

REGISTRATION.

About 500,000 letters were registered last year.

It is considered that it would be an improvement on the system if the charge for registration were made pre-payable by a stamp, instead of by money as at present.

DEAD LETTERS.

The following is the return of Dead Letters for the year, shewing unfortunately a considerable increase in the number as compared with last year:—

Provincial Dead Letters.....	203,500
Originating in the United Kingdom, and transmitted unopened to the General Post Office, London.	15,665
Originating in the United States, and transmitted unopened to Washington	22,869
Total number of dead letters.....	242,034

On number of letters passing by Post for delivery in Canada:

Received from Washington, Dead Letters originating in Canada, and of which delivery in the United States had failed	31,369
Received from General Post Office, London, Dead Letters originating in Canada, and undelivered United Kingdom.....	3,281

MONEY ORDERS.

The Money Order System has continued to occupy the vigilant attention of the Department.

After watching for some time with much solicitude the result of the experiment, commenced in 1857, of advancing the limit of the amount to be granted on a single order from £25 to £100, circumstances led to the conclusion that, though the change might occasionally have promoted the convenience of remitters of large sums, it was on the whole prejudicial to the safe working of the system.

Moreover, it appeared manifest that the experience already had was sufficient to demonstrate that the rate of charge at which Money Orders were being granted to the public, was too low to yield a revenue adequate to make the system self-sustaining within any reasonable period; and further, that even with such a moderate advance in the rate of charge as could be maintained, the result aimed at, might yet be undesirably postponed, unless the sources of business and revenue could be enlarged by extending the sphere of operations.