

£300. I cannot say what pamphlets produce to that Department.

Has the circulation of Newspapers been affected by the charge made by the Post-Office Department?—The circulation of Newspapers has been very materially affected by the charge for postage, which amounts to from one-fifth to one-fourth of the subscription to most of the papers of the Province. The manner in which the postage is collected being paid by the proprietors to the Post-master, is a further check upon their circulation. Newspapers subscriptions, especially at a distance, are troublesome and difficult to collect; and although a Proprietor of a Newspaper may be willing to take the chance of being paid, at some period or other, for the labor and material employed in furnishing a copy of his paper, yet, when he is called upon to lay out money in postage, for forwarding a commodity which offers such adoubtful return, he naturally pauses; and this has a very great effect in restraining the distribution of Newspapers, subject to such a charge.

*John Charlton Fisher, Esquire, of Quebec, examined:—*

Can you state what sum of money is paid by the Publishers of Newspapers and Periodicals in this Province, to the Post-Office, for the transmission of their papers and pamphlets?—It is impossible for me to state the amount, having no means of ascertaining the number of periodicals circulated by post in the Province. Since I have been an Editor here, I have paid, for a weekly paper, four shillings per annum, for each number sent by post. The charge is five shillings for Newspapers published more than once a week. As I think the whole number in circulation, by post, cannot be less than 1600, the sum paid would be about £400 per annum.

Has the circulation of Newspapers been affected by the charge made by the Post-Office Department?—I can entertain no doubt that the circulation of Newspapers has been very materially affected by the postage charged. Subscribers are constantly complaining of