

THE  
**HANDBOOK OF JAMAICA**

FOR  
1886-87:

CONTAINING

**Historical, Statistical and General Information**  
CONCERNING THE ISLAND.

COMPILED FROM OFFICIAL AND OTHER RELIABLE RECORDS.

Published by Authority.



BY  
**A. C. SINCLAIR**

(OF THE GOVERNMENT PRINTING ESTABLISHMENT)

AND

**LAURENCE R. FYFE**

(OF THE COLONIAL SECRETARY'S OFFICE).

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## P R E F A C E.

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THE Handbook of Jamaica for 1886-87 contains the latest and most reliable information with respect to the general, statistical and financial affairs of the colony. The articles of the previous editions have been carefully revised and elaborated and several new articles have been inserted in the present publication.

The description of the parishes has been considerably improved, information of the greatest value having been collated and inserted.

The articles under the heads of "cultivation" and "imports and exports" contain a mass of important information respecting the agricultural and other resources of the island. The revenue return for the first nine months of the current financial year appears in the financial section of the work.

A chapter showing the progress of the island since 1866 has been included: the data are to be found in the available public records of the colony.

An interesting paper entitled "Points of topographical interest in Jamaica" has been contributed by Mr. Thomas Harrison, and a paper on the Storm of June last has been supplied by Mr. Maxwell Hall.

The Legislative Council's proceedings have been carefully summarized and included in the chronological history, and several recently published reports, despatches and messages bearing on important questions dealt with during the last session of the Legislature have been added so as to give completeness to the records.

Besides the military and naval intelligence annually published we have given full particulars respecting the strength, finances and appointments in the Volunteer Militia.

The names of the members of the Parochial Boards, classified according to the Divisions of the Parishes, as well as the names and salaries of the Parochial Officers, are included in the present edition.

The Appendix contains valuable information derived from an account of a cruise by His Excellency Sir Henry W. Norman among the Turks and Caicos Islands and the Cayman Islands (dependencies of Jamaica) in the spring of 1884.

It had been represented to us for some time past that the Handbook could not be considered quite complete without a good map of the island. This want has been supplied in the present issue and we have the high authority of Mr. Thomas Harrison, the Government Surveyor, for saying that "it is the best Map of Jamaica in existence."

Through a press of work in the Government Printing Establishment it has been found impracticable to produce the Directory of Jamaica which it was contemplated to issue last year as a supplement to the Handbook and with which great progress has been made. We hope that it will be found practicable to publish this work in a separate volume at no very distant date.

A. C. SINCLAIR.

LAURENCE R. FYFE.

KINGSTON, JAMAICA,  
SEPTEMBER, 1886.

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Puncheons of Hams, Bacon or Dried Meats	£0 2 0	Keg of Paint, per 56lbs.	£0 0 3
Tierce of Ginger, Pimento, Rice, Cornmeal, Earthen or Glassware	0 1 6	Keg of Peas, Grits, Biscuits, Currants or Dried Fruits	0 0 8
Barrel of Flour or other Dry Provisions	0 0 6	Box of Soap or Candles, per 112lbs.	0 0 3
Barrel of Tar, Pitch, Turpentine, Wet Provisions, Salt, Coffee, Pimento or of a similar description	0 0 9	Ironware, Pewter, Copper, Lead Tin and Brass of every description, per 112lbs.	0 0 6
Grindstones and Tombstones, per 112lbs.	0 0 9	Bricks, Tiles and Slate, per 1,000	0 9 0
Hogshead or Puncheon Shooks	0 0 6	Paving Stones, each	0 0 3
Woodhoops, per 1,000	0 6 0	Dripstones, each	0 1 6
Ox Bows, per dozen	0 0 6	Puncheon or tierce of Corn	0 1 3
Hides, per dozen, wet	0 3 0	Hogshead of Corn	0 2 0
Hides, per dozen, dry	0 2 0	Chest of Arms	0 6 0
Bags of all descriptions, per 112lbs.	0 0 6	Truss Hoops, per set	0 0 9
Puncheon of Temper Lime	0 2 3	Smiths' Bellows, each	0 3 0
Corn and Salt, per bushel	0 0 2	Butt and Pipe Staves and Heading per 1,000	0 15 0
" " " if stored, per bushel	0 0 3	Spades and Shovels, per dozen	0 0 6
Coach or Chariot, including wheels	1 10 0	Horses, Mules, Asses and Horned Cattle	0 2 6
Chaise or Cart	0 12 0	Sheep, Hogs and Goat, each	0 0 9
Chairs, Tables, Jointers, Piano Fortes, Desks, Sideboards, &c., per cubic foot	0 0 6	Coffee, receiving, weighing, tiercing and shipping, per 112lbs.	0 0 9
Plough or Harrow	0 3 0	Coffee in bags, per 112lbs.	0 0 6
Jack Screw	0 0 9	Pimento in bags, per 112lbs.	0 0 3
Chest of Tea	0 1 6	Barrel or half barrel Gunpowder	0 6 0
Hampers or Baskets of Cheese or Potatoes, per 112lbs.	0 0 9	Keg of Gunpowder	0 1 6
Jugs and Jars of all description, per gallon	0 0 2	Coals, when loose, per ton	0 7 0
Firkin of Butter, Beef, Tongues, Herrings	0 0 6	Lancewood Spars, per dozen	0 2 6
		Bottled Liquor in brls. or other pkgs. per dozen bottles	0 0 3
		Oil and Vinegar, per gallon	0 0 3
		Iron Pots, Boilers and other hollow ware	0 0 1

And all Goods, Wares and Merchandize not herein particularly enumerated and set forth shall be paid for in proportion to the foregoing rates.

Note—The legal rates are not always charged. At a good many of the wharves special arrangements are made and concessions granted.

### STAMP DEPARTMENT.

STAMP DUTIES were first imposed in this colony in the year 1760, being the first year of the reign of King George the Third—the first three Acts imposing stamp duties being annual ones. From the expiration of the third Stamp Act, in November, 1763, to the passing of the 36 Geo. III., cap. 29, on the 1st May, 1796—nearly thirty three years—no stamp duties existed. From the last-mentioned date, with three short intervals (given below) stamp duties have always been in force in Jamaica.

Stamp duties may be said to have covered then an area equal to that over which they at present extend. Mercantile transactions, law proceedings, the transfer of property, probate of wills, legacies, powers of attorney, land surveyors' commissions, policies and various other documents, were subject to duty, as they are under existing laws. Numerous appointments, civil and military, were also subject to duty; and a tax of £10 was imposed on all appointments made by the Governor to offices of the annual value of £100 and upwards. A *pro rata* charge was substituted at the commencement of 1841, and continued in operation till the tax itself was abolished in 1875.

A tax of one shilling and threepence (currency) was also levied on every advertisement in a newspaper, each time it appeared, such tax being payable monthly. Every proprietor, printer or publisher of a newspaper was required to furnish the Receiver-General with a copy thereof within two days from the date of its publication, from which that officer charged the different amounts due, respectively, at the end of every month. The duty was afterwards changed to a fee of two shillings and sixpence (with certain exemptions) on the first insertion of each advertisement. This duty was abolished on the expiration of the Act 7 Geo. IV. cap. 8.

The Commissioners of Public Accounts were the Commissioners for carrying out the purposes of the Stamp Act, 36 Geo. III., cap. 29. This Act was repealed the

following year, and provision made for the appointment of two Commissioners of Stamps, who attended for three days in the week, from the hour of nine in the morning till two in the afternoon; the dies for impressing the stamps being under their joint custody. The Receiver-General, or his authorized Deputy, received the duties, the Commissioners impressing and delivering the stamps. The office was subsequently opened four days in the week.

The 7 Geo. IV., cap. 8, made provision for opening an office in Spanish Town to which one of the Commissioners was removed, accompanied by a Deputy of the Receiver General. The days upon which the office was opened in Kingston were Saturday, Monday and Tuesday; those in Spanish Town Wednesday, Thursday and Friday. Hours, 10 to 3.

The 6 Vic., cap. 36, did away with one Commissioner and provided that the officer holding the appointment in Kingston should attend at the Receiver General's office from 10 to 3 on Monday, Wednesday, Thursday and Saturday in each week, who should associate himself with the Receiver General, or his authorized Deputy, in the impression and delivery of stamps. By a subsequent Act the office was opened daily.

A Distributor of Stamps was appointed in Spanish Town to take the place of the Commissioner, whose office was abolished.

The 18 Vic., cap. 27, provided for the introduction of adhesive stamps and they were first brought into use in the year 1855, when stamps of the denomination of 3d. and 1½d. were imported from England. At first their use was restricted in amount to one shilling. In 1856 this restriction was removed and their use allowed indefinitely; stamps of the denomination of 10/, 5/ and 1/ being introduced to meet this arrangement. In consequence, however, of the tardiness with which they were affixed and the want of proper cancellation in many instances, which enabled them to be used again, the above restriction was re-imposed, and all documents, the duty upon which exceeded one shilling, were required to bear an impressed stamp. After a somewhat more liberal use of them under the Stamp Act of 1862 they were finally rendered legal by Law 33 of 1868 (the present Stamp Law only on receipts and Customs warrants).

The above Act extended the office hours from 9 till 4, did away with Stamp Distributors, and increased the discount to 15 per cent. on £5 and upwards, to encourage large purchases. The appointment of Distributors was renewed in 1862 and continued by the Act of 1865, as well as under the present Stamp Law. The office hours under the 1862 Act were fixed at from 9 to 3; but are now from 9 to 4 under the Governor's Instructions of 23rd April, 1884. Collectors and Assistant Collectors of Taxes and District Postmasters are, *ex-officio*, Revenue Stamp Distributors. There are also a few persons in the chief towns who add the sale of stamps to their private business, charging 5 per cent. commission. Stamps are supplied on credit and returns rendered monthly. A discount of 5 per cent. is allowed on purchases made by vendors of revenue and postage stamps; in no other case is discount allowed.

Bills of exchange, inland and foreign, promissory notes and bills of lading, cannot be stamped after the expiration of fourteen days from the date of execution. All other documents can be stamped on the following conditions: If brought within three months after the first signing or execution, and it shall appear that the document was not stamped before preparation from some good and sufficient cause, it may be stamped without any penalty. If brought beyond three months and within twelve months the penalty is one half; beyond twelve months, a sum equal to the full duty or deficiency of duty required. No penalty is imposed on documents executed out of the island. Spoiled stamps are exchangeable within six months in amounts not less than five shillings, for which impressed stamps only are given in exchange.

A return of the shareholders of all banking co-partnerships, except those established by Royal Charter, is required to be lodged yearly at the Stamp Office. [None at present.] A composition of 1 per cent. is payable on the notes issued by any banking corporation, to whom also a yearly license is issued by the Commissioner of Stamps.

