

1881.

NEW ZEALAND

GOVERNMENT PRINTING DEPARTMENT

(REPORT ON THE).

*Presented to both Houses of the General Assembly by Command of His Excellency.*Government Printing Office,
Wellington, 13th May, 1881.

SIR,—

I have the honor to submit the following report on the Printing Department and Stationery Store for the year 1880, in accordance with the recommendation of the Printing Commission of last year.

As many years have elapsed since the last departmental report was submitted, it may be desirable to describe more fully than would otherwise have been necessary the changes effected in the organization of the department, and the system under which operations are now conducted.

The building, which has undergone numerous alterations and additions from time to time, consists of 47 rooms, 27 of which are occupied by the Printing Department, 15 by the Stationery Store, and the remaining 5 by the lithographic branch of the Survey Department. A mere casual visit to the department would fail to impress a visitor with the extent and value of work done, the number of rooms into which the building is divided preventing a general view being obtained of the various operations carried on. The number of employés varies considerably at different seasons of the year, as may be gathered on reference to Table 4, attached. For instance, in June last there were 163 employed, while in the following December there were only 110, showing a reduction of 53 hands during the intervening five months. The extension of working hours from 40 to 45 per week had something to do in bringing about this result. The monthly average number employed throughout the year was 135·5. Instead of absolutely discharging a large number of married men when work fell off, I adopted the plan of putting them on half-time until we again became busy. Between sixteen and twenty men were so employed, and were thus enabled to remain at their homes instead of incurring the risk and expense of travelling elsewhere in search of work.

A reduction of 1d. per 1,000 in the price paid for piecework was effected during the year, the prices now being 13d. for general work, and 14d. for *Hansard*. This reduction is equivalent to that sustained by the time-hands by the extension of hours.

The apprentices are bound for a term of six years, and are paid from 8s. to 25s. per week. The females employed in the binding branch are paid at the same rates, but are not apprenticed to the business.

Some of the work-rooms have undergone alterations lately, with the double object of securing better ventilation and more light. The composing-room occupied by the piece-hands—usually very crowded during the session—is greatly improved in both these respects, and now presents a wholesome and cheerful appearance. The ventilation has been greatly improved in the stereotypers' room, where the fumes from the molten metal and gas rendered the atmosphere very unwholesome to work in.

There are altogether four apartments used as composing rooms—two by time-hands, 30 feet in width by 40 in depth; one large room used exclusively by the piece-hands, 25 feet by 50; and another set apart for apprentices, 15 feet wide by 20 feet long. In the machine and press rooms there are eight machines employed—four of Dawson and Son's Wharfdales, one double-crown Belle Sauvage machine, two Minerva jobbing-machines, and one envelope-printing machine called the "Little Tumbler." One of the Wharfdales, double demy-sized, is a recent purchase, having been obtained at second-hand for £110. As it now stands, it has been valued by a printer's broker at £250. Its acquisition has enabled me to dispense with the services of a boy, the machine being fitted with mechanical appliances for taking off the printed sheets. An addition has also been made to the hand-presses of a demy Albion, procured at auction at about half its value. There are now five of these presses in use—two being exclusively set aside for proof-pulling, in addition to the two galley-presses. In the machine room a newspaper-addressing machine is employed in printing the names and addresses of parties to whom the *Gazette*, *Kahiti*, Parliamentary Papers, *Hansard*, &c., are sent. It is one of Harrild and Sons' make, worked by treadle, and superintended by a man who attends to the Wharfdale machine. There are about 135 galleys of addresses kept standing, averaging 31 to each galley, which represent about 4,250 addresses.

In the proof-room and adjoining press-room, racks are fitted up to hold standing formes, and Bills, Parliamentary Papers, &c., which are undergoing revision prior to being passed for press. In the several racks there are at the present moment 645 formes in chase, varying in size from double-royal to

foolscap-folio, and which represent about 18 tons of type. Each rack is lettered, numbered, and carefully indexed, so that any forme can be handed out at a moment's notice when required.

