

ledgment of delivery," "*Avis de reception*," or the impression of a stamp "A.R." If so, and if no A.R. form be received with the letter, an acknowledgment of delivery must be made out on form P.O. 17, and the addressee's signature obtained thereon on delivery of the article. If the addressee's signature cannot be obtained, the signature of an authorized agent may be taken on the understanding that the sender of the article may require the addressee's personal signature to be appended later.

**742.** Immediately after delivery of the letter the A.R. form should be stamped, signed, and forwarded, as an officially registered letter, to the Postmaster of the office of origin, for delivery to the sender of the article. Chief Postmasters will hold all "A.R." receipts for large business firms, correspondence schools, &c., until the day before the despatch of the mail, so that as many receipts as possible may be sent in one registered envelope.

**743.** When an acknowledgment of delivery from a sub-office has to be forwarded to a country beyond New Zealand, it should, in the first instance, be sent as a registered letter to the chief office for despatch to destination in the acknowledgment-of-delivery envelope.

**744.** In returning acknowledgments of delivery, officers should be specially careful to state the name of the office of origin as fully as it may be indicated by the date-stamp of that office, or to make a special inscription indicating the office of posting, thus—"Paris, No. 1, Place de la Bourse." It may be explained that in large centres, where there are many post-offices, the date-stamps of many of them may be distinguishable by a number, or an indication of their locality; hence the need for the precaution enjoined.

**745.** Registered letters which may be redirected must be entered in the receipt-book; but in the place allotted for signature of the recipient must be inserted "Redirected to ——" (naming the place), and the date on which the letter is forwarded, followed by the signature of the officer making the entry.

**746.** When a registered article sent to a sub-office is redirected to another office in the same postal district it must be entered in the Forward Registered-letter Book of the office through which it circulates, and sent on with the receipt attached. If redirected to another postal district, the original receipt must be returned to the office from which received, marked "Redirected to ——" (naming the place), and the redirection recorded.

**747.** Any package liable to redirection which may require reference to the Customs Department should be readdressed to destination before being opened for examination. Where there is no Customs officer at the place to which the packet is redirected the packet should be sent to the chief post-office of the district to enable the examination to be arranged for there.

**748.** A registered letter which, after delivery to the representative of the addressee, may be redirected unopened, and re-posted in the posting-box of any office, must be treated as irregularly posted, and charged double registration fee, but not second postage. A registered packet redirected, whether officially or privately, should continue to be entered and advised according to the particulars given on the label of the original office of posting. A fresh label should not be affixed. In the case of private redirection the officer who accepts the packet for retransmission should note the receipt and butt of receipt with the name of the original office of posting as well as the serial number shown on the label.

**749.** The receipts for delivered or redirected registered articles are to be gummed in the places in the receipt-book from