Stamps are impressed upon petty sessions process and licenses, indicating the duty thereon. They are not, however, returnable as stamp revenue except a small portion thereof.

No Stamp Act was in force during the undermentioned periods:—

From 1st January to 9th May, 1809.

" 1st January to 24th October, 1833.

" 1st January to 31st December, 1842.

Legacy duty is chargeable on legacies of the value of £20 and upwards. If the legatee is of kin to the testator the duty is two-and-a-half per cent.; if a stranger in blood, five per cent. Legacies to husband or wife, children or grandchildren, are exempt. A receipt for legacy must be stamped within twenty-one days from the date thereof. When an executor is entitled to a legacy he must pay the duty before retaining the same.

The duty on a legacy given by way of annuity must be paid by four equal payments, the first of which must be made before or on completing the payment of the first year's annuity; and the three others in like manner, before or on completing the respective payments for the three succeeding years.

During the financial year 1884-85 legacy duty was paid on £40,686 17s. 10d., yielding a revenue of £1,572 19s. 2d. Probate duty was paid on £86,572 1s. 11d., yielding £1,731 11s. 0d.

The following laws are read with the Stamp Law:—

32 of 1869—Amending Law 33 of 1868, &c.

38 of 1872—Relating to counterstamping of documents, reducing the duty on small leases, &c.

5 of 1879—Refunding probate duty in certain cases.

16 of 1879—Legacy Duty Law.

5 of 1882—Marine Insurance.

5 of 1886—Amending Law 33 of 1868.

#### ESTABLISHMENT OF THE STAMP DEPARTMENT.

Office.	Name of Holder.	Salary and other Emolument.	Date of First Appointment to Public Service.
Commissioner of Stamps	Philip E. Chapman	£500 0 0	1st Oct., '56
Clerk	George S. Thomson	160 0 0	31st Oct., '73.

#### SCHEDULE OF STAMP DUTIES.

	£	s	d		£	s	d
Agreement under hand only	20	2	0	Certificates—			
Agreement for rent of land not exceeding 5s per annum	0	0	6	Of the admission of a Barrister	15	0	0
Articles of Clerkship	50	0	0	On the admission of a Solicitor	100	0	0
Award	0	15	0	Charter-party	1	10	0
Bills of Exchange and Promissory Notes (inland)—				Cheques—			
Of or above £10 and not exceeding £20	0	0	3	On any Banker	0	0	1
" 20 " 30	0	0	6	On any person or firm, other than a Banker, for any sum not less than forty shillings at sight or on demand	0	0	1
" 30 " 50	0	0	9	Conveyances on Sale—			
" 50 " 100	0	1	0	When the purchase or consideration money does not exceed £10	0	5	0
And for every additional £100 or fractional part	0	1	0	Above £10 and not exceeding £20	0	10	0
Bills of Exchange (foreign) drawn in this island (must be drawn in sets of three with the word "first," "second" or "third" written or printed on the face of each respective bill or part)—				" 20 " 50	1	0	0
On each part or bill of or above £10 and not exceeding £50	0	0	3	" 50 " 100	2	0	0
Above £50 and not exceeding £100	0	0	6	And for every additional £100 or fractional part	0	15	0
And for every additional £100 or fractional part	0	0	6	Copartnership Articles	1	10	0
Bills of Lading (drawn in sets of three as above)—				Customs Warrants—			
On each part or bill	0	0	9	Inwards and Outwards, per set	0	0	3
Coastwise receipt	0	0	3	Deeds, executed abroad, &c.—			
Bonds—				On every Deed or other instrument executed wholly out of the island, and not bearing the British <i>ad valorem</i> stamp, the same duty as on like instruments executed in the island.			
Above £30 and not exceeding £50	0	2	0	On every Deed and other instrument executed partly out of, and partly in, the island, on which the British <i>ad valorem</i> duty has been impressed, one half the island duty.			
" 50 " 100	0	4	0	On every Deed or other instrument executed wholly out of the island, bearing the British <i>ad valorem</i> stamp, the island duty, or in the option of the parties a duty of	3	10	0
" 100 " 200	0	8	0				
" 200 " 300	0	12	0				
" 300 " 500	0	15	0				
" 500 " 1,000	1	0	0				
And for every additional £1,000 or fractional part	0	10	0				

SCHEDULE OF STAMP DUTIES, *continued.*

But if any such Deed or instrument, executed partially or wholly out of the island, shall relate to land therein, and shall not be stamped within twelve months from its execution, then the full island duty is payable.	
On every Deed of any kind whatever, not charged in the schedule nor expressly exempted from all stamp duty	£0 15 0
<b>Exchange—</b>	
On every Deed, Decree or instrument whereby lands or other hereditaments are conveyed in exchange; if no sum or a sum under £200 be paid for equality of exchange	2 0 0
Above £200 <i>ad valorem</i> duty as on a sale on the sum to be paid.	
Kettubah or Jewish Marriage Contract	0 15 0
<b>Leases—</b>	
If annual rent less than £1	0 0 6
Of or above £1 and less than £5	0 2 6
"    5    "    10	0 5 0
"    10   "    15	0 7 6
"    15   "    20	0 10 0
"    20 and not exceeding £100	0 15 0
Above £100 and not exceeding £200	1 0 0
And for every additional £100 or fractional part	0 10 0
<b>Powers of Attorney—</b>	
Ordinary power	1 10 0
To manage an estate	4 0 0
<b>Licenses—</b>	
To retail firearms	4 0 0
To sell gunpowder	4 0 0
To a banking corporation issuing notes	65 0 0
Governor's Marriage License	5 0 0
<b>Mortgages—</b>	
Not exceeding £100	0 10 0
Above £100 and not exceeding £200	1 0 0
And for every additional £100 or fractional part	0 10 0
Assignment of Mortgage	0 15 0
Plat or Diagram	0 2 0
<b>Policies of Insurance. Fire—</b>	
Not exceeding £100	0 5 0
And for every additional £100 or fractional part, up to £500	0 5 0
Above £500 and not exceeding £1,000	2 0 0
"    1,000      "    2,000	2 10 0
"    2,000      "    5,000	4 0 0
"    5,000	6 10 0
For one month, one-fourth the annual rate.	
For three months, one-half the annual rate.	
For six months, three-fourths the annual rate.	
Above six months, the full annual rate.	
<b>Policies of Insurance. Marine, Foreign—</b>	
Not exceeding £200	0 5 0
Above £200 and not exceeding £500	0 10 0
And for every additional £500 or fractional part	0 5 0
<b>Marine, Coastwise (under Law 5 of 1882)—</b>	
For every £20 or fractional part of £20 up to £500	£0 0 1
Every £500 or fractional part of £500	0 2 6
<b>Policies of Insurance. Life—</b>	
For £100	0 2 6
And for every additional £100 up to £1,000	0 2 6
Exceeding £1,000 for every £500 or fractional part thereof	0 5 0
<b>Private Bills—</b>	
On every Private Bill introduced into the Legislature	50 0 0
<b>Probate Duty. Two per cent. on personalty above £100.</b>	
<b>Protests—</b>	
On every Protest or other notarial act	0 4 0
<b>Receipts—</b>	
Of and above forty shillings and not exceeding £50	0 0 1
Above £50	0 0 3
In full of all demands or of that nature	0 1 6
<b>Settlements—</b>	
Whereby property, real or personal, shall be conveyed upon any good or valuable consideration other than a <i>bond fide</i> pecuniary consideration.	
Not exceeding £500	0 15 0
Above £500 and not exceeding £1,000	1 10 0
And for every additional £1,000 or fractional part	1 10 0
<b>Paper Stamps—</b>	
All exemplifications of wills, accounts-current, &c., required to be recorded, and all office copies authenticated by the Deputy Keeper of Records, are subject to the following stamps :—	
When the same shall be under or amount to 600 words	0 1 6
And for every additional 600 words or fractional part	0 1 6
Stamp Distributors are authorised to charge over and above the amount of stamp impressed upon any sheet of paper or form according to the following scale :—	
On every slip bearing a stamp of 1/6, 2/,	
2/6 or 3/	0 0 1½
Above 3/	0 0 2
On each sheet or half sheet of foolscap or folio post	0 0 1½
Medium paper	0 0 3
Royal ditto	0 0 9
Imperial ditto	0 1 0
On each set of Foreign Bills of Exchange	0 0 6
On each set of Foreign Bills of Lading	0 0 6
On each Coastwise Receipt	0 0 1½
On each Form of Title	0 1 0

## POST OFFICE DEPARTMENT.

## 1.—POSTAL.

It is difficult to say what were the postal facilities which existed in this island prior to the establishment by the Imperial Government of Post Offices and Postal Agencies in its colonial possessions and in certain foreign countries in the year 1711, for there are not any records in the Post Office Department from which such information may be gathered. Reference, however, to the Journals of the Assembly shews that on the 17th March, 1706, it was ordered by the House of Assembly "that Richard Banks, Francis March, and Thomas Finch, Esquires, be appointed a Committee to prepare and bring in a bill for the erection of an office for the receipt and safe conveyance of letters." This would appear to have been the first step taken towards providing an organized Post Office in this island. We have failed to trace in the Journals of the House what action was taken by the Committee as the report does not appear in the records.

A Post Office, however, seems to have sprung into existence between 1706 and 1776, for on the 24th of October of the latter year we find a Committee being appointed "to enquire into the state of the Post Office of the island," and such Committee reporting on the 17th December, 1777. The report of this Committee is remarkable for its brevity; it merely states that "the County of Cornwall cannot answer by return packet."

Again, on the 14th April, 1749, we find John McCulloch being summoned to appear at the bar of the House to explain under what authority he exercised the duties of a Postmaster and collected postages, and stating that he did so under warrant from Elliott Benger, Her Majesty's Deputy Postmaster-General of the North American and British West India Possessions. The rate of postage then was "six-pence for each letter not exceeding 100 miles, and one shilling sterling for any letter above that, and so in proportion for a double and treble letter."

There are several other instances of persons being summoned before the Assembly to shew cause why they exercised the functions of Postmasters, and it is curious to remark that each such summons was accompanied by an order to produce, at the same time, all letters addressed to members of the Assembly.

In one instance the widow of John McCulloch was so cited to appear and to explain the cause of delay in the conveyance of certain packet letters, when she stated that she was entitled to discharge the duties of Postmistress under the warrant held by her late husband; that she had farmed the office to another party; and that the mails were conveyed by mules or slaves as most convenient. The practice of farming the revenues of the Post Office, which existed in England until nearly the end of the eighteenth century, would therefore appear to have existed also in this island.