The paper-cutting room is fitted up with two 42-inch Furnival's "Express" cutting machines, and a smaller one of the same make with 36-inch knife. A grinding-machine is also provided, on which the cutting-machine knives are sharpened for use. A rolling-machine and folding-machine are also fitted up in this room, all driven by steam. The folding-machine is able to fold about 2,000 sheets per hour. The sheets receive two folds while passing through it, and are then deposited in regular order in a receptacle beneath the machine. It is found very convenient for folding *Hansards*, Parliamentary Papers, &c., during the session.

The binding-rooms are situated upstairs, and comprise four work-rooms, two store-rooms, and a quire-room. Two of the work-rooms are allotted to the young women, of whom about eighteen are generally employed in folding, sewing, gathering, and collating books and sheets. They are kept separate from the workmen, are provided with a private entrance to the building, and are under the superintendence of a forewoman. The quantity of work executed in the binding branch is considerable, and represented in value £6,555 10s. 5d. for the year 1880. All the costly-bound account-books, registers, record-books, &c., for the various departments are executed here, many of which were formerly imported from England. The specimens of bookbinding forwarded to the Sydney Exhibition were highly eulogized in a report on the bookbinding exhibits. Referring to the New Zealand Court, the report states that "Perhaps the finest collection of colonial bookbinding is that of Mr. G. Didsbury, of Wellington. This includes eleven volumes of the Transactions of the New Zealand Institute, plainly but tastefully bound; a large ledger, bound in russia under bands; a journal, bound in green vellum with single russia bands; and a cash-book, bound in full rough calf with double russia bands. Although these fail to rival the magnificent display of commercial bookbinding belonging to Messrs. Waterlow and Sons, in the British Court, they approach so closely in many respects that the time cannot be far distant when the skill of the English handicraftsman will be found more than rivalled by the colonial workman."

A considerable annual saving has been effected by reducing the number of bound volumes of the Journals, Appendix, *Hansard*, and other books, while a judicious discrimination is now being exercised over the number of Parliamentary Papers printed—some of which might very well be cut down by many hundreds of copies, and the cost of paper and binding saved.

In the stereotype and electrotype branch, the work of manufacturing a new set of duty-stamps was completed towards the close of last year. The set comprised 43 stamps of different denominations, ranging from 4d. to £20. Sixty of each kind were electrotyped, making a total of 2,580 stamps. The work is entirely of local production, the engraving having been executed by Mr. Bock, of this city, and the moulding and electrotyping by Mr. Kirk, of this department. A very considerable saving in cost has been thus effected when compared with the amount paid for the postage-stamp plates procured from Messrs. De La Rue and Co., of London, some years ago.

The printing and issuing of railway tickets for all the lines in the colony is also performed in this branch, under the superintendence of the stereotyper. The number of stations for which tickets are printed is 432, and the number of tickets printed and issued during 1880 was 1,773,800.

Among the returns appended to this report is one showing the number of vouchers for printing and advertising which have been submitted to this department for examination, together with the amount of deductions made therefrom for a period of two years, commencing from the 1st May, 1879. The work of checking these accounts, formerly undertaken by myself, is now performed by the book-keeper, Mr. S. Costall, who submits for my approval any deductions he may make before the vouchers are returned to the departments. Prior to the 1st May, 1879, no record was kept of vouchers examined, but the amount of deductions annually made was considerable. During the last two years no less than 8,291 accounts were examined, and deductions made to the amount of £517 2s. 10d., giving an average of nearly 1s. 3d. off each account.

The balance-sheet of the department for the year 1880, with tables showing the quantity and value of printing and binding performed for each department during the year, and the quantity and value of paper consumed, will be found appended.

