when established, and the Date on which each terminates.

| Service. | Subsidy or Payment. | Duration of Service. | | Number of Voyages per Annum. | Mileage for Complete Voyage. | Cost per Mile. |
|---|---------------------|----------------------|-------------------------------------|------------------------------|------------------------------|----------------|
| | | When established. | When terminated or when terminable. | | | |
| | £ s. d. | | | | | s. d. |
| Auckland and San Francisco .. | 7,166 10 0 | Nov., 1885 | Nov., 1893 | 13 | 11,916 | 0 11·10 |
| Auckland and Fiji .. | 1,690 0 0 | June, 1880 | * | 13 | 2,334 | 1 1·87 |
| New Zealand and South Pacific Islands .. | 1,200 0 0 | June, 1885 | * | 12 | 6,992 | 0 3·43 |
| New Zealand and Chatham Islands | 200 0 0 | .. | March, 1893 | 4 | 1,050 | 0 11·43 |
| Auckland and Great Barrier .. | 200 0 0 | Oct., 1891 | Dec., 1894 | 36 | 56 | 1 11·81 |
| Helensville and Matakoho .. | 450 0 0 | Jan., 1881 | Dec., 1892 | 52 | 118 | 0 4·53 |
| Helensville and Dargaville .. | | | | 104 | 170 | |
| Rawene and Omapere .. | 200 0 0 | Jan., 1889 | Dec., 1892 | 52 | 34 | 1 0·15 |
| Rawene and Horeke .. | | | | 52 | 12 | |
| Omapere and Waitapu .. | | | | 52 | 30 | |
| Russell and Opuā .. | 90 0 0 | Jan., 1889 | Dec., 1892 | 156 | 8 | 1 5·31 |
| Wellington, Ketu Bay, Maud Island, Maori Bay, Homewood, and Havelock .. | 180 0 0 | Dec., 1891 | Nov., 1892 | 26 | 183 | 0 9·08 |
| Nelson and Golden Bay .. | 150 0 0 | .. | Dec., 1892 | 72 | 130 | 0 3·85 |
| Hokitika, Bruce Bay, Paringa, Haast River, Okuru, Okarito, and Jackson's Bay .. | 400 0 0 | Jan., 1886 | Dec., 1892 | 6 | 280 | 4 9·14 |
| Westport and Karamea .. | 120 0 0 | June, 1886 | Dec., 1892 | 13 | 102 | 1 9·72 |
| Bluff and Stewart Island .. | 179 15 0 | July, 1886 | Dec., 1892 | 52 | 40 | 1 8·74 |
| Bluff and Coal Island .. | 310 0 0 | Sept., 1891 | March, 1893 | 12 | 80 | 6 5·50 |
| Paterson's Inlet and Half-moon Bay | 18 15 0 | April, 1892 | Dec., 1892 | 52 | 12 | 0 7·21 |
| Interprovincial Service in connection with San Francisco Line .. | 3,000 0 0 | Nov., 1886 | Nov., 1893 | 13 | .. | .. |

* On three months' notice.

MONEY ORDERS.

Twelve money-order offices were opened during the year—namely, Kaponga, Levin, Manukau, Mount Somers, Oxford North, Puerua, Shannon, Te Kuiti, Waihi, Waikoikoi, Waitaki, Waitekauri. The offices at Babylon, Blackstone Hill, Lichfield, Taupiri, and Waharoa were closed.

The total number of money-order offices open at the end of the year was 329.

199,438 money-orders, representing £694,847 4s. 5d., were issued, compared with 195,239 orders for £651,939 19s. 6d. issued in 1891, an increase of 4,199 in number and £42,857 4s. 11d. in amount.

The orders paid numbered 160,423 of the value of £612,312 5s. 10d., as against 160,279 orders for £582,661 16s. 7d. paid in 1891, an increase of 144 orders and £29,650 9s. 3d. in amount. The disproportion between the increase in number and amount is accounted for by the fact that from the 1st May, 1892, orders were issued up to £20, instead of £10, as before.

The money-orders issued on the Australian Colonies, the United Kingdom, the United States of America, and Canada, and on foreign countries through the medium of the London Post Office, numbered 58,766, for £154,033 9s. 5d.

The number of orders drawn abroad and paid in the colony during the year was 19,443, of the value of £70,414 1s. 1d.

The balance against the colony on foreign money-order account was £83,669 8s. 4d., compared with £69,935 19s. 3d. in 1891.

The telegraph money-orders issued numbered 18,543 for sums amounting to £65,621 4s. 9d., as against 18,800 orders for £62,407 6s. 5d. issued in 1891.