On the 17th of December, 1814, a report was made to the Assembly by a Committee which had been appointed to enquire into the state of the Post Office. Such report stated that the Post Office was established under the authority of the British Statutes 9 Anne, c. 10, 5 Geo. III., c. 25, and that the rates of postage, island as well as packet, were fixed by the latter in 1765, being 11d. single, 1/10 double, 2/6 treble, and 3/4 per ounce for inland letters; and for the conveyance of packet letters the following additional rate, viz., 1/3 single, 2/6 double, 3/9 treble, and 5/ per ounce, so that for a packet letter weighing one ounce the sum of 8/4 was charged. Correspondence with the mother country was then a very expensive luxury.

The same Committee goes on to report, "that a surcharge of 10 per cent. not warranted by law is generally made on packet letters delivered in Kingston and of 7½d. for letters sent to the General Post Office for merchant ships or for men-of-war, which sums appear to be claimed as perquisites by the Clerks in the Kingston Post Office. That the compensation allowed to Deputies is 10 per cent. on postage collected and 10 per cent. on newspapers delivered, the latter a perquisite from the Postmaster-General." At this time the office of Postmaster was held by John Milburne March at a salary of £400 per annum. Between the years 1815 and 1820 the revenue of the Post Office is stated to have averaged £10,450, and the expenditure for salaries, &c., £7,244.

Such is, as far as can be ascertained, briefly the early history of the Post Office in Jamaica, which continued to be a branch of the Imperial Post Office until the year 1860, when it was transferred to local rule.

The transfer was first mooted in 1847 and revived in 1855, but decisive action was not taken until the year 1859 when Her Majesty's Postmaster-General, in a letter, which formed an enclosure to a dispatch from the Secretary of State for the Colonies, stated "that the time had arrived for the Postmaster-General to abandon a control which he could not efficiently exercise over posts so distantly situated, and that the management of the Post Office would therefore be transferred from the hands of the Postmaster-General to those of the Colonial Government on and from the 1st April next." The above decision was arrived at after an Officer of the Imperial Post Office Department, Mr. Anthony Trollope, had visited the island in 1858 and reported on the subject.

The proposal to transfer the Post Office to the Colonial Government was never at any time favourably received by either of the Legislative Bodies, i.e., the Legislative Council and the House of Assembly, and to this disinclination to assume its control

may be attributed the delay which took place between the date of the proposal to transfer the office and the date of the assumption of the office by the colony. The question was debated in both Houses time after time, with much warmth of feeling, and it is very interesting now to read the arguments adduced on both sides.

On the 15th December, 1859, the House of Assembly adopted the report of a Committee to the effect "that the Island Post Office having been hitherto satisfactorily conducted under the control of the Postmaster General of England, it is not advisable that the management should now be assumed by the Local Authorities; and further, that in the present financial condition of the island it could ill afford the additional burthen of a loss on the Department;" and it was recommended that the Postmaster General be requested to continue the control of the Post Office.

This determination was based on a statement which was prepared by the Accountant-General of the General Post Office, London, shewing that the revenue of the Jamaica Post Office for the year ended 30th June, 1858, was £9,595 17s. 6d. while the expenditure amounted to £9,893 19s. 1d., leaving a deficit of £303 1s. 7d. From this it would appear that the Department was not at the time self-supporting.

The result of the reference of the question back to the Secretary of State was that the Governor was informed that it was not optional on the part of the Colonial Government to take over the administration of the Local Post Office, and that if the necessary arrangements therefore were not complete at latest by the 1st June, 1860, the action of the Imperial Government in carrying on the colonial posts would finally cease. Sir Charles Darling thereupon summoned a special session of the Legislature to whom he communicated the decision referred to. The Legislative Council at once expressed its readiness to give its best consideration to the proposed Act to enable the Local Government to assume the conduct of the Department, but the passage of the Bill was delayed in the House of Assembly in consequence of a certain portion of the Governor's speech at the opening of the session having been considered a breach of the privileges of the House. On the 3rd April, 1860, the Assembly however passed the Bill, which also passed through all its stages in the Legislative Council on the following day, but as the Assembly had so amended the Bill as to constitute the Governor one of the Commissioners to conduct the Post Office, the Executive Committee being the Commissioners named in the draft, Sir Charles Darling expressed his inability "to concur in an arrangement which converted Her Majesty's Representative into a Commissioner for the immediate management of a Department of his Government" and prorogued the Chambers to the 5th April. On that day the matter was again forcibly brought under the notice of the Assembly and on the 13th April the bill was finally passed and assented to by the Governor, in the form suggested by the Executive. Sir Charles Darling in proroguing the Legislature stated "that the country would no doubt be glad to learn that it was at length determined that internal communication by post should not be suspended."

The date fixed for the transfer of the Post Office was, as already shewn, the 1st June, 1860, at latest; but on the representation of the Governor the time was extended, and it was not until the 1st August, 1860, that the control of the Post Office was assumed by the colony.

Up to the date of the transfer the office of Deputy Postmaster-General was held by Mr. O'Connor Morris at a salary of £1,000 per annum, but on the reduction of the salary under the new arrangement to £600 per annum Mr. Morris resigned and Mr. Alexander J. Brymer, who was the Chief Clerk, was appointed Postmaster for Jamaica, which office he continued to hold until he resigned and was succeeded by Mr. William Kemble. Mr. Kemble continued in office until 1st May, 1870, on which date he retired on a pension, Mr. Frederic Sullivan, Chief Clerk, being appointed to the office.

A reference to the "Establishment" furnished below will afford information as to the numerical strength of the staff of the Post Office at the present time.

The following is a brief *resumé* of the improvements which have been made in the Jamaica Post Office since its management was assumed by the colony:—

In November, 1863, the Money Order System between the United Kingdom and the Colonies was extended to Jamaica.

*In 1868 a comprehensive law, based as far as was possible on the lines of the*

English Statute, was passed for the management of the Post Office, and a tri-weekly inland mail service was substituted for the old bi-weekly system which had been in existence for twenty-one years.

On the 1st January, 1872, simultaneously with the introduction of the pre-paid system, a general house-delivery of correspondence by Letter-Carriers, within certain limits of the city, was inaugurated in Kingston.

On the 1st April, 1877, Jamaica was admitted into the General Postal Union, under which the packet postage from Jamaica to all countries in that Union was reduced to an uniform rate of 6d. per single letter of half-an-ounce, if pre-paid, if not pre-paid 9d.; post cards 3d. each; newspapers 1d. each, if not exceeding four ounces; other printed papers and patterns 2d. per 2 ounces.

The entrance of the colony into the Postal Union, under the Postal Union Treaty signed at Berne, on the 9th October, 1874, was made conditional on the payment of one-half of the additional loss entailed on the Imperial Exchequer by the reduced rates of packet postage; and an annual sum of over £3,000 is provided on the Colonial Estimates to cover such payment.

Under the new Postal Treaty, concluded at Paris on the 1st June, 1878, the packet rates of postage were further reduced to what they are at present and as given below.

With the introduction of post-cards for use to and from places abroad on the 1st April, 1877, the Government embraced the opportunity to authorize the use of post-cards within the island. Accordingly post-cards of the following denomination were issued:—

Half-penny cards for town or office delivery.

Penny cards for use between any of the offices in the island.

On the 16th June, 1883, the issue of reply paid post cards for use between places in Jamaica as well as between certain places in the Universal Postal Union was authorised. The following are the rates:—

*Inland Card.*

For Town or Office Delivery	1d.
For transmission to any Post Office in the Island	2d.

*Universal Postal Union Card.*

For transmission to places in the Universal Postal Union	3d.
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On the 4th November, 1878, a mail coach line between Kingston and Mandeville for the conveyance of mails, passengers and parcels, was established, and continued to run regularly three times a week, to and fro, between Old Harbour and Mandeville, until 2nd March, 1885, when it was extended to Sav-la-Mar on the completion of the Railway Line to Porus.

The Mail Coach Service which was established between Kingston and St. Ann's Bay on the 1st November, 1881, was similarly extended to Montego Bay on the 17th August, 1885, when the Railway extension to Ewarton was completed. Mail Coaches are now also run by the Mail Contractors in connection with the Mail Services between Kingston and Manchioneal, and Montego Bay and Lucea.\*

During the year 1879 a set of American "lock boxes" was placed in the Circulation Branch of the Post Office. Each box is supplied with duplicate keys which are kept by the subscribers, so that the letters, &c., may be removed as rapidly as they are assorted. Lock boxes have also been placed at the Post Offices at Montego Bay and Falmouth. During the current year, 1886, a further supply of lock-boxes was imported and erected at the General Post Office and the annual subscription was reduced from two guineas to twelve shillings per annum.

The following are the alterations which have taken place from time to time in the rates of postage:—

In 1860 the inland rate of postage on a letter not exceeding  $\frac{1}{2}$  ounce in weight was 4d. if conveyed a distance not exceeding 60 miles; 6d. if conveyed over 60 miles but not exceeding 100 miles; 8d. if conveyed over 100 miles.

In 1861 a 2d. rate was made to include letters conveyed either a distance of not exceeding 30 miles or for delivery within a parish, and the rate of postage on a letter

\* For information as to Mail Coaches see "Travelling in Jamaica."

conveyed more than 100 miles was reduced to 6d. if it did not exceed a quarter of an ounce weight; heavier letters remaining at the higher rate of 8d.

The provisions of the book-post were also extended so as to include samples of merchandise, &c., the charge being 1d. per oz.; the book-post rate, previously 1d. per oz., being at the same time reduced to  $\frac{1}{4}$ d. per oz.

In 1862 the rate of postage on a letter conveyed a distance not exceeding 60 miles was reduced to 3d., 4d. being made the charge for all further distances.

In 1865 the 4d. rate of postage was abolished, leaving 3d. as the maximum charge for a letter not exceeding the single rate of half an ounce, the scale of progression, under which a letter exceeding the first ounce was charged with a double rate of postage (6d. per ounce) or a fraction thereof remaining in force.

In 1863 the rate of postage on letters transmitted by the contract steamers to and from the United Kingdom was increased by the Imperial Post Office from 6d. per  $\frac{1}{2}$  oz. to 1/, the postage on letters conveyed by private ships being at the same time reduced from 6d. to 3d.

In 1868 a charge for inland conveyance of certain packet correspondence received for delivery in or posted at Kingston, which had previously enjoyed an exceptional exemption from any charge beyond a sea-rate, was authorized under the Post Office Law, 18 of 1868.

From 1860 to 1866 the Post Office revenue was augmented by the postage, as well as by the gratuities, paid by the U. S. Government on correspondence conveyed between Jamaica and the United States by steamers under contract with the Jamaica Government.

Between the year 1866 and the 5th February, 1871, when the Government entered into a contract on the latter date with the Pacific Mail Steamship Company, whose steamers were plying between New York and Colon and calling at this port, for the conveyance of mails between this island and New York, there was not any direct mail service with the United States. On the termination of the contract with the Pacific Mail Steamship Company it was secured by the Atlas Company. The contract with the Atlas Company was however determined in the month of November, 1884.

