Westport-

Thrice weekly: Granity Creek-Millerton. Weekly: Upper Matakitaki-Warwick Junction.

The frequency of the following services was increased:-

Auckland

Daily to twice daily: Frankton Junction-Hamilton.

Twice to thrice weekly: Marsden Point-Ruakaka-Waipu (summer months, 1897-98); Pahi-Paparoa; Rotorua-Atiamuri-Wairakei-Taupo (during summer).

Once to twice weekly: Coromandel-Opitonui-Whangapoua; Kawakawa-Ohaeawai-Ngawha-Kaikohe; Raglan-Te Mata; Ramarama-Ararimu South; Whangarei-Maungatapere-Poroti.

Christchurch-

To thrice daily from Sumner: Christchurch-Sumner (now twice outward, thrice inward).

Twice to thrice daily: On Christchurch-Lyttelton line, mails to and from Linwood, Opawa, Woolston, and Heathcote Valley; Christchurch-Sumner line, from Christchurch to Woolston and Sumner (from Sumner and Woolston, inward, twice daily).

Thrice weekly to daily: Annat-Russell's Flat; Rakaia-Barrhill. Once to twice weekly: Waiau-Kaikoura.

Dunedin-

Twice to thrice weekly: Abbotsford-Taieri Beach.

Greymouth-

Twice weekly to daily: Blackball-Ngahere.

Invercargill-

Twice to thrice weekly: Colac Bay-Round Hill; Gore-East Chatton-Chatton-Otama. Once to twice weekly: Edendale-Seaward Downs; Lumsden-Mossburn-Te Anau (1st November-30th April, altering terms of contract); Mararoa-The Key (1st November-30th April, altering terms of contract).

Once to twice daily: Ormondville-Norsewood.

Once to twice weekly: Taupo-Tokaanu (periodical, 1st November-30th April, in alteration of contract).

Nelson-

Twice to thrice weekly: Nelson-Wakapuaka (telegraph-office).

Once to twice weekly: Collingwood-Bainham.

New Plymouth— Thrice weekly to daily: New Plymouth-Bell Block. Twice to thrice weekly: New Plymouth-Waiongona.

Wanganui-

Twice to thrice weekly: Mangaonoho-Moawhango (extra service continued to end of year from 13th April).

Wellington-

Daily to twice daily: Shannon-Foxton.

Twice to thrice daily: Bunnythorpe-Hiwinui.

Westport-

Thrice weekly to daily: Capleston-Cronadon; Granity Creek-Millerton.

The frequency of the following services was diminished:-

Thrice to twice weekly: Marsden Point-Ruakaka-Waipu (during running of reduced steamer-service).

Thames-Hikutaia-Marototo, from twice weekly throughout the year to once weekly (1st April-15th November) and twice weekly (16th November-31st March).

The following coach service was curtailed by railway extension:-

Dunedin-

Dunedin-Hyde-Clyde (and intermediate offices) and Hyde-Naseby (and intermediate offices): railway extended from Hyde to Kokonga, whence coaches now start (18th October, 1897).

The following services were abolished:-

Auckland-

Kaikohe-Oruoru; Okupu-Whangaparapara; Ongaruhe-Nihoniho.

Christchurch-

Methven-Highbank.

North Taieri Post-office-Railway-station.

Invercargill-

Gore-Waikaka Valley-Waikaka-Wendon Valley (two separate services established instead).

Napier-

Dannevirke-Mangatoro Valley.