The total value of printing and binding performed each year since the last printing returns were issued is as follows:—

	Printing.			Binding.			Total.		
	£	s.	d.	£	s.	d.	£	s.	d.
1876	15,440	17	0	3,039	16	10	18,480	13	10
1877	19,555	15	11	7,566	8	10	27,122	4	9
1878	16,197	8	10	5,835	11	6	22,033	0	4
1879	19,646	13	5	7,179	6	11	26,826	0	4
1880	18,959	13	0	6,620	10	5	25,580	3	5

New Zealand productions and manufactures have been gradually introduced when practicable, and I am glad to be able to report that in some respects they are superior to the imported articles previously used. The following, among others, have recently been brought into use: Grey coal instead of Newcastle consumption about 130 tons per annum; Wellington-made candles (about 100 boxes per annum), for issue from Stationery Store; Canterbury twine (about three hundred pounds' worth annually); Porirua glue (about half a ton annually); printers' lye-brushes, scrubbing-brushes, and brooms from Lower Hutt Brushware Factory; Wellington trotter-oil supersedes the English neatsfoot and salad oil. Arrangements are also being made for procuring our supplies of parchment (of which about five hundred pounds' worth is annually imported) from a Blenheim manufacturer, who has recently started this branch of industry. The samples submitted by him are quite equal to the English-made parchment, and the price is reasonable. Totara timber has recently been brought into use for blocks for mounting stereo-plates, for which we have hitherto imported Sydney cedar. Several descriptions of printing material and tools required by the department are now manufactured on the premises by the engineer, such as broad brass-bottomed galleys, column galleys, brass-tipped shooting-sticks, and compositors' nippers. In the manufacture of galleys New Zealand totara is found quite equal to the cedar generally used in England for that purpose. The manufacture of envelopes, of

which about 1,750,000 are annually imported, has been under consideration, and probably before long the necessity for importing so extensively will in a great measure be obviated.

LYTTELTON GAOL PRINTING OFFICE.

In November last, in accordance with instructions, I proceeded to Lyttelton to inspect the printing office established in connection with the gaol at that place, and to make what arrangements were necessary for turning it to more profitable account. I found that extensive use had been made of the office, especially by the Railway Department, and that forms of various kinds were being printed for the Supreme Court, Resident Magistrates, Survey, Land, Customs, and other departments, of which stocks were kept in the Stationery Store at Wellington. To put an end to this unnecessary duplication of work, I recommended that all orders should in future be sent to the gaol printing office through me—an arrangement the Government readily acquiesced in, and which, after three months' trial, I am glad to be able to report is working satisfactorily.

The various processes of printing, stereotyping, bookbinding, and paper-ruling are carried on under the superintendence of an intelligent printer's warder, who has succeeded in instructing the prisoners under his charge to become tolerably efficient craftsmen.

The monthly returns since 1st January last show a noticeable increase in the quality and value of work produced as compared with the previous quarter, although a reduction has been made in the scale of charges for valuing the work. The return of work for the three months since I took charge is as follows:—

	£	s.	d.
January	102	14	9
February	103	18	0
March	116	4	0
	<u>£322</u>	<u>16</u>	<u>9</u>

The work issued from the office is, generally speaking, creditably executed. Some of the books and forms done for the Railway Department are printed and ruled to elaborate patterns with neatness and accuracy and the specimens of half-calf binding are equal to the general run of work of that description turned out of private offices. The stereotyping and paper-ruling are performed by a long-sentenced prisoner, whose former avocation was that of a schoolmaster, and who undoubtedly evinces considerable aptitude for the work he is now engaged in.

THE STATIONERY STORE.

At the request of the Government, I took over the management of the Stationery Store on the 1st January, 1879. I found the practice prevailing of stowing in bulk all heavy goods, such as printing papers, &c., in premises situated in different parts of the town, some being placed in the stables adjoining the Native Hostelry, but the larger portion in sheds in Manners Street, for which a rental of £100 per annum was paid. Space was provided for collecting these goods in the stationery store by removing all redundant copies of Acts, Parliamentary Papers, *Hansard*, &c., to the cellars under the Government Buildings. The packages stored elsewhere were then brought to the Stationery Store, unpacked, and an inventory taken of the contents.