On the 1st January, 1872, the island rates of postage were reduced as follows:—

Letters from 3d. per half ounce, paid or unpaid, to 2d. per half ounce, if pre-paid; newspapers from a 1d. each, paid or unpaid, to  $\frac{1}{4}$ d. each, if pre-paid, double the pre-paid rate of postage being charged on all letters or papers posted unpaid or insufficiently pre-paid. This reduction, together with the system of charging double the pre-paid rate on unpaid or insufficiently pre-paid correspondence, introduced into the colony for the first time, has tended more than anything else to place the revenue of the Post Office on a more satisfactory footing, for by far the great majority of letters are now pre-paid, and as a consequence the loss to the revenue on unclaimed unpaid correspondence has been materially lessened.

On the 29th April, 1884, by order of the Governor in Privy Council the rate of postage on letters between Kingston, Up-Park Camp, Gordon Town, Cold Spring, Half-way-Tree, Spanish Town, Old Harbour and Port Royal was reduced to a 1d. per half ounce if pre-paid, if *unpaid* double the pre-paid rate; and on the 1st February, 1886, a similar reduction was made, by order in Privy Council of His Honor the Major-General Administering the Government, in respect of letters addressed to Linstead, Ewarton, May Pen, Four Paths and Porus, which places have been brought into *daily* communication with Kingston as a result of the Railway Extension to Porus and to Ewarton.

On the 1st October, 1885, a Parcel Post Exchange between Jamaica and the United Kingdom was established, and has since been extended to certain Foreign Countries via the United Kingdom.

During the recent session of the Legislature a law entitled the Post Office Law Amendment Law, 1886, was passed and effect was given thereto on the 1st May, 1886; the object of the law being "to make special provision with regard to the collection of Customs duties payable on parcels coming by the Post from places beyond seas and also to amend the Post Office Law, 1868."

Until the year 1843 it was the practice to impose the postage on letters in accordance with the number of enclosures, i.e., the number of sheets of paper contained in

the letter, a practice which in these advanced and enlightened times must be styled as very primitive.

Prior to the year 1847 postal communication with the country districts was confined to one post in each week, but in the month of July, 1847, it was increased to two posts a week, until the year 1868, when in the month of July a third post was established and has been continued up to the present time.

On the transfer of the Department in 1860 there were only forty-nine District Post Offices in existence ; at the present time there are ninety-four.

Until the month of October, 1858, the District Postmasters were remunerated at the rate of 15 per cent. on the collections of their respective offices. In the month of November, 1858, the Imperial Post Office changed the practice and fixed the salaries at an annual payment based on the average percentage for the three months preceding the month in which the change was effected. They are now paid in accordance with a scale based upon the revenue collections of their offices, several of them being placed in high classes on account of nightwork.

The Circulation Branch of the General Post Office, Kingston, is maintained on the first floor of the old Court House in Harbour Street, the upper floor of which is now used as a Town Hall. Since the fire of the 11th December, 1882, the Control Branch and the Money Order and Mail Coach Booking Offices are maintained at the premises known as "Blundell Hall" in East Street.

The ordinary office hours of the Circulation Branch are from 8 a.m. until 4 p.m. ; but the Office is opened earlier and later should the arrival or departure of packet or important ship mails render it necessary.

The Money Order Office is kept open from 10 a.m. until 2 p.m. each working day.

Under the new contract with the R. M. S. P. Company which came into operation on 1st July, 1885, the steamers are timed to arrive at Jamaica from Southampton, via Barbados and Jacmel, on every alternate Monday at 8 a.m. and to leave Jamaica, via Barbados and Jacmel, for Southampton on every alternate Wednesday at 4 p.m., i.e., the homeward bound steamer leaves Jamaica two day and eight hours after the arrival of the outward bound if she arrives on Monday, the contract time ; but she generally comes in on Sundays. The return packet expresses leave the Terminal Post Office for Kingston on each alternate Tuesday and are due in Kingston on the morning of Wednesday—the day of the departure of the steamer. The outward bound steamer leaves Southampton on each alternate Thursday at 6 p.m., while the homeward steamer is due at Plymouth on each alternate Saturday at 10 p.m.

The mails for Great Britain by the Royal Mail Steam Packet Company's steamers are made up at the General Post Office, Kingston, at the following hours when the arrival of the steamer admits of her leaving at the contract time :—

Registered letters at noon ; newspapers at 1 p.m. ; ordinary letters at 1.30 p.m.

Late letters may be posted at the General Post Office, on payment of a fee of threepence, up to 2.30 p.m. From that time until the steamer leaves the wharf a Post Office Clerk is stationed on board the steamer to receive late letters. The late fee of sixpence in each case must be pre-paid by means of stamps.

There is not at present any Contract Mail Service between Kingston and New York, the contract with the Atlas Company having, as already stated, been determined in the month of November, 1884 ; but mails for the United States and the United Kingdom, via the United States, are closed by every opportunity. The most frequent and regular opportunities are by the steamers of the Atlas Company and by those of Messrs. J. E. Kerr & Co. The mails by the latter are closed in Kingston and sent overland to Port Maria to meet the steamer there. Mails are also made up at Montego Bay and at Port Maria for transmission by Messrs. J. E. Kerr & Co.'s steamers which leave that port, as a rule, every Wednesday.

There is also a Contract Packet Mail Service by the Cunard Line between Kingston, Turks Islands, Bermuda and Halifax. The steamer leaves Halifax every fourth Monday and Kingston every fourth Thursday. Notice of determination of this contract on the 30th June, 1886, has been given to the Government.

The mails from and to the country districts respectively are due at and despatched from the General Post Office as under :—

	Due at.	Depart.		Due by.	Depart by.
Windward	8.24 a.m.	4 p.m.	Northside		
Portland	9.5 a.m.	4 p.m.	Southside	9 a.m.	4.15 p.m.

The mails are made up at the following hours, viz.: Newspapers at 2 p.m.; registered letters at 2.15 p.m.; ordinary letters at 2.50 p.m. Late letters can be posted after 2.50 p.m. on payment of the following additional rate: From 2.50 p.m. to 3 p.m., 1d.; from 3 p.m. to 3.10 p.m., 2d.

## DISTRICT POST OFFICES AND THEIR RESPECTIVE POSTMASTERS.

Parish.	Post Office.	Postmaster.	Parish.	Post Office.	Postmaster.
St. Catherine.	Ewarton	M. T. Powell.	Hanover.	Flint River	L. Hairs.
	Linstead	E. M. Smellie.		Green Island	N. Macdonald.
	Lluidas Vale	A. H. Ainsworth.		Lucea	W. C. Aird.
	Old Harbour	A. E. Nash.			
	Pear Tree Grove	R. Ryan.	Manchester.	Cross Keys	J. F. Goodison.
	Spanish Town	W. D. Byles.		Devon	L. Hopwood.
St. Ann.	Alexandria	C. Helwig.		Mandeville	A. Robertson.
	Brown's Town	A. M. Powell.		Mile Gully	R. A. Patton.
	Cave Valley	G. L. Mais.		Medina	H. E. Newman.
	Claremont	G. Helwig.		Newport	J. A. Polack.
	Dry Harbour	E. Corbett.		Porus	E. R. Baker.
	Laughlands	J. T. Low.		Shooter's Hill	E. Sherlock.
	Moneague	E. L. Bolton.		Spur Tree	H. Swaby.
	Ocho Rios	R. E. Mesquita.		Watson's Hill	E. M. Nash.
	Pedro	H. Brown, jr.	Clarendon.	Alley	L. Garriques.
Trelawny.	St. Ann's Bay	J. R. Naylor.		Chapelton	C. J. Lyon.
	York Castle	Rev. W. C. Murray.		Four Paths	J. D. Eves.
				Hayes	G. W. Reid.
				May Pen	M. R. Facey.
St. James.	Clark's Town	J. P. Laing.		Milk River	A. B. Farquhar.
	Duncans	C. F. Benaim.	St. Thomas.	Bath	E. Groves.
	Falmouth	M. A. Brown.		Blue Mtn. Valley	S. Brown.
	Hampden	A. S. Hewan.		Morant Bay	M. E. Bell.
	Rio Bueno	R. A. Laing.		Plan. Gar. River	W. Tilly.
	Ulster Spring	W. Runcie.		Port Morant	R. B. Magill.
	Stewart Town	J. Greaves.	Portland.	Saint David	F. Lamont.
Westmoreland.	Adelphi	D. McIntosh.		Trinity Ville	E. Gordon.
	Anchovy	J. Popkins.			
	Chester Castle	H. I. Isaacs.		Buff Bay	E. W. Spence.
	Copse	L. Crichton.		Hope Bay	H. A. King.
	Little River	H. P. Benaim.		Port Antonio	E. Collings.
	Montego Bay	E. Cooper.		Priestman's River	M. E. McGann.
	Ramble	D. King.		Manchioneal	M. E. Sharp.
St. Elizabeth.	Bluefields	E. Forrester.	St. Mary.	Annotto Bay	M. F. Jones.
	Darliston	C. P. Bovell.		Gayle	A. Burton.
	Grange Hill	W. T. Murdoch.		Guy's Hill	M. M. Cocking.
	Kings	J. M. Miller.		Oracabessa	O. L. Roe.
	Little London	R. A. Donaldson.		Port Maria	E. H. J. Walker.
	Petersfield	S. M. Hopwood.		Richmond	M. J. Wolcott.
	Savanna-la-Mar	C. E. Bodden.	St. Andrew.	Salt Gut	M. J. Bowen.
St. Elizabeth.	Black River	M. E. Hendriks.		Bull Bay	J. Smiele.
	Lacovia	M. J. Tomlinson.		Cold Spring	A. M. M. Curtin.
	Malvern	C. Lawrence.		Golden Spring	C. E. Panton.
	Middle Quarters	W. McDonald.		Gordon Town	A. P. Teall.
	Newmarket	E. Dennis.		Hagley Gap	C. A. Walker.
	Santa Cruz	H. J. Nangle.		Halfway-Tree	S. A. Neyle.
	Siloah	E. Maris.		Glengoffe	J. S. Nunes.
	Southfield	S. A. Wynter.		Up-Park Camp	R. A. Dias.
	Balaclava	J. W. Scott.		Kingston—Port Royal	L. A. Hayes.

