

REGISTERED LETTERS.

The number of registered articles dealt with in 1905, compared with the numbers in 1890, 1900, and 1904, is shown below :—

Postal Districts.	1890.			1900.			1904.			1905.		
	From Places beyond the Colony.	Registered in the Colony.	Totals.	From Places beyond the Colony.	Registered in the Colony.	Totals.	From Places beyond the Colony.	Registered in the Colony.	Totals.	From Places beyond the Colony.	Registered in the Colony.	Totals.
Auckland ..	7,119	34,398	41,517	18,108	101,593	119,641	25,746	140,533	166,279	22,108	158,466	180,569
Thames ..	180	4,781	4,911	267	19,912	20,179	310	18,573	18,883	294	20,346	20,640
New Plymouth ..	341	3,372	3,713	1,310	16,903	18,213	2,017	17,455	19,472	2,995	19,202	22,197
Gisborne ..	118	2,120	2,238	421	7,193	7,614	373	6,948	7,321	476	7,874	8,350
Napier ..	999	10,911	11,910	1,659	26,685	28,344	8,584	25,318	33,902	1,813	26,297	28,110
Wanganui ..	211	6,060	6,271	2,151	24,980	27,131	2,530	33,167	35,697	2,620	35,239	37,859
Wellington ..	6,129	30,369	36,498	9,513	85,915	95,428	20,886	145,256	166,142	20,935	157,517	178,452
Blenheim ..	92	3,193	3,285	116	6,371	6,487	147	8,905	8,952	171	9,854	10,025
Nelson ..	322	3,430	3,752	644	14,726	15,370	1,708	19,383	21,091	1,837	19,514	21,351
Westport ..	112	3,254	3,366	354	6,974	7,328	1,059	8,759	9,818	936	7,481	8,417
Greymouth ..	102	8,879	8,981	680	11,606	12,286	840	15,125	15,965	719	11,412	12,131
Hokitika ..	95	2,579	2,674	94	4,344	4,438	534	9,937	10,471	550	10,535	11,085
Christchurch ..	8,659	20,404	24,063	5,404	49,049	54,453	8,276	62,440	70,716	10,293	73,304	83,597
Timaru ..	312	3,551	3,863	1,196	9,973	11,169	798	10,368	11,166	1,410	10,548	11,958
Oamaru ..	278	2,505	2,783	120	8,880	9,000	140	6,562	6,702	147	6,967	7,114
Dunedin ..	4,615	19,696	24,311	6,954	44,003	50,957	8,215	57,759	65,974	8,160	59,473	67,633
Invercargill ..	1,740	9,819	11,559	3,352	24,989	28,341	6,742	27,307	34,049	6,495	32,252	38,747
Totals ..	26,374	169,321	195,695	52,343	464,036	516,379	88,905	613,695	702,600	81,954	666,281	748,235

OFFICIAL CORRESPONDENCE.

The estimated volume and value of official and other free correspondence posted during 1905 is given in the statement below :—

District.	Letters.	Packets.	Registered Articles.	Newspapers.
Auckland ..	1,088,828	12,406	39,162	71,238
Thames ..	104,767	2,960	3,369	37,502
New Plymouth ..	168,064	15,800	4,731	62,835
Gisborne ..	62,816	2,376	1,264	19,959
Napier ..	299,767	15,632	2,371	62,714
Wanganui ..	294,398	5,020	7,900	110,830
Wellington ..	1,442,688	626,610	40,728	552,563
Blenheim ..	76,505	1,869	1,510	29,306
Nelson ..	153,881	7,312	6,041	52,980
Westport ..	42,016	1,091	1,895	28,170
Greymouth ..	52,663	4,785	2,989	44,978
Hokitika ..	55,497	3,963	4,602	31,900
Christchurch ..	499,863	51,823	32,270	126,498
Timaru ..	124,761	6,300	520	28,500
Oamaru ..	58,435	1,307	1,004	29,899
Dunedin ..	767,520	67,315	20,390	236,490
Invercargill ..	361,426	21,561	9,768	79,570
Totals ..	5,653,895	848,130	180,514	1,605,932

The estimated postage value of official correspondence was £94,252 5s. 7d.

DEAD LETTERS.

The following comparative table shows the number of unclaimed letters, letter-cards, and post-cards dealt with in the Dead-letter Office and by Chief Postmasters during the undermentioned years :—

Manner of Disposal.	1884.	1885.	1890.	1895.	1896.	1898.	1899.	1900.	1901.	1902.	1903.	1904.	1905.
Opened and returned to the writers	68,942	66,592	60,540	61,065	63,112	68,872	74,132	76,692	100,036	107,476	107,271	119,642	125,106
Returned unopened to other countries	9,134	8,115	7,779	12,929	7,546	8,899	9,706	9,707	12,251	14,401	18,176	26,048	26,943
Reissued ..	107	185	141	199	148	219	178	265	*5,112	†13,373	203	234	265
Destroyed ..	3,936	2,872	2,660	3,617	4,069	3,368	4,536	4,900	5,705	6,249	9,579	12,167	18,060
Returned unopened by Chief Postmasters	17,593	19,187	21,931	25,980	26,414	33,273	22,915	40,232	44,523	54,285	93,920	85,670	97,267
Totals ..	99,762	96,951	93,051	103,790	101,289	114,631	111,467	131,846	167,627	195,784	229,149	243,761	267,641

* Including 4,911 troopers' letters.

† Including 13,180 troopers' letters.