

MONEY ORDER DEPARTMENT.

	1894	1895
Orders issued.....	\$ 535,985.54	\$ 513,225.88
Orders paid.....	2,414,235.67	2,494,167.48
Stamps sold.....	431,539.68	460,579.95
Letters delivered.	16,292,216.00	16,274,676.00
Newspapers	3,740,295.00	3,791,388.00

The Question of a Fast Atlantic Steamship Service is one of great importance to Canada and to the Empire. The Council is deeply impressed with the value and the necessity for this service. The day is past when Canada will be satisfied with anything less than a twenty-knot service. We possess great geographical advantages, being several hundred miles nearer Great Britain than either Boston or New York. Shall we lose this advantage through having slow boats, many knots per hour below the vessels that run between United States ports and England. With a fast Atlantic service, a swift through rail route from the Atlantic to the Pacific, with a further swift line of steamers from Vancouver to Japan, China, and Australia, I see nothing to prevent Canada from becoming the great highway of the world between the East and the West; teas, coffees, fruits, silks, and other Eastern products will be carried by our railways, and Canada itself brought prominently before the world in a manner that in the past the most sanguine never conceived possible. In what better way can our country be advertised. In what better way bring to the notice of toiling millions the grand rolling prairies of the North-West, that only want the hands of men to blossom into fruitfulness and become the means of wealth and happiness to millions of the human race.

The fact that the Hon. Joseph Chamberlain has promised an Imperial subsidy of £75,000 per annum, if such an Atlantic service is organized, united to the further fact that the Dominion Government has promised a further subsidy of \$750,000, should make this important service an accomplished deed within the next two years. The Government can confidently rely upon the cordial support of the Board in promoting this great Imperial project.

Sir Charles Rivers Wilson, President G.T.R.—The arrival in Canada, in the month of August last, of Sir Charles Rivers Wilson, the newly elected President of the Grand Trunk Railway, gave the Board of Trade, not only an opportunity of offering to the new President a cordial welcome to Canada, but also permitting the Board to bring to his notice, and that of the Vice-President, the Directors, and the chief Executive Officers of the Railway, some improvements in the management of the road, that experience has shown to be essential to the usefulness of the line and the present wants of the country. Amongst the point dwelt upon was, first, the need of a Local Board vested with full authority to carry on the administration of the road without reference to London. The