

less than in 1882 ; there was a decrease in Customs receipts of \$1,088,462, and an increase in Excise duties of \$989,792, and in receipts from other sources of \$1,033,709.

115. The following table is a comparative statement of the ordinary revenue and expenditure for the years 1868 to 1885, inclusive, and shows the surplus or deficiency in each year:—

ORDINARY Revenue and Expenditure—Consolidated Fund—1867–68 to 1884–85.

Year ended 30th June.	Revenue on account of Consolidated Fund.	Expenditure on account of Consolidated Fund.	Revenue in Excess of Expenditure.	Expenditure in Excess of Revenue.
	\$	\$	\$	\$
1868.....	13,687,928	13,486,092	201,836	.....
1869.....	14,379,174	14,038,084	341,090	.....
1870.....	15,512,225	14,345,509	1,166,716	.....
1871.....	19,335,560	15,623,081	3,712,479	.....
1872.....	20,714,813	17,589,468	3,125,345	.....
1873.....	20,813,469	19,174,647	1,638,822	.....
1874.....	24,205,092	23,316,316	888,776	.....
1875.....	24,648,715	23,713,071	935,644	.....
1876.....	22,587,587	24,488,372	.....	1,900,785
1877.....	22,059,274	23,519,301	.....	1,460,027
1878.....	22,375,011	23,503,158	.....	1,128,147
1879.....	22,517,382	24,455,381	.....	1,937,999
1880.....	23,307,406	24,850,634	.....	1,543,228
1881.....	29,635,297	25,502,554	4,132,743	.....
1882.....	33,383,455	27,067,103	6,316,352	.....
1883.....	35,794,649	28,730,157	7,064,492	.....
1884.....	31,861,961	31,107,706	754,255	.....
1885.....	32,797,001	35,037,060	.....	2,210,059

116. It will be observed, that except in the year under review and during the years 1876 to 1880, inclusive, when there was a continuous deficit, there has been an excess of revenue over expenditure in every year since Confederation. The excess was largest in 1883, viz., \$7,064,492, and smallest in 1868, the first year of Confederation, viz., \$201,836. The largest deficit was that for the year last past,