

	Issued in Canada.		Paid in Canada.	
	Number.	Amount.	Number.	Amount.
		\$		\$
United States.....	153,504	1,354,196	113,878	1,605,989
United Kingdom.....	66,816	744,886	32,047	495,585
France.....	4,404	37,860	1,395	28,654
Germany.....	2,341	31,212	544	15,433
Japan.....	1,982	54,619	56	930
Newfoundland.....	1,358	18,811	2,368	43,397
Italy.....	1,218	30,715	44	1,533
Belgium.....	732	8,311	432	13,470
Switzerland.....	477	4,316	94	1,628
New South Wales.....	190	3,956	151	3,862
Hong Kong.....	146	3,712	38	572
Vic oria (Australia)...	135	2,866	168	3,791
New Zealand.....	120	2,728	188	3,426
Jamaica.....	118	1,743	359	8,900
Bermuda.....	101	1,343	181	2,702
Barbados.....	94	1,334	232	5,777
Hawaii.....	53	1,263	112	1,664
Tasmania.....	51	342	21	451
Leeward Islands.....	47	649	92	2,663
Queensland.....	41	528	64	2,174
South Australia.....	35	687	21	396
British Guiana.....	20	276	112	2,467
Fiji.....	8	31		
Cents omitted.....		11		3
Totals.....	233,991	\$2,306,395	152,597	\$2,245,467

In the figures for United Kingdom are included those for a number of places in British Possessions, and for foreign countries between which and Canada there is not a direct exchange of money orders.

A striking change has taken place in the amount of orders issued *in* and those payable *in* Canada, respectively, for and by places in the United Kingdom and the United States since 1887, as is shown by the following comparison:—

	ORDERS ISSUED.		ORDERS ISSUED.	
	In Canada on U. S.	In U. S. pble. in Canada.	In Canada on United Kingdom.	In U. S. pble. in Canada.
1887.....	\$276,821	\$207,889	\$409,474	\$188,116
1897.....	1,354,196	1,605,989	744,886	495,585
Ince. since 1897..	\$1,077,375	\$1,398,100	\$335,412	\$307,469

These figures are significant as showing what an expansion there has been in the monetary relations between Canada and the United States. Since 1877, there has been a gradual decrease in the average amount of money orders issued, as appears from the following comparisons:—

	Average value of Orders issued.		Average value of Orders issued.
1878.....	\$26.10	1895.....	\$12.07
1888.....	17.30	1896.....	11.56
1890.....	15.37	1897.....	11.17

Since 1878 the orders issued in Canada and payable in this country have increased from \$6,164,826, to \$10,683,174, an increase of \$4,518,348, or 73 per cent. In the same period those issued in Canada payable in other countries went up from \$691,995 to \$2,304,056, an increase of \$1,612,061, or 230 per cent. As the average amount of the 233,991 money orders issued last year was only \$11.17, and orders were

issued up to \$100, it is evident that the vast bulk of them were for sums below \$11.17, or for sums little above that amount. We beg to suggest to the Postmaster-general, whose anxiety to make his Department as serviceable as possible to the public, is worthy of the warmest commendation, that it would be very interesting to have in his next Report a statement of the number of Money Orders issued in Canada for the various sums named in the schedule of fees, or classified to show those up to \$5; from \$5 to \$10; from \$10 to \$20; \$20 to \$50; and those over \$50.

Having had considerable experience of the working of the Money Order Department in the Dominion, we take with pleasure this opportunity of recognising the remarkable regularity of its operations, and its exemption from errors which might be naturally expected to occur in such a service.

A FRANK STATEMENT ABOUT RECIPROCITY.

"Canadians are among our best customers."

At the present time, when an international conference is being held to determine and, if possible, settle the points of difference existing between the United States and Canada, a leading article in the *N. Y. Commercial Bulletin* of the 28th ult., makes peculiarly pleasing reading. In most fearless fashion, the writer disposes of the very vexed question of the continuance of the duties upon Canadian lumber, by characterizing them, as "taxes upon a very great part of the population of the United States for the benefit of an extremely small class," and then proceeds to say that the pretence that American interests are opposed to the admission of Canadian lumber free of duty is "more transparent than pretences of this sort usually are."

The *Bulletin* charges those who are ever glibly reciting the formula about the benefits of trade between different latitudes and insisting that our productions are too much like those of the United States, to make trading together desirable, with "seeking to control the national policy in their own immediate interests." Then comes the frank admission that our trade is worth more to the United States than the trade "with all of South America." Growing still bolder in its truth telling, this thoroughly independent journal thus proceeds to brush aside the opponents of closer trade relations between the two countries:—

"In spite of the dreamers and theorists of this and other ages, the great routes of trade are East and West, and not North and South. Americans and Canadians trade because it is for the advantage of each of them to do so. If the law is to step in and prevent their trading, it should only do so when a preponderating adverse interest is shown. Such an interest cannot be shown in the case of trade with Canada. There are adverse interests, generally exaggerated, and all limited, local or individual; all unworthy to be arrayed against the general interest of the great body of farmers and of manufacturers. We have not spoken of the interests of the consumer. We will not raise the old question of the right of the Government to take more of the property of the citizen than is needed for public uses. But certainly when the question