## ARRIVAL AND DEPARTURE TRI-WEEKLY OF MAILS FROM AND FOR KINGSTON, &amp;C.

Names.	Distance in Miles from Kingston.	Arrival from Kingston.		Departure for Kingston.	
		Days.	Hour.	Days.	Hour.
NORTH-WESTERN TRUNK, POST OFFICES ON MAIN LINE.					
*Spanish Town	12	Tu. Th. Sat.	P.M. ...	Tu. Th. Sat.	A.M. ...
*Linstead	26	"	"	"	"
*Ewarton	31	"	6 0	"	7 10
Moneague	42	"	8 30	"	4 5
Claremont	50	"	9 45	"	2 50
Saint Ann's Bay	60	"	11 30	"	12 45
Laughlands	64	Wed. Fri. Mon.	A.M. 12 30	Wed. Fri. Mon.	P.M. 11 45
Dry Harbour	74	"	2 0	"	10 15
Rio Bueno	79	"	3 5	"	9 10
Duncans	85	"	4 10	"	8 5
Falmouth	95	"	5 45	"	6 30
Little River	106	"	7 35	"	4 40
Montego Bay	117	"	9 15	"	3 0
Flint River	131	"	11 45	"	12 15
Lucea	142	"	P.M. 7 30	"	A.M. 10 30
Green Island	154	"	5 5	"	6 30
NORTH-WESTERN TRUNK, BRANCH OFFICES.					
Lluidas Vale via Ewarton	40	"	A.M. 7 20	"	P.M. 2 30
Pedro	56	"	6 45	"	5 0
York Castle	55	"	6 15	"	5 0
Ocho Rios	67	"	1 35	"	10 15
Salt Gut	76	"	3 30	"	8 20
Oracabessa	84	"	5 10	"	6 40
Gayle	88	"	6 40	"	5 5
Guy's Hill	96	"	8 45	"	3 0
Pear Tree Grove via Guy's Hill	103	"	11 10	"	12 30
Brown's Town	81	"	4 0	"	7 15
Stewart Town	87	"	5 35	"	5 30
Alexandria	91	"	7 30	"	3 30
Cave Valley	99	"	10 0	"	1 0
Clark's Town	89	"	5 20	"	6 5
Ulster Spring	103	"	9 30	"	1 45
Hampden	103	"	8 5	"	4 0
Adelphi	127	"	10 10	"	1 45
Anchovy	123	"	P.M. 4 5	"	A.M. 7 55
Copse	129	"	5 10	"	6 50
Ramble	135	"	6 15	"	5 45
Chester Castle via Ramble	140	Tu. Th. Sat.	A.M. 7 15	Mon. Wed. Fri.	5 0
SOUTH-WESTERN TRUNK, POST OFFICES ON MAIN LINE.					
*Old Harbour	24	Tu. Th. Sat.	...	Tu. Th. Sat.	...
*May Pen	33	"	...	"	...
*Four Paths	37	"	...	"	...
Porus	47	"	P.M. 6 40	"	A.M. 7 0
Mandeville	59	"	8 55	"	3 35
Spur Tree	66	"	10 25	"	2 5

ARRIVAL AND DEPARTURE OF MAILS FROM AND FOR KINGSTON, &C., *continued.*

Names.	Distance in Miles from Kingston.	Arrival from Kingston.		Departure for Kingston.	
		Days.	Hour.	Days.	Hour.
SOUTH-WESTERN TRUNK, POST OFFICES ON MAIN LINE.					
Santa Cruz .	80	Wed. Fri. Mon.	A.M. 1 25	Wed. Fri. Mon.	P.M. 11 0
Lacovia .	86	"	2 20	"	9 55
Middle Quarters .	90	"	3 0	"	9 10
Black River .	99	"	4 25	"	7 45
Kings .	114	"	6 55	"	5 20
Bluefields .	122	"	8 30	"	3 45
Savanna-la-Mar .	132	"	10 15	"	2 0
			P.M.		A.M.
Grange Hill .	141	"	3 40	"	10 30
BRANCH OFFICES.					
Hayes .	41		A.M.		P.M.
Alley } via May Pen	48	"	6 10	"	6 8
Chapelton .	51	"	7 25	"	4 53
Milk River, via Four Paths .	57	"	7 24	"	5 0
Shooter's Hill .	64	"	7 30	"	4 0
Mile Gully .	72	"	6 0	"	6 58
Balaclava } via Mandeville	83	"	7 41	"	5 17
Newport .	66	"	9 58	"	3 0
Cross Keys .	74	"	7 20	"	4 0
Devon .	78	"	9 40	"	1 30
Medina } via Mile Gully	79	"	9 50	"	2 40
Watson's Hill .	73	"	10 10	"	2 40
Southfield } via Spur Tree	83	"	6 45	"	5 5
Malvern via Santa Cruz .	91	"	9 20	"	2 30
Siloah via Lacovia .	101	"	8 20	"	2 30
Newmarket via Middle Quarters	105	"	9 0	"	1 30
		"	6 0	"	2 0
			P.M.		A.M.
Little London } via Sav.-la-Mar	141	"	4 30	"	7 15
Petersfield .	138	"	3 45	"	8 0
Darliston .	147	"	6 35	"	5 0
SOUTH-EASTERN TRUNK, POST OFFICES ON MAIN LINE.					
Bull Bay .	10	Tu. Th. Sat.	6 0	Tu. Th. Sat.	6 24
Saint David .	19	"	7 53	"	4 31
Morant Bay .	31	"	10 22	"	2 2
Port Morant .	38	"	11 51	"	12 33
			A.M.		P.M.
Plantain Garden River .	45	Wed. Fri. Mon.	1 20	Wed. Fri. Mon.	11 4
Manchioneal .	57	"	3 54	"	8 30
Priestman's River .	67	"	6 4	"	6 20
Port Antonio .	78	"	8 24	"	4 0
SOUTH-EASTERN TRUNK, BRANCH OFFICES.					
B. M. Valley } via Morant Bay	37	"	6 42	"	4 18
Trinityville .	43	"	8 30	"	2 30
Bath via Port Morant .	47	"	7 35	"	4 0
NORTH-EASTERN TRUNK, POST OFFICES ON MAIN LINE.					
Golden Spring .	12	Tu. Th. Sat.	P.M. 6 24	Tu. Th. Sat.	A.M. 6 41
Annotto Bay .	30	"	10 5	"	3 0
			A.M.		P.M.
Buff Bay .	40	Wed. Fri. Mon.	1 30	Wed. Fri. Mon.	10 50
Hope Bay .	50	"	4 55	"	7 25
NORTH-EASTERN TRUNK, BRANCH OFFICES.					
Glengoffe via Golden Spring .	20	"	7 20	"	2 0
Richmond .	39	"	8 0	"	2 0
Port Maria } via Annotto Bay	46	"	1 27	"	5 0
Hagley Gap .	18	"	9 0	"	2 0

ARRIVAL AND DEPARTURE OF MAILS FROM AND FOR KINGSTON, &C., *continued.*

Names.	Distance in miles from Kingston.	Arrival from Kingston.	Departure for Kingston.
DAILY MAILS.		P.M.	A.M.
Halfway-Tree .	3	3 30	9 10
Gordon Town .	9	4 35	8 5
Cold Spring .	15	6 40	6 20
Port Royal .	5	4 30	8 0

Mails are despatched daily from Kingston for Linstead, Ewarton, Old Harbour, May Pen, Four Paths and Porus by the first and second passenger trains, leaving respectively at 8 a.m. and 12 m., and mails are also due from those offices by the first and second passenger trains arriving in Kingston respectively at 9 a.m. and 1 p.m.

The daily mails between Kingston, Half-way Tree, Gordon Town and Cold Spring, between Kingston and Up-Park Camp and between Kingston and Port Royal, arrive at and depart from the General Post Offices as under :—

Cold Spring, Gordon Town and Half-way Tree .	Due.	Depart.
Port Royal .	9.40 a.m.	3.0 p.m.
Up-Park Camp .	9.35 a.m.	3.0 p.m.
	10 a.m. & 3 p.m.	11.15 a.m. & 3.45 p.m.

## PUBLIC OFFICERS ENTITLED TO SEND AND RECEIVE THEIR CORRESPONDENCE FREE OF POSTAGE.

His Excellency the Governor	Director of Public Works
The Governor's Private Secretary and A.D.C.	Director of Public Gardens and Plantations
Colonial Secretary	Inspector General of Police
Assistant Colonial Secretary	Director of Prisons
Protector of Immigrants	Inspector of Schools
Attorney General	Inspector of Volunteers
Auditor General	Puisne Judges of the Supreme Court
Chief Justice	Registrar General
Collector General	Superintending Medical Officer
Collector of Customs, Kingston	Treasurer
Custodes of Parishes, or Senior Resident Magistrates discharging their duties	Postmaster for Jamaica
The Mayor and Chairmen of Parochial Boards, and in their absence Vice-Chairmen—correspondence <i>from</i> only free	The Secretary to the Education Commission
	The Civil Service Examination Commissioners and their Secretary.

The delivery of correspondence by letter carriers takes place daily from the General Post Office as under, viz :—

On post days, viz., Tuesdays, Thursdays and Saturdays at 9 a.m., 10.45 a.m., 2.45 p.m.

On non-post day, viz., Mondays, Wednesdays and Fridays, at 8.30 a.m., 10.15 a.m., and 2.45 p.m.

There are Pillar Letter Boxes at North Street, Parish Church, Harbour Street, Victoria Market and Myrtle Bank. They are cleared as under :—

Letter Box.	Daily.			For Fortnightly Packet Mails.
1. North Street .	8.20 a.m.	10.40 a.m.	2.10 p.m.	12.50 p.m.
2. Parish Church .	8.30 a.m.	10.50 a.m.	2.20 p.m.	1. 0 p.m.
3. Harbour Street .	8.40 a.m.	11. a.m.	2.30 p.m.	1.10 p.m.
4. Victoria Market .	8.45 a.m.	11.5 a.m.	2.35 p.m.	1.15 p.m.
5. Myrtle Bank .	8.55 a.m.	11.15 a.m.	2.45 p.m.	1.25 p.m.

The following are the pre-paid inland rates of postage:—

*Letters*—2d. per  $\frac{1}{2}$  ounce to places *not* within the "Penny Limit."

Letters for town or office delivery, or exchanged between Kingston, Up-Park Camp, Half-way Tree, Gordon Town, Cold Spring, Port Royal, Spanish Town, Linstead, Ewarton, Old Harbour, May Pen, Four Paths and Porus, must be pre-paid at the rate of 1d. per half ounce.

*Book-packets*—Not exceeding 1 ounce in weight, 1d., above one ounce and not exceeding 4 ounces, 2d., and 2d. for each additional 4 ounces or fraction thereof. A book-packet must not exceed 3lbs. in weight, or 2 feet in length, or one foot in width or depth. The following may now be transmitted by book-post:—

Old letters which have apparently passed through the Post before and have served their original purpose.

Copies of letter which do not bear a present date and which it is manifest are not serving the purpose of *original* letters.