A rearrangement of the store was then made by dividing it into two branches—the first comprising printing and writing papers, official publications, and stationery; the second all printed forms, &c., issued to departments. In the latter there are 912 different forms kept in stock, which are distributed among the departments as follows: Justice Department, 379; Mines Department, 70; Public Works Department, 87; Commissioner of Stamps Department, 50; Crown Lands Department, 21; Colonial Secretary's Department, 78; Marine Department, 9; Treasury Department, 69; Education Department, 24; Insurance Department, 64; miscellaneous, 61: total, 912.

I found about 600 unsatisfied requisitions on hand. These were carefully sorted, and those received during the previous three months supplied; the remainder were filed, or returned (if records) to the offices from which they were received. Requisitions are now, as a rule, supplied on the day subsequent to their receipt. The number of requisitions received during the year 1880 was 8,570, or an average of 27·37 per diem, and contained 36,118 items, or 4·21 upon each.

Frequent errors in the issue of forms, involving considerable extra labour on the store and postal officials, were caused by many of the forms having no clearly defined heading or number by which they could be distinguished. To meet this difficulty I have had a requisition form printed and issued which shows in detail all the forms in stock, each form being placed under the heading of the department to which it belongs, a space being left opposite each for the officer requisitioning to fill in the quantity required. This will, I think, obviate any mistakes being made in future.

The amounts annually expended in the colony in purchasing stationery during the past five years have been as follow: 1876, £668 12s.; 1877, £742 16s.; 1878, £694 7s. 7d.; 1879, £4,196; 1880, £881 3s. 11d. The large expenditure incurred during the year 1879 was caused by the indent sent to England in November, 1878, being reduced by £2,500, and the length of time which elapsed before its arrival in the colony (nearly fifteen months).

The value of annual orders sent to England during the past three years has been as follows: 1878–79, £12,904; 1880–81, £9,643; 1881–82, £7,883. This steady reduction has been effected by the stock having been carefully examined, and the substitution of cheaper papers for the expensive hand-made descriptions formerly so extensively used. Requisitions have also been carefully scrutinized before being given out to supply, and reduced whenever the quantities applied for were considered excessive. For instance, one office employing four clerks, requisitioning for the annual supply asked for 4 reams blotting paper, 8 reams foolscap, 2 reams note- and 2 reams letter-paper, 250 quill and 240 barrel pens, 4,320 pen nibs, 1,440 paper-fasteners, 6,000 eyelets, 144 Faber's erasers, and 864 elastic bands. These were reduced to 1 4, 1, 1, 125, 128, 1,008, 720, 3,000, 24, and 288 respectively. Another office applied for 3,576 pens, 36 penholders, 72 blacklead pencils, 72 coloured pencils, 3,456 paper

fasteners, 864 elastic bands, 12,000 eyelets, 12 letter-clips, 12 dozen pieces red tape, 12 pints red ink, 12 pints copying ink, and 8 reams blotting paper. These were reduced to 2,712, 24, 36, 36, 864, 288, 3,000, 6, 6, 3, 6, and 1 respectively. Cancelled and obsolete forms printed on one side only which were originally thrown away as waste paper, are now utilized, mail notices and, in some instances, departmental forms being printed on the unused side. This has also materially assisted to reduce the expenditure for paper.

A greater reduction would have been observable in the last indent but for the increase in prices of stationery under the last contract, an increase amounting in the aggregate to nearly 20 per cent. I cannot account for this, as the prices in the English markets have not altered.

The annual amounts received by the sale of official publications during the past four years have been as follow: 1877, £561 2s. 6d.; 1878, £668 12s. 4d.; 1879, £887 4s. 4d.; 1880, £1,277 8s. Agents have also been appointed in all the principal towns of the colony.

