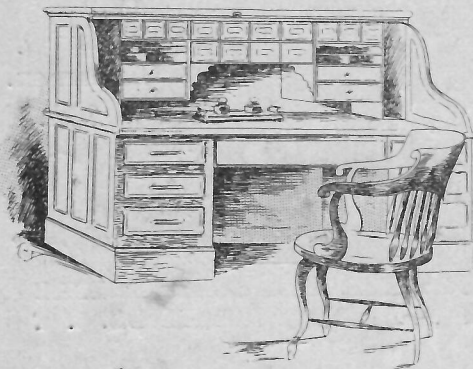


## The Retirement of the Postmaster of Cambridge.

### Presentation to Mr. Lambert.

Mr Lambert, Postmaster of Cambridge, having retired on Monday last, on superannuation, after a service of nearly 47 years, at the age of 65, the age limit for civil servants, his staff, assisted by sub-postmasters, to show their appreciation of his unvarying kindness and as a token of esteem, decided to subscribe for the purpose of purchasing a suitable article. The subscription list having been cheerfully and liberally responded to, all grades participating. Mr Lambert was consulted as to the most desirable form of present, when it was found that a writing desk would be very useful. This gave great satisfaction to the committee, who at once placed the order for a handsome walnut wood desk and chair with Messrs Eaden Lilley and Co., who supplied them



punctually and faultlessly. The desk bears a beautifully-engraved presentation plate, inscribed as follows:—"Presented to John Lambert, Esq., on the occasion of his retirement from the Postmastership of Cambridge and the Post Office Service, as a token of esteem from the Cambridge Head and Sub-Offices. July 17th, 1900." There being a small balance in hand after the larger purchase was made, it was agreed that this should be applied to purchase that smoker's friend and solace, a pipe, accompanied by a well-charged tobacco jar; these were accordingly obtained at Mr Kitteridge's stores. It was arranged that the presentation should be made in the Sorting Office at 4 p.m. on Monday, and at that hour Dr E. Lloyd-Jones, medical officer, undertook the pleasing duty of making the presentation. Enlarging upon Mr Lambert's many virtues, he (Dr Lloyd-Jones)

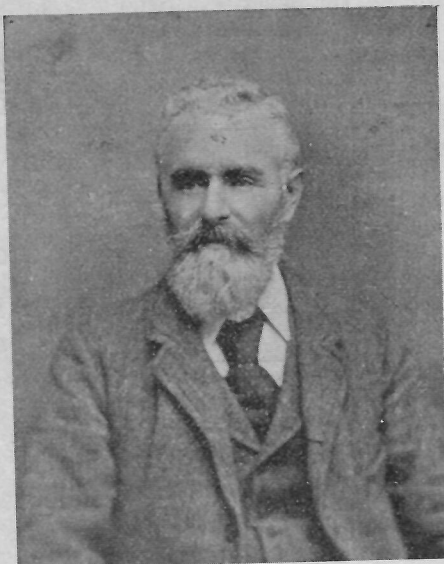


Photo by Starr, Cambridge.

Mr. J. Lambert.

In time, may they take such degrees, as will their friends sincerely please,  
 At Downing, and Old Trinity, the name of "Lambert" may we see,  
 Honoured, as thy two sons receive, the best degrees "CB" can give.  
 Now for yourself and partner true, as you each fleeting year pass through,  
 We pray that happiness and peace may crown your days till life shall cease.  
 We pray your children all may prove worthy their parent's fondest love,  
 And in their various situations do credit to their avocations.  
 Thus, walking in their parent's ways, win for themselves much well earned praise.  
 We will not say "Good-lye" to-day, for as the years speed on their way  
 We hope to meet you yet again, so "Au revoir" is now our strain."

\*The Superannuation Act. †Telegraphic abbreviation of Cambridge.

Continuing the little programme, Mr Heffer, of Fitzroy-street T.S.O., as Senior Sub-Postmaster, then said how pleasant it had always been to work under such a gentleman as Mr Lambert, who had always given them kindly assistance and helped them through any difficulty that arose. Mr Lambert, who was deeply moved, replied, thanking everyone for their kind words, and assuring them that it had always been a pleasure to him to help anyone. Mr Arscott, Chief Clerk, having proposed a hearty vote of thanks to Dr Lloyd Jones for having made the presentation, which was duly accorded, started a verse of "Auld Lang Syne," which was taken up by the whole company, and at the conclusion, Mr Lambert said good-bye.

Following is a statement showing the increase in all branches of work at the Post Office during Mr Lambert's Postmastership, indicating how great has been his responsibility in maintaining an efficient service for the town and district:—

	1891	Present time (19.0)
No. of appointed Staff at Head Office .....	138	206
No. of Sub-Offices under control of Postmaster .....	67	89
Letters delivered weekly ..	144,372	212,501
Letters forwarded weekly ..	22,056	29,707
Parcels posted weekly .....	2,387	3,360
Parcels delivered weekly ....	3,542	6,500
Parcels forwarded weekly ..	3,247	2,903
No. of letters registered monthly .....	1,224	1,521
No. of money order transactions yearly.....	16,217	17,310
No. of postal order transactions yearly .....	143,200	203,337
No. of Savings Bank transactions yearly.....	14,420	19,561
No. of telegraph transactions yearly .....	394,049	638,579

expressed the sorrow all felt at the postmaster's