Letters which are manifestly intended for publication in a newspaper or otherwise.

The letters must not be closed in *any manner* and must be so put up as to admit of easy examination of their contents, otherwise they will be liable to the letter rate of postage and must be so surcharged.

*Circulars*, i.e., letters which, according to internal evidence, are being sent in identical terms to several persons and the whole or the greater part of which is printed, engraved or lithographed, may also be sent by book-post.

*Parcels*—3d. for 4 ounces. A parcel may not exceed 8 ounces in weight, nor 2 feet in length, or 1 foot in width or depth and it must be *fully* pre-paid.

Parcels and book-packets must not contain anything that may injure the officers of the Post Office or the contents of the mail bags, and must be so put up as to be easily examined at the Post Office.

If any letter or communication of the nature of a letter be found in a newspaper, parcel or book-packet, it will be withdrawn and surcharged at the *wholly unpaid letter rate of postage*.

*Single Post Cards* for town or office delivery,  $\frac{1}{2}$ d.; for any distance inland, 1d.

*Reply Paid Post Cards*—For town or office delivery at 1d.

" " For transmission to any Post Office in the island 2d.

The Inland Half-Penny Post Card, *Reply Paid* or *Single*, intended for town or office delivery, may be used for general circulation within the colony if the deficient postage thereon, say, one half-penny, be added thereto by an adhesive postage stamp.

*Newspapers*— $\frac{1}{2}$ d. each.

*Registration Fee*—4d.

Any pre-paid letter, newspaper, book-packet or parcel, for delivery within the island, may be registered on pre-payment of the registration fee and postage.

Wholly unpaid letters, newspapers and book packets are liable to a surcharge equal to double the prepaid rate; when insufficiently prepaid to a surcharge equal to double the deficiency.

The mails for transmission by the Mail Coach between Porus and Savanna-la-Mar and between Ewarton and Montego Bay are closed at the General Post Office on Mondays, Wednesdays, and Fridays at 7 a.m., and are due at the General Post Office on Tuesdays, Thursdays and Saturdays by the last train.

Money Orders are issued at the head office, Kingston, and at the several Parochial Treasuries. Applications for Money Orders addressed either to the Postmaster for Jamaica or to a Parochial Treasurer are free of postage and registration fee.

The Commissions on Money Orders drawn on the United Kingdom are as under:—

For any sum not exceeding	£2	.	0s.	9d.
Above £2 and not exceeding	5	.	1	6
" 5 " "	7	.	2	3
" 7 " "	10	.	3	0

The Commissions on Money Orders drawn on the United States and Canada are as under:—

For any sum not exceeding	£2	.	1s.	0d.
Above £2 and not exceeding	5	.	2	0

Above £5 and not exceeding	£7	3s.	6d.
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7	10	4	0
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The rate of exchange of "Money Orders" between the United States, Canada and Jamaica is \$4 87c to the £.

The Commissions on Money Orders drawn on Barbados and British Guiana and the Leeward Islands are as under :—

For any sum not exceeding	£2	0s.	6d.
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Above £2 and not exceeding	5	1	0
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" 5	7	1	6
-----	---	---	---

" 7	10	2	0
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No Single Order can be granted for more than ten pounds.

No application can be entertained for compensation for alleged injury from the non-payment of a Money Order at the expected time. When a Money Order is applied for it must be on the clear understanding that no such claim will be allowed, and that the Post Office is not liable, under any circumstances, to more than one payment of a Money Order, even when, notwithstanding the precautions that are taken, the Order has been paid to a person not entitled to receive the money.

An additional charge of 6d. is made for each Order issued on the day of the closing of the mail for England and the United States.

Money Orders payable in Constantinople and Smyrna are also issued by this office, the rate of commission being the same as that to the United Kingdom. Orders from those places are also payable in this colony.

A system of Through Money Orders has been arranged with the Imperial Post Office. The following are the conditions under which Money Orders can be exchanged with the undermentioned Foreign Countries and British Colonies, via the United Kingdom :—

The rate of commission is the same as to the United Kingdom ; but to cover cost of transmission beyond the United Kingdom a sum equal to one-third of the commission collected in Jamaica will be deducted from the amount of each order before payment. The Payee will receive a Money Order corrected accordingly, either from the London Post Office or from the Chief Money Order Office of the country in which payment is to be made ; and the Money Order Form issued under these regulations by the Post Office Department, being only of value as a receipt for the amount paid into the Jamaica Office, must be retained by the remitter. It is therefore important that the *full name and address of the Payee* should be correctly furnished in each case.

On similar terms Through Money Orders drawn on Jamaica by either of the countries or colonies named will be paid by the Jamaica Post Office.

List of Foreign Countries and British Colonies transacting Money Order business with the United Kingdom, and with which a Through Money Order Exchange has been authorised :—

#### FOREIGN COUNTRIES.

Belgium  
Denmark  
Dutch East Indies  
Egypt

German Empire  
Holland  
Iceland  
Italy  
Switzerland.

Japan  
Norway  
Portugal  
Sweden

#### BRITISH INDIA.

Including all the Provinces and Postal Agencies.

#### BRITISH COLONIES.

New South Wales  
Queensland  
South Australia  
Tasmania  
Victoria  
Western Australia  
Bermuda

Ceylon  
Falkland Islands  
Hong Kong  
Malta  
Newfoundland  
New Zealand  
Cape Colony  
Sierra Leone.

Gambia  
Gold Coast  
Lagos  
Mauritius  
Natal  
St. Helena  
Seychelles

Cyprus.

Gibraltar.

North Borneo,

## LIST OF COUNTRIES, &amp;C., COMPRISED

## IN THE UNIVERSAL POSTAL UNION.

Argentine Republic, viz :—Buenos Ayres, Santa Fe, Estre Rios, Corientes, Cordova La Rioja, Santiago del Estero, Tuenman, Catamarca, Salta and Jujiry, San Luis, Mendoza and San Juan.

Austro-Hungary, including Principality of Lichtenstein.

Belgium.

Bolivia.

Brazil.

Bulgaria, Principality of.

Canada, Dominion of—viz : Ontario, Quebec, New Brunswick, Nova Scotia, British Columbia, Manitoba, Vancouver's Island, Prince Edward Island and Cape Breton Island.

Chili.

Congo.

Costa Rica.

Cyprus.

Denmark, including Iceland and the Faroe Islands.

Danish Colonies of Greenland, St. Croix St. John and St. Thomas.

Dominican Republic (San Domingo).

Ecuador.

Egypt.

France, including Algeria, Principality of Monaco and the French Post Offices established at Tunis, Tangier (Morocco) and at Shanghai (China), Cambodia and Tonquin.

French Colonies of Martinique, Guadeloupe and Dependencies. French Guiana (Cayenne), Senegal and Dependencies, Gaboon, also and Bassam and Assinee, Reunion and Dependencies, St. Mary, †Tamative (Madagascar), New Caledonia and Dependencies, the French portion of Low Archipelago and the French Establishments in India and in Cochin China.

Germany (including Heligoland).

Gibraltar.

Great Britain and Ireland.

British Colonies (in addition to those separately mentioned) of Antigua, Bahamas, Barbados, Bermudas, British Guiana, British Honduras, \*Ceylon, Dominica, Falkland Islands, Gambia, Gold Coast, Grenada and the Grenadines, Hong Kong, \*Labuan, Lagos, Mauritius and Dependencies (the Amirante Islands, the Seychelles and Rodrigues), Montserrat, Nevis, Newfoundland, St. Kitts, St. Lucia, †St. Vincent, Sierra Leone, \*Straits Settlements (Penang, Singapore and Malacca) Tobago, Tortola, Trinidad and Turks Island.

\*British India, Hindostan and British Burmah, and the Indian Postal Establishments of Aden, Muscat, Persian Gulf, Guadur and Mandalay.

Greece, including Ionian Islands.

Grey Town.

Guatemala.

Haiti.

*Prepayment of all classes of correspondence must be effected by means of Stamps.*

*Letters not specially directed by a particular route will be sent by the first mail despatched.*

Hawaii

Honduras, Republic of (including Bay Islands).

†Italy, including the Republic of San Marino and the Italian Offices of Tunis and Tripoli in Barbary, Massowah, Egypt and \*Assab, Abyssinia.

\*Japan and Japanese Post Offices in Shanghai, Chefoo, Chin-King, Hankow, Ningpo, Fouchow, Newyang, Kiukiang and Tientsin (China) and at Fusampo (Corea).

Liberia.

Luxemburg.

Malta.

Mexico.

Montenegro.

Netherlands.

Netherland Colonies of Dutch Guiana (Surinam), Curagoa and Dependencies (viz : Bonaire, Aruba, the Netherland portion of St. Martin, St. Eustache and Saba). \*Java, Madura, Sumatra, Celebes, \*Borneo (except Northwest part) Billiton, Archipelagos of Banca; Riouw, Sunda Islands (Bali Lombok Sumbawa, Floris and the Southwest part of Timor), the Archipelago of the Molaccas and the Northwest part of New Guiana (Papua).

Nicaragua.

Norway.

Paraguay.

Patagonia.

Persia.

Peru.

Portugal, including Madeira and the Azores. Portuguese Colonies of Goa and its Dependencies (Damao and Diu), Macao, Timor, Cape de Verd and Dependencies (Bissao and Casheu), Ambrizetti, Islands of St. Thomas and Prince (in Africa), with the Establishment of Ajuda, \*Mozambique and Angola.

Roumania (Moldavia and Wallachia).

Russia, including Finland.

Salvador.

Servia.

\*Siam.

Spain, including the Balearic Islands, the Canary Islands, the Spanish possessions on the Northern Coast of Africa and the Republic of Andorra, and the Postal Establishments of Spain upon the Western Coast of Morocco.

Spanish Colonies of Cuba, Porto Rico, Fernando Po, Annobon and Dependencies.

\*Philippine Islands and Marian Islands.

Sweden.

Switzerland.

Tahiti.

Turkey, European and Asiatic.

United States of Colombia—Barranquilla Bogota, Buenaventura, Cathagena, Colon, Panama, Porto Bello, Santa Martha, Savanilla.

United States of America.

Uruguay.

Venezuela.

No packet of printed matter or commercial papers for transmission to countries of the Postal Union must exceed 18 inches in length or 1 foot in width or depth, and no such packet for other places abroad must exceed two feet in length or 1 foot in width or depth; the extreme limit of *weight* is 4 lbs. for a single packet for countries in the Postal Union.

Pattern and sample packets for places in the Postal Union must not exceed 8 inches in length, 4 inches in width, 2 inches in depth, or 8 ounces in *weight*, except those for Belgium, France, Greece, Luxemburg, Portugal, Switzerland via France, the Argentine Republic, and the United States, the limits for which are 1 foot in length, 8 inches in width, 4 inches in depth, and 12 ounces in *weight*.