A very satisfactory increase to the store revenue has been obtained by the sale of useless forms and waste-paper. During the year 1880 forty-two tons were shipped to England, and sold at prices ranging from £5 9s. to £7 9s. per ton; thirteen tons were also disposed of in the colony, at £4 per ton.

In addition to the ordinary store work, the shipping and landing of packages for all departments, with the exception of Telegraph, Marine, Defence, and Public Works, is done by this department.

The numerical strength of the staff has been reduced. There were six officers and one parcel-boy employed prior to the 31st August, 1880: subsequent to that date, only five and one boy. But by a careful classification of stock, and a rearrangement of duties apportioned to each officer, the efficiency of the store has not suffered.

Prior to 1879 the salaries amounted to £905, and the rental of sheds to £100 per annum. Now, the amount paid in salaries is £624, and the rental of sheds rendered unnecessary, thus showing a reduction in working expenses of £381, being equal to 38 per cent.

In conclusion, I have much pleasure in bearing testimony to the active and intelligent co-operation I have at all times received from Mr. J. C. Woodward, store clerk, since I assumed the management of the Stationery Department, and its present satisfactory condition is in a great measure due to his exertions.

I have, &c.,

GEO. DIDSBURY,
Government Printer

The Hon. the Colonial Secretary

Table No. 1.

RETURN showing the QUANTITY and VALUE of PAPER consumed in the GOVERNMENT PRINTING OFFICE for the Year 1880.

Quantity.	Description of Paper.	Amount.	Quantity.	Description of Paper.	Amount.
Rms. Qrs.		£ s. d.	Rms. Qrs.		£ s. d.
33 5	Foolscap—		127 0	Demy—	
88 5	Coloured, 14 lb.	13 3 0		Dble. glazed buff ..	132 5 10
79 5	„ h.m., 18 lb.	99 5 6		Large post—	
3,977 10	Dble. copying	15 17 0	29 15	Svo., 24 ..	4 0 10
1,820 5	„ yellow wove	1,707 0 2	2 0	4to, 24	0 11 0
16 5	„ blue wove	1,016 16 1		Dble. foolscap—	
553 0	„ coloured	10 2 8	1 0	Bank	0 9 0
	„ cream wove	398 12 5		Post folio—	
	Demy—		46 10	Cream wove	27 18 0
37 5	Coloured	22 13 2	39 0	Dble. m.o.	23 8 0
309 10	Blue wove and blue laid	197 6 2		Large post—	
45 10	Dble. yellow wove	36 8 0	0 5	Cheque	0 7 7
161 0	Hand-made ..	241 10 0		Crown—	
269 15	Dble. toned	229 5 9	3 0	Dble. yellow wove ...	1 8 0
1 5	Imitation	1 6 0	5 0	„ coloured	1 18 4
13 5	Dble. buff ..	3 12 10		Imperial—	
	Royal—		13 0	Brown	19 10 0
1,106 5	Yellow wove ..	516 5 0		Demy—	
20 5	Coloured	15 10 6	25 0	Blotting ..	18 16 9
7 15	Hand-made	22 13 3		Medium—	
97 0	„ super.	341 18 6	3 0	Loan	4 4 0
10 5	Monkton's ..	17 13 7		Post Svo.—	
6 10	„ super. ..	12 0 6	2 0	Turkey mill ..	0 13 4
	Medium—			Foolscap—	
12 10	Hand-made	28 15 0	73 15	Dble. buff ..	20 5 6
	Imperial—		39 $\frac{3}{4}$ gross	Pasteboards	21 17 3
5 0	Monkton's ...	14 6 3	4,815	Parchments, 18 x 27	298 18 3
36 0	Hand-made	171 0 0	1,200	„ 28 x 32 ...	148 0 0
20 0	Cartridge ..	25 10 0	10,500	Small cards	2 2 0
	Royal—		18,500	Large „	6 3 4
1 5	Cartridge ..	0 18 9			
					£5,892 7 1

Table No. 2.

BALANCE-SHEET of the GOVERNMENT PRINTING OFFICE for the Year ending 31st December, 1880.

