

papers inwards being sent in the American mails to Pembina and forwarded from there to Fort Garry, and letters and papers outwards, to which it was necessary that United States stamps (which were sold in Fort Garry) should be attached, being carried to Pembina and thence despatched as if posted at the Pembina office to their respective destinations.

Expense, how defrayed. In aid of the expense of the local service a charge was made of one penny on each letter weighing less than half an ounce, of one half penny on each paper and of two pence on each periodical and magazine.

Number of Post Offices. Besides the Post Office at Fort Garry there were three or four sub-Post Offices on the Red and Assiniboine Rivers, to and from which mails were carried, though not with any great regularity, once in each week.

Post Office at Fort Garry. The Post Office in Fort Garry was kept in part of a small log house on what is now called Post Office Street; the space appropriated for Post Office business, including the public lobby, being about 12 by 14 feet. The Postmaster was Mr. A.G.B. Bannatyne, who, with the assistance of one clerk, performed all the duties.

1871, introduction of Canadian postal system and organization of service. In the year 1870 Manitoba and the North-West Territory became part of the Dominion, and in the following year, 1871, were brought within the Canadian postal service, 21 Post Offices, including the Post Office at Fort Garry, were established, with a regular weekly or semi-weekly mail service. Closed bags were exchanged between Fort Garry and Windsor, Ontario, and a contract entered into for the conveyance of the mails three times per week by an extension of the tri-weekly stage route between St. Cloud (the then nearest United States railway station) and Pembina on to Fort Garry, the journey between St. Cloud and Fort Garry, 427 miles, occupying about seven days.

Growth of service. The annual reports of the Postmaster-General shew the growth of the postal service from July, 1871, to the 30th June, 1882, its revenue and its cost of maintenance.

Extension of American Railways towards Manitoba. Gradually, by the extension northward of the lines in Minnesota, Fort Garry was rendered more accessible by railway.

Daily mail established to Fort Garry. On the 15th January, 1875, the stages to Pembina being made daily, a daily mail was established from thence to Fort Garry.

Completion of railway to Winnipeg, consequent improvements in communication. On the 8th January, 1879, the line of railway communication was completed to Winnipeg, and from that time a speedy and direct communication has been had with all parts of the United States, and through the United States with all parts of the Dominion. Two mails daily are now received and despatched at Winnipeg, the time occupied in the transit of a letter either to or from

| | |
|----------------------------|---------|
| Windsor, Ont., being | 2½ days |
| Toronto do | 3 do |
| Ottawa do | 3½ do |
| Montreal do | 3½ do |

| | | |
|--|--|------|
| Number of post offices established each year from 1871 to 1882. | Of the 207 Post Offices now in existence, | |
| | 21 were established in..... | 1871 |
| | 5 do | 1872 |
| | 5 do | 1873 |
| | 2 do | 1874 |
| 3 do | 1875 | |