*Any number of Newspapers may be sent as a Book Packet, but if sent as Newspapers the specified rate must be paid for each paper, whether one or several be enclosed in the same cover.*

#### RATES OF POSTAGE UNDER THE UNIVERSAL POSTAL UNION.

Letters	4d. per $\frac{1}{2}$ ounce.
Single Post Cards	1 $\frac{1}{2}$ d. each.
Reply Post Cards	3d. each.
Newspapers, not exceeding 4 ounces each	1d. and for every additional 4 ounces or fraction thereof, 1d.
Books and other Printed Papers	1d. per 2 ounces.
Commercial Papers	2 $\frac{1}{2}$ d. for any packet not exceeding 4 ounces; for packets exceeding 4 ounces, 1d. per 2 ounces calculating from the first ounce.
Patterns of Merchandize	1d. per 2 ounces.
Registration Fee	4d.

In the case of the countries marked \* the following *additional rates* must be paid, viz: Letters 1d. per  $\frac{1}{2}$  ounce; Post Cards 1 $\frac{1}{2}$ d. each, which may be paid in adhesive stamps; Newspapers 4d. each; Books and other Printed Papers and Commercial Papers 4d. per 2oz.

NOTE—The above rates do not apply to Hayti, the rates of postage to that Republic being levied under special arrangements.

It is forbidden to send through the Post to a Country of the Postal Union—

1st. Any letter or packet containing gold or silver bullion, pieces of money, jewelry or precious articles.

2nd. Any packet whatever containing articles liable to Customs duty.

3rd. Any article of a nature likely to stain or injure the correspondence.

In addition to all kinds of printed, engraved or lithographed matter, *legal and commercial documents and music in manuscript* may be sent as a book-packet. Proofs of printing or of music may bear correction with a pen, and may have manuscript annexed to them. Circulars, &c., may bear the signature of the Sender, his trade or profession, place of residence and a date. A book may have a dedication or complimentary inscription in manuscript, and printed and lithographed stock or share lists, prices-current, and market may have the prices added in writing.

Commercial papers and printed papers must be sent under band or in an open envelope, so as to admit of the contents being easily withdrawn for inspection, but if they present the form and consistency of an unfolded card they may be forwarded without a cover.

The term "printed papers" has reference to newspapers and periodical works, books stitched or bound, pamphlets, sheets of music, visiting cards, address cards, proofs of printing with or without the manuscript relating thereto, engravings, photographs, drawings, plans, maps, catalogues, prospectuses, announcements and notices of various kinds, whether printed, engraved or lithographed; and, in general, all impressions or copies obtained upon paper, parchment, cardboard, by means of printing, lithographing or any other mechanical process easy to be recognised *except* the copying press.

Stamps for prepayment, whether obliterated or not, as well as all printed articles containing the representative sign of a monetary value are excluded from the reduced postage applicable to "printed papers."

Patterns of merchandize can only be forwarded under the following conditions:—

They must be placed in bags, boxes or open envelopes, in such a manner as to admit of easy inspection.

They must possess no saleable value, nor bear any manuscript beyond the name or social position of the sender, the address of the addressee, a manufacturer's or trade mark, number and prices.

## RATES OF POSTAGE TO PLACES NOT COMPRISED IN THE UNIVERSAL POSTAL UNION.

COUNTRIES NOT COMPRISED IN THE POSTAL UNION.	FOR A LETTER.			ON EACH NEWS- PAPER.		BOOK PACKET OR PACKET OF PATTERNS.							
	Not exceeding ½ oz.	Above ½ oz., not exceeding 1 oz.	For each additional half-ounce.	Not exceeding 4 ozs.	For each additional four ounces.	Registration Fee.	Not exceeding 2 ozs.	Above 2 ozs., not exceeding 4 ozs.	Above 4 ozs., not exceeding 6 ozs.	Above 6 ozs., not exceeding 8 ozs.	For each additional 2 ozs.	For each additional 4 ozs.	
	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	d.	d.	d.	d.	d.	d.	d.	
†Australia Fiji †New South Wales †Queensland †Victoria †New Zealand †Tasmania †St. Martin (except French and Netherland portions)	} via Panama.	0 4	0 8	0 4	0 1	0 1	6	3	3	6	6	3	
China (except Hong Kong)		0 8	1 4	0 8	0 1½	0 1½	5	2½	2½	5	7½	2½	.
Tunis		0 4	0 8	0 4	0 1	0 1	6	1½	3	4½	6	1½	.
*Africa, West Coast of (ex- cept places comprised in the Postal Union)		0 9	1 6	0 9	0 1	0 1	.	2	3	5	5	.	5
*Ascension		0 9	1 6	0 9	0 1	0 1	.	2	3	5	5	.	5
Cape of Good Hope		0 9	1 6	0 9	0 1	0 1	5	2	3	5	5	.	5
Natal		0 9	1 6	0 9	0 1	0 1	6	2½	4	8	8	.	4
Australia New South Wales† New Zealand Queensland† Tasmania Victoria, Australia Transvaal Bechnanaland	} via United Kingdom.	0 9	1 6	0 9	0 1	0 1	5	2	3	6	6	6	
St. Helena		0 11	1 10	0 11	0 1½	0 1½	5	3	4	7	7	.	7
*Madagascar (except St. Mary and Tamatave)	0 11	1 10	0 11	0 1½	0 1½	5	3	4	7	7	.	7	
VIA UNITED STATES.													
Australia (except New South Wales and Queens- land)	0 5	0 10	0 5	0 2	0 2	9	2	4	6	8	2	.	
Fiji New South Wales New Zealand Queensland	}	0 8½	1 5	0 8½	0 2	0 2	9	3	4	7	8	4	
North China		0 6	1 0	0 6	0 2½	0 2½	9	2½	5	7½	10	2½	5
Victoria		0 8½	1 5	0 8½	0 2	0 2	9	3	4	7	8	3	4

The postage to the places marked \* must be fully prepaid. Any *insufficiently prepaid* mail matter will not be forwarded, but will be returned to the Post.

In the case of the places marked † to the sea rate of postage noted for letters *must be added* the ordinary inland letter-rate, *both of which must be fully prepaid.*

‡ The weight of a book packet or packet of patterns is limited to 3 lbs. in the case of these countries.

## 2.—PARCEL POST.

A Parcel Post Exchange between Jamaica and the United Kingdom and certain places via the United Kingdom is now in operation.

Parcel Post business is transacted at the Head Office, Kingston ("Blundell Hall"), and at the District Post Offices in places called at by the Mail Coaches, the Coastal Steamer and Railway.

Parcel Mails are made up in Kingston on every alternate Wednesday for despatch by the Royal Mail Contract line of steamers—parcels being received up to 12 o'clock on that day.

The following are the regulations and conditions to be observed :—

A parcel addressed to the United Kingdom must not exceed 11lbs. in weight, and if addressed to any place via the United Kingdom 7lbs., with the exceptions stated in tables below.

The rate of postage on a parcel for the United Kingdom is 9d. for each pound or fractional part thereof.

The rates of postage on parcels addressed to places via the United Kingdom will be found in the tables given hereafter.

The *greatest length* of a parcel for the United Kingdom and places via the United Kingdom is 2 feet, and *greatest girth* 4 feet, with the exceptions stated in tables below.

The postage must in all cases be paid in advance, and by means of postage stamps, which must be affixed by the Sender, and no parcel will be accepted for transmission which is not sufficiently prepaid.

Each parcel must be plainly directed, such direction setting forth the name and full address of the person for whom the parcel is intended. It should bear the words "Parcel Post" in the upper left hand corner, and the name and address of the Sender. The date of posting should also be added. A parcel must not be posted in a Letter Box but must be taken into a Post Office and presented at the counter to the Postmaster or person in charge.

A certificate of posting may be obtained, if desired, by the person posting a parcel, but no liability attaches to the Post Office in respect thereof.

Parcels will be liable to Customs duties and regulations, and the Sender of each parcel will be required to make a Customs declaration furnishing—upon a special form provided for the purpose which can be obtained at any Post Office—an accurate statement of the contents and value, the date of posting, and the Sender's signature and place of abode. Customs duties will be collected before delivery.

No parcel containing dangerous articles, perishable articles, articles likely to injure other parcels, liquids (unless securely packed in proper cases,) or any contraband article or substance will be accepted for transmission. A parcel must not contain another parcel or other postal packet intended for delivery to a person other than the Addressee of the first-named parcel.

If on examination of any parcel there shall be found in or with the same any paper or communication of the nature of a letter such paper or communication will be withdrawn therefrom, and will be forwarded to the Addressee thereof; or, if it be not addressed, to the Addressee of the parcel in or with which the same was found enclosed; and the said letter will be surcharged for delivery at the unpaid inland rate of postage.

If at any time while a parcel remains in the possession of an Officer of the Post Office it becomes offensive or injurious to such Officer or other person, or to other parcels, it may forthwith be dealt with or disposed of in such manner as the Postmaster for Jamaica may in his discretion direct or authorise.

Parcels containing articles of an aggregate value exceeding £50 will not be accepted for transmission.

Parcels re directed from one address to another will be surcharged a fresh postage at the prepaid rate.

If a parcel cannot be delivered as addressed or is refused, the Sender, if his address be given on the parcel, will be communicated with by the Post Office as to the manner in which the parcel shall be disposed of.

If returned or re-directed from one country to another the parcel will be charged a full rate of postage.

Parcels which cannot be delivered will be kept for a reasonable time before being finally disposed of.

Parcels should be securely and substantially packed and closed by the Sender, and in some cases seals may be found necessary. If wax is used it should be of the special quality which will withstand a hot climate.

Parcels received at Jamaica from places over sea under the Parcel Post arrangements with the Imperial Post Office are, in terms of the Post Office Law Amendment Law, 1886, opened at the Head Office, Kingston, for the purpose of the amount of import duty on the contents being assessed.

After such assessment the parcels are delivered as under, and the amount of duty collected in the same manner as the postage on an unpaid or insufficiently prepaid letter :—

In Kingston if addressed to a place within the house delivery limit, by letter carrier. If beyond such limit, at the Parcel Post Office, "Blundell Hall."

In the country, across the Post Office counter; provided that such Post Office is a Mail Coach Office, an office on the Line of Railway, or one at which the Coastal Steamer can deliver mails.

The amount of duty assessed on any such parcel must be paid before delivery, or before the removal of the parcel from the custody of the Post Office; and, unless such duty be paid within fourteen days after the arrival of the parcel at office of address, the said parcel will be liable to be sent to the Queen's Warehouse.