Dr.	£	s.	d.	Cr.	£	s.	d.
Permanent Hands—				Value of work done as per detailed statement	25,580	3	5
Wages	7,572	13	0	Cash Receipts—			
Overtime	789	19	9	Advertisements	566	11	4
Extra Hands—				Gazette subscriptions	152	9	6
Wages	7,292	8	5	Miscellaneous	30	5	6
Overtime	726	19	5	Sale of official publications by Stationery			
Fuel and gas	561	14	10	Store	1,277	8	0
Repairs, oil, and sundries	318	6	7	Land Transfer advertisements ..	148	2	6
Ground rent	150	0	0				
Stereotype Branch—							
Wages and overtime	260	15	8				
Material	69	2	2				
Balance	10,013	0	5				
	<u>£27,755</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>3</u>		<u>£27,755</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>3</u>

Table No. 3.

RETURN of the VALUE of PRINTING and BINDING executed in the GOVERNMENT PRINTING DEPARTMENT during the Year ending 31st December, 1880.

DEPARTMENT.	Printing.				Binding.		Total.	
	Number of Copies.	Number of Pages.	Authors' Corrections.	Value.				
			Hours.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.		£ s. d.	
Audit	37,076	67	5	39 4 2	25 8 6		64 12 8	
Colonial Architect	1,232	43	2	20 14 7	0 17 6		21 12 1	
Colonial Secretary—								
Gazette	(¹) 600,719	2,031	411	2,469 14 1	642 7 6		3,112 1 7	
Sheep	78,223	87	52	88 16 10	13 16 2		102 13 0	
Miscellaneous	147,115	170	56	133 10 7	72 16 9		206 7 4	
Constabulary	261,778	345	11	530 11 2	126 8 6		656 19 8	
Customs	178,031	195	7	138 1 1	178 4 9		316 5 10	
Marine	28,718	199	11	80 17 10	9 14 3		90 12 1	
Crown Lands	98,776	471	100	223 14 6	113 16 3		337 10 9	
Crown Law	1,512	3	...	0 14 3	27 19 9		28 14 0	
Defence	50,990	48	...	37 11 5	31 10 0		69 1 5	
Education	207,652	151	16	161 13 1	43 5 3		204 18 4	
General Assembly,—								
House of Representatives—								
Order Paper	79,962	544	30	353 3 1	31 2 8		384 5 9	
Appendix	307,382	3,525	2,307	3,696 10 6	557 17 6		4,254 8 0	
Journals	1,500	750	290	596 2 2	40 19 8		637 1 10	
Miscellaneous	24,469	194	15	59 1 5	21 17 3		80 18 8	
Legislative Council—								
Order Paper	36,675	142	16	102 19 9	9 2 4		112 2 1	
Journals	6,655	312	77	238 17 5	39 1 8		277 19 1	
Miscellaneous	6,006	36	...	12 7 2	20 8 6		32 15 8	
Joint Account	(²) 83,640	952	142	273 14 6	175 7 4		449 1 10	
Bills	105,604	1,243	2,323	1,094 6 7	61 17 0		1,156 3 7	
Hansard	(³) 101,142	2,392	2,711	2,028 17 10	693 2 10		2,722 0 8	
Statutes	45,577	1,402	10	668 15 6	334 4 5		1,002 19 11	
Geological	19,965	409	111	227 5 0	56 19 9		284 4 9	
Gold Fields	71,147	337	6	107 5 8	7 8 6		114 14 2	
Governor's Establishment	1,781	27	...	8 12 4	51 2 6		59 14 10	
Immigration	14,500	5	...	5 1 9	2 4 0		7 5 9	
Insurance	345,821	189	69	180 2 9	22 17 3		203 0 0	
Justice	525,092	296	41	318 6 1	173 2 2		491 8 3	
Patents	2,675	79	7	40 1 8	27 10 9		67 12 5	
Land-Tax	76,138	33	...	38 0 8	29 4 6		67 5 2	
Land Transfer	95,886	114	1	56 11 0	100 14 8		157 5 8	
Lunatic Asylums	46,671	35	...	24 0 3	8 4 0		32 4 3	
Miscellaneous	43,032	569	29	191 12 6	78 10 9		270 3 3	
Native	(⁴) 176,603	468	19	406 2 3	176 10 3		582 12 6	
Native Land Court... ..	29,900	33	...	19 2 1	4 6 3		23 8 4	
Postal	1,859,469	1,168	94	1,150 3 7	296 2 9		1,446 6 4	
Money Order	443,487	222	6	211 11 5	101 13 6		313 4 11	
Savings Bank	492,656	96	3	127 2 8	36 6 0		163 8 8	
Printing	37,090	31	...	17 14 11	6 11 3		24 6 2	
Property-Tax	996,524	275	131	361 0 2	393 16 8		754 16 10	
Public Trustee	19,370	16	3	9 18 6	3 1 3		12 19 9	
Public Works	337,102	589	136	510 8 1	131 1 0		641 9 1	
Railways	40,992	55	...	147 1 3	91 2 9		238 4 0	
Registrar-General	263,831	559	74	760 17 4	320 4 5		1,081 1 9	
Stamp	214,431	96	4	99 16 5	10 14 6		110 10 11	
Stationery Store	289,565	130	13	89 13 1	384 0 11		473 14 0	
Surveys	49,852	27	2	25 6 7	244 16 0		270 2 7	
Telegraph	529,453	112	13	218 4 0	88 14 2		306 18 2	
Treasury	945,533	535	15	390 2 9	502 3 7		892 6 4	
Reprint of Statutes	1,125	406	275	168 8 9	...		168 8 9	
	<u>10,460,125</u>	<u>22,213</u>	<u>9,644</u>	<u>£18,959 13 0</u>	<u>£6,620 10 5</u>		<u>£25,580 3 5</u>	

