THE ILLUSTRATED LONDON ALMANACK FOR 1883.

FOREIGN CARD POST.

Excess of a card is in every case one half the rate for a single letter. Foreign post-cards with an impressed stamp of 1d. and 1½d. each are sold at 6d. and 9d. respectively, made ad valorem. Foreign post-cards may be posted at the United Kingdom without extra charge, but reference should be made for exceptional rates to the Post Office Guide.

REGISTRATION (INLAND AND FOREIGN).

The fee for registering a letter, newspaper, or book packet passing between any two places in the United Kingdom is twopence.

The fee chargeable for registration to Colonies and Foreign Countries is various. See Post Office Guide.

Every letter to be registered should be presented at the counter, and a receipt should be obtained for it. The letter must be enclosed in a registered envelope, which may be obtained at Post Office counters. If, contrary to this rule, a letter marked “Registered,” be dropped into the letter-box, it will, if directed to any place in the United Kingdom or Colonies, be liable to the charge of 4d. instead of the ordinary fee of 2d.

INDIAN PARCEL POST.

1. Persons wishing to send parcels to any part of British India can do so through the Indian Parcel Post Agency—established under authority of the Director-General of the Post Office of India—1292, London-street, E.C.; and (Branch Office) at 25, Cockayne-street, S.W.

2. The charge for parcels is 1½p. per lb. of an article of 1½ lb. (prepayment optional), covering transit from London to destination in India. Insurance may be effected, if desired, at the rate (to be prepaid) of 1½p. per £1 value, 2½d. per £2 value, and 3½d. per £3 value, and so on.

3. Indian Customs duty (if chargeable) will be reduced from the address.

N.B.—Parcels containing articles treated as books under the British Indian Book Post rates, are charged 1½d. per lb.

COLONIAL AND FOREIGN PATTERN AND SAMPLE POST.

There is a Pattern and Sample Post to certain colonies and foreign countries, but it is restricted to bona fide trade patterns or samples of merchandise.

MODES OF PREPAYMENT.

Inland letters, newspapers, and book packets cannot be prepaid in money at the post office. They may be prepaid by means of stamps, adhesive or embossed. A Post Office regulations (1860) apply also to registered letters.

Exception.—At the Chief and District Post Offices, and at the Charing-cross and Lombard-street Post Offices in London, as well as at the Head Offices in Edinburgh and Dublin.

POST-Office Money Orders.

Post-Office Letters, for certain fixed sums from 1s. to 2£, are issued to the public at all post offices at which money order business is transacted.

If the amount of the order is not more than 1s., a large order may be issued, except at the post office, and must also in the name of the Money Order Office, if that has not already been done.

POST-OFFICE SAVINGS BANKS.

The usefulness of this department to the working classes goes on extending. There are now more than ten millions of depositors. Much has been done during the year to encourage thrift.

Post-Office Savings Banks are established at all Money-Order Offices in the United Kingdom, and are open for the receipt and payment of money at all post offices, without charge for the service of counting business daily during the hours appointed for Money-Order business.

Any person desiring to make a saving by means of penny contributions, for deposit in the Post-Office Savings Bank, may do so by purchasing with every penny so saved a penny postage-stamp and affixing it to form in ordinary, at any post office, or by twice affixing the stamp to the form, the form may be taken to any post-office savings bank in the United Kingdom, whereby the deposit is made as a savings account. Such stamps being affixed shall be allowed for the stamps, which will be accepted, either as the first deposit in a new account then to be opened, or as an ordinary deposit on which interest at 1½ per cent. per annum on the first deposit is allowed. Any person so making a saving is allowed to the form are defaced, or in any way damaged, they will not be received by a postmaster.

INLAND TELEGRAMS.

The charge for telegrams throughout the United Kingdom is 1½p. for the first fifteen words, and 1½d. per word for each additional word or part of a word. The names and addresses of the sender and receiver are not counted. The charges for presses telegrams to the newspapers of the country are as follows: 1½p. per seventy-five words, and 1½d. for every seventy-five words or portion of seventy-five words in between, and 1½d. per sixty p.m. and 9 a.m.; and 1½d. for every seventy-five words or portion of seventy-five words handed in between 9 a.m. and 6 p.m. (for the telegrams must be sent to the department, and will be delivered to the addressee, who will be at liberty to send his reply from any Telegraph Office, at any time within two months after the date of the original telegram.

B