

In producing the stamp of the present day America is decidedly in advance of all other countries. In speaking of America I do not mean the United States only, but such countries as Nicaragua, Costa Rica, Bolivia, San Salvador, Ecuador, Uruguay, &c., each of these countries seem to vie with one another in producing stamps of an artistic design. Take for instance the Nicaraguan and Costa Rica stamps they are certainly works of art in miniature. The Nicaraguan stamps depict very pretty mountain scenery, and some of the colours they are printed in are of a most delicate tint. Those of Costa Rica show the narrow belt of land there, which divides the Atlantic from the Pacific, the water in the foreground is exquisitely done and the picture as a whole would compare very favourably with many of the best engravings of a much larger design.—*Phil. Monthly.*

CANADA'S POST OFFICE.

OTTAWA, February 25.—The report of the postmaster-general for the year ended the 30th June, 1887, has just been published. The measure of the continued expansion of the postal service of the Dominion during this year will, in its most essential features, be found in the returns and statements constituting the report, which show, amongst other particulars, that 239 new post-offices were established in the several provinces increasing the total number of post offices in operation to 7,534 and that the mail service has been augmented by the organization of 1,920 miles of additional post route, and of 514,467 miles of additional annual mail travel over the various post routes of Canada. The number of letters passing through the mails is estimated to have increased to a yearly total of 74,300,000, and of post cards to 16,356,000. The arrangements mentioned in the report of last year for the organization of daily postal car service over the whole of the newly opened line of the Canadian Pacific railway from Montreal to Vancouver, have worked well, and the daily service thereon has been maintained with satisfactory regularity. The following concise statement of the postal business of Canada will be read with interest:

No. of post offices, Nov. 1.....	7,535
Miles of post route.....	54,786
Annual mail travel in miles.....	24,325,207
Letters sent by post....	74,300,000
Post cards.....	16,356,000
Registered letters.....	3,560,000
Free letters.....	3,160,000
Newspapers and periodicals.....	10,340,000
Books, circulars, etc.....	20,000,000
Parcels by post.....	820,000
Revenue.....	\$2,603,255
Expenditure.....	\$3,458,100
Money order offices.....	933
Money orders issued.....	\$10,328,984
Post office savings banks.....	415
Depositors.....	90,150
Total amount deposited in year.....	\$8,272,041
Deposits held by government.....	\$19,497,750