(¹) Including 134,250 postal wrappers with printed addresses; and 4,404 Proclamations, &c., for signature.(²) This includes 25,500 blank postal wrappers, also 16,895 printed ditto for Parliamentary Papers; 448 ditto for Bills; and 10,419 ditto for Order Papers.(³) Inclusive of 11,060 proofs of members' speeches, and 12,946 postal wrappers with printed addresses.(⁴) Includes 36,250 *Kahiti* postal wrappers with printed addresses.

Table No. 4.

RETURN of the NUMBER and CLASSIFICATION of the EMPLOYÉS in the GOVERNMENT PRINTING OFFICE for each Month during the Year ending 31st December, 1880.

	January.	February.	March.	April.	May.	June.	July.	August.	September.	October.	November.	December.
Overseers ...	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3
Readers	5	3	3	3	4	5	5	5	4	3	2	2
Compositors	49	43	38	46	50	60	58	55	45	38	30	28
Machinists, pressmen, paper-wetter, and cutters	10	9	10	10	10	11	9	9	9	9	9	9
Bookbinders, including one overseer	12	13	13	14	14	14	13	13	12	10	10	10
Females in Binding Branch	19	19	19	18	20	22	20	20	20	19	18	18
Apprentices, machine and errand boys	39	43	35	43	42	45	45	41	40	36	38	38
Assistants in Publishing Branch	1	1	1	1	1	2	2	2	1	1	1	1
Stereotyper	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1
	139	135	123	139	145	163	156	149	135	120	112	110

Table No. 5.

RETURN showing Number of VOUCHERS for ADVERTISING and PRINTING examined, and the Amounts deducted therefrom, from 1st May, 1879, to 30th April, 1881.

Periods.	Number of Vouchers examined.	Amounts deducted.
From 1st May to 31st December, 1879 ...	2,061	£ s. d. 306 3 1
From 1st January to 31st December, 1880	4,584	166 12 8
From 1st January to 30th April, 1881	1,646	44 7 1
	8,291	517 2 10