

## WEIGHTS AND MEASURES.

Several modifications in the regulations respecting these have taken place. The fees charged for a second and subsequent verification have been reduced to one-fourth of the first fee, and the first fee has been materially reduced, so that the Revenue from the inspection does not now nearly cover the cost of the service. The expenditure for equipping the Weights and Measures inspection offices up to 30th June, 1877, was \$70,140 while the Revenue collected was \$50,735. But these only represent the average collections of nine months. The number of all kinds of Weights and Measures inspected were as follows:

	Rejected.	Verified.	Total.
Weights—Dominion.....	270	128,116	128,386
Tolerated.....	316	18,622	18,938
Measures—Dominion.....	205	71,994	72,199
Tolerated.....	396	2,115	2,511
Measures of Length.....	153	9,057	9,180
Balances, &c.—Equal arms.....	113	11,814	11,967
Steel yards.....	73	1,220	1,293
Platform scales.....	26	17,876	18,132
Irregular weights.....	19	9,573	9,582
Irregular measures.....	5	81	86

Not one of the 60 lb. weights legalised by the special request of parties in the grain trade was presented for verification.

## TOLLS FROM PUBLIC WORKS.

There was a small increase in the Revenue derived from Public Works. The Commissioner gives the following comparative statement:

Canal Tolls, &c., increase.....	00 45	per cent.
Slides and Booms .....	13 73	"
Minor Public Works .....	38 44	"
Hydraulic and other Works		
decrease.....	12 92	"

The Statistics of the Revenue from Canals show an increase in the tolls on the Welland of 13.5 per cent., on the Ot-

tawa canals of 24.9-25 per cent., and on the works in the Newcastle District, an increase from 100 to 664 dollars. On the St. Lawrence canals there was a decrease of over 8 per cent., on the Chambly of 84, on the Rideau of 144; Burlington over 5, and St. Peter's over 100 per cent. The total revenue from canals showed a slight increase. On the Welland Canal there was an increase of traffic in every thing but agricultural products, on which there was a decrease of nearly 12 per cent.

## SLIDES AND BOOMS.

The Revenue from these works shows an increase of \$12,021, the figures for 1876-77 being \$111,085 and those for the preceding year \$99,064. There are outstanding balances, mostly disputed claims, of \$221,240. Of the Revenue received, \$98,259 was from the works on the Ottawa River and its tributaries 445,430 pieces of square and flatted timber, and 1,132,073 saw logs passed through these. Of the pieces 381,000 were white pine and 50,400 red pine.

## HYDRAULIC RENTS AND MINOR PUBLIC WORKS.

The Revenue accrued on these was \$57,472; of which \$24,916, less than one half, was collected, \$5,234 was remitted by authority. Steps were taken during the latter part of 1877 to force the payment of those balances as to which there could be no question.

## INSPECTION OF GAS.

Up to the close of the fiscal year, the Gas Inspection had been extended to 8 places, and since that time the Gas has been inspected in Charlottetown, P.E.I., and instruments forwarded to 6 other places. 4,725 Gas Meters were presented for verification from the time of opening the office in April, 1876, up to June, 1877. Of these 4,479 were verified and 246 rejected. The offices were opened at Montreal, St. John, Halifax, Toronto, Hamilton, Quebec, Ottawa and Picton. The illuminating power of the gas was found below the standard in Toronto, in October 1876, and in January and March 1877, and in St. John, N.B., in August 1876. At all other times, it was every where found above the standard. Sulphur and ammonia above the standard allowance, were found in every month in Montreal, and sulphur in 4 months, ammonia in nearly all in Toronto, sulphur once in Ottawa, and ammonia in two months out of the three in which inspection was made, and ammonia in May and June in Quebec. Sulphuretted hydrogen was present 3 months in Toronto, two at St. John, N.B., two at Quebec, and in every test made at Picton, N.S. Inspectors have been appointed for Brantford, Newcastle, Chatham, Port Hope and Fredericton. The value of the standards, office fittings, &c., is estimated at \$21,877. The expenditure for rents, salaries, &c., was \$9,640 and the fees collected \$2,770.

## ADULTERATION OF FOOD.

488 samples of food were analysed by officers appointed under the Inland Revenue Department in 1877; of these 247 were adulterated. Most of the spices