The following are the tables of postages on parcels to places via the United Kingdom :—

		Not Exceeding 1 lb.	For each additional lb. or fraction thereof.
		s. d.	s. d.
India (including Aden and British Burmah) ...		1 9	1 9
Hong Kong. (Parcels will be also accepted, but at the Senders' risk for Amoy, Canton, Foochow, Hankow, Hoihow, Kiungchow, Macao, Ningpo, Shanghai, Swa- tow and other places in China)		1 7	1 7
Straits Settlements (including Singapore, Penang, Mal- acca and Province Wellesley). Parcels will also be accepted, but at the Senders' risk, for other places in the Malayan Peninsula		1 6	1 6
Gibraltar ...	...	1 5	1 3
Malta ...	...		

  

	Rates of Postage.		Special Customs Prohi- bition.
	Not exceeding one lb. in weight.	For each lb. or fraction of a pound additional.	
	s. d.	s. d.	
Cape of Good Hope— For Cape Town	1 9	1 9	Cape of Good Hope— Specie, bullion, gold dust, nuggets, ostrich feathers.
For all places in Cape Colony other than Cape Town	2 1	2 1	Ceylon— Arms and ammunitions.
Ceylon	1 6	1 6	Cyprus— Locusts eggs, salt (except refined for table purposes), silver and copper coins, to- bacco, cigars and snuff in packages of less weight than 56lbs.
Labuan	1 8	1 8	
Cyprus	2 1	1 5	

Letters may not be enclosed in parcels for the Cape of Good Hope.

Foreign reprints of British Copyright Works cannot be sent as merchandize in parcels to Ceylon; false, base or counterfeit coin of the realm, and parts of articles which are liable to Customs duty, sent separately, are likewise prohibited.

	Not exceeding one pound in weight.	For each addi- tional pound or fraction thereof.
St. Helena	10d.	10d.

The prohibitions in St. Helena are in regard to false, base or counterfeit coin of the realm, Cape Brandy, Arrack, Bengal Rum, and Agua Ardente; also foreign reprints of British Copyright Works.

From England to the places named below to which must be added ninepence for each pound or fraction thereof of weight, being the rate to England from Jamaica :—

		s.	d.
Belgium	Not exceeding seven pounds in weight	1	8
Germany	Not exceeding three pounds in weight	1	0
	Over three but not exceeding seven pounds in weight	1	7
Constantinople	Not exceeding three pounds in weight	1	6
	Over three but not exceeding seven pounds in weight	2	6
Egypt	Not exceeding two pounds in weight	1	3
	For each additional pound or fraction thereof up to seven pounds	0	7½

The prohibitions in the case of Belgium and Egypt extend to the carrying of letters; and in that of Germany to the carrying of letters and plants with roots, but vegetables and bulbs are not included. In Germany grapes for table are admissible if packed in receptacles securely fastened but easily examined, and if no vine leaves are employed in the packing.

No parcels for Belgium or Germany may measure more than two feet in any direction nor exceed the girth of four feet. Parcels (particularly for Germany) must be sealed and the weight, both gross and net, must be entered on the Customs declaration.

From England to the places named below to which must be added ninepence for each pound or fraction thereof of weight, being the rate to England from Jamaica :—

	Not exceeding three pounds in weight.	Over three and not exceeding seven pounds in weight.
	s. d.	s. d.
Holland	1 0	1 8
Norway	0 10½	1 5½
Switzerland	1 5	2 0

The prohibitions in the case of Holland, Norway and Switzerland extend to the carrying of letters.

No parcel for Holland, Norway or Switzerland may measure more than two feet in any direction. Parcels must be sealed. The gross and net weight of the parcel must be entered on the Customs declaration.

### 3.—TELEGRAPH.

THE last but most certainly not the least of the improvements which have been effected in connection with the postal service of the island is that of the establishment of a system of inland postal telegraph.

The idea of establishing communication by electric telegraph throughout the island appears to have been under the consideration of the Government since the year 1859, for on the 1st of November of that year we find the Governor, Sir Charles Darling, referring to the matter in his speech to the Legislature in the following manner: "Although I am unable to announce that any of the enterprises to which your countenance and support have been afforded, either by way of pecuniary grant or legislative guarantee, have yet been commenced, I venture to recommend to your

consideration as a public work, which would, I think, fall within the reach of our financial resources and prove of advantage to the interests of commerce, and the conduct of public affairs, while conducing to the protection and convenience of the inhabitants generally, the establishment of communication by electric telegraph between the harbours of Port Morant and Lucea, with the intermediate connection of the principal towns and shipping ports of the island. I will place you in possession of the information I have obtained as to the probable cost of the erection and maintenance of such an establishment.

"From data of this nature, in conjunction with your intimate knowledge of the circumstances and habits of all classes of the people, you will be enabled to judge how far such an undertaking will be justified in the present economic and social condition of the colony."

Both of the Legislative Bodies in reply to the above speech promised to give their best attention to the work.

The proposal to transfer the Post Office to the colony, however, led to the abandonment of the scheme, for in a message from the Governor to the Assembly, dated 30th November, 1859, we find the following: "While the effect of the proposed transfer upon the public revenue is still unascertained the Governor does not consider it advisable to propose to the House of Assembly to sanction any expenditure for the purpose of establishing such telegraphic communication."

Here the question appears to have been dropped; and while no doubt the advantages pointed out so forcibly by Sir Charles Darling to the Legislature have been fully recognized by successive Governments, and the matter has received the fullest consideration, it was Sir Anthony Musgrave, at the instance of Mr. Frederic Sullivan, the present Postmaster for Jamaica, who conferred upon the island the inestimable boon of a system of inland telegraph, of which the public generally have evinced a due appreciation.

On the 30th January, 1879, a law authorising the establishment of an inland telegraph system was passed. Under this law the Director of Public Works is entrusted with the erection and maintenance of the lines, while, following the example of the Imperial Government, the management of the department is vested in the Postmaster for Jamaica.

As soon as possible after the passing of the Act a School of Telegraphy was opened in Kingston under the Superintendent of Telegraphs. At this school as well as at the District Stations all the Telegraph Operators employed in the service have been trained.

The Telegraph Department is worked on the system which experience has proved to be successful in England, and which has been equally successful in Jamaica.

Telegraphic communication was first established between Kingston and St. Ann's on the 20th of October, 1879, and the circuit of the island was completed on the 4th March, 1881. Stations have been established at the following places in addition to Kingston:—

Spanish Town	Montego Bay	Chapelton	Port Antonio
Linstead	Lucea	Alley	Hope Bay
Ewarton	Savanna-la-Mar	Milk River	Buff Bay
Moneague	Black River	Old Harbour	Annotto Bay
Claremont	Santa Cruz	Morant Bay	Port Maria
St. Ann's Bay	Mandeville	Port Morant	Oracabessa
Dry Harbour	Newport	Bath	Ocho Rios
Brown's Town	Shooter's Hill	Plantain Garden River	Port Royal
Duncans	Porus	Manchioneal	Gordon Town
Falmouth	May Pen	Priestman's River	Up-Park Camp

Cold Spring and Yallahs Bay.

Stations were also established at Grange Hill, Lacovia and Port Morant, but had to be closed on the ground of being unremunerative.

The charge for telegrams throughout Jamaica is one shilling (1/) for the first twenty words and threepence (3d.) for every additional five words, i.e., for every additional group of not more than five words, the names and addresses of the Sender and Receiver not being counted.

If the Addressee reside within one mile of the terminal office the telegram is delivered by messenger without any additional charge; but if beyond that limit the following portage fee must be pre paid:—

a. If the whole distance be under three miles at a charge of sixpence (6d.) per mile, counting from boundary of the free delivery.

b. If the distance be over three miles at a charge of one shilling (1/) per mile, counting from the office.

The charges for the transmission and for portorage of telegrams must be pre-paid by means of adhesive stamps which are procurable at each station, of which there are two denominations, viz., 1/ and 3d. Books containing twenty message forms, each form being embossed with a stamp of the face value of 1/, may also be purchased at the head station and other principal district stations at the rate of 20/3d. These books are prepared for use with carbonic ink paper, so that copies can be retained of the messages.

Persons resident at a place to which the Island Telegraph Line has not yet been extended can benefit by its use on the following conditions :—

1. If the words "By Post" with the name of a telegraph station be written on a message it will be wired to such station and forwarded from thence to its postal address by first post.

2. If a letter marked "On Post Office Telegraph business" be sent *by post* to the Telegraph Clerk at any station the message enclosed will be promptly forwarded *by wire* from such station. In this case the letter by post must be registered and the cost of the message enclosed in telegraph stamps or coin.

3. No charge will be made in either case for postage or registration.

Under an arrangement with the West India and Panama Telegraph Company, telegrams addressed to the United Kingdom or to any Foreign Place with which there is telegraphic communication is accepted at any Telegraph Station in Jamaica on payment of the inland rate in addition to the amount charged by the Cable Company, which may be ascertained by application at each station; such payment must be made in *cash*.

Return messages from places abroad will be delivered as addressed subject to the charge for portorage, if any, and to any other claim for conveyance.

The office hours of the Telegraph Department are from 7 a.m. to 5 p.m. daily—Sundays excepted.

Any information not furnished in this Paper may be obtained on application at the General Post Office, the Officers of the Post Office Department being always ready and willing to afford such information.

#### ESTABLISHMENT OF THE POST OFFICE DEPARTMENT.

Office.	Name of Holder.	Salary and other Emolument.	Date of First Appointment to Public Service.
Postmaster for Jamaica	F. Sullivan	£2800 0 0	Feb., 1853
Chief Clerk	G. H. Pearce	400 0 0	1st Feb., '60
	T. H. McBayne	250 0 0	1st May, '69
First Class Clerks	W. Mackinnon	250 0 0	18th Aug., '67
	E. N. Marshall	250 0 0	15th April, '72
	F. G. M. Lynch	250 0 0	19th July, '74
	D. G. Parsons	190 0 0	30th Dec., '74
Second Class Clerks	P. C. Cunha	180 0 0	14th March, '74
	C. W. Magnan	150 0 0	1st June, '77
	R. Nosworthy	150 0 0	8th Jan., '80
	C. A. Heath	100 0 0	3rd Oct., '79
	W. J. Heath	100 0 0	1st Jan., '78
Third Class Clerks	L. S. Gray	100 0 0	1st April, '80
	J. M. Lynch	90 0 0	1st Dec., '79
	A. deC. Ramson	80 0 0	...
	T. R. Mould	80 0 0	1st Feb., '86
Telegraph Branch	H. C. Wilson	400 0 0	1st April, '79
	C. F. Duff	200 0 0	16th Jan., '80
	G. A. Hart	200 0 0	16th Jan., '80

NOTE.—In addition to the above there is a Subordinate Staff of Sorters and Letter-Carriers; and an Auxiliary Staff of Sorters is employed on Packet days to assort the Newspapers.