

314. From the above it is seen, that as compared with 1881, every canal system, with the exception of St. Peter's showed a decrease in revenue in the past year, and that there was a falling off in the total revenue from all the systems, of \$40,269. From the St. Lawrence Canals there has been a continuous decrease, year by year, while the revenue from St. Peter's has alone showed steady improvement, the increase in 1885 over 1884 being 27.04 per cent., and over 1881 more than 200 per cent. The Burlington and St. Peter's were the only canals last year that showed an increase over 1884. The revenue derived from the Welland and St. Lawrence Canals has formed far the largest part of the total revenue, the receipts from the first named having been on an average 43.31 per cent., from the second 30.41 per cent., and combined 73.73 per cent of the total revenue.

315. With the exception of Newcastle District and St. Peter's, the number of Canadian vessels passing through all the canals has fallen off in every year, while, as compared with 1881, more United States vessels, during the past year, passed through the Welland, Chambly, Rideau and Burlington, and not so many through the St. Lawrence and Ottawa Canals.

316. The total number of vessels that passed through all the canals, in 1885, was less by 2,215 than in the previous year, representing a decrease in tonnage of 463,015 tons, and in freight of 311,228 tons. There was an increase in the number of passengers of 1,890, principally on the Welland, Chambly and St. Peter's Canals.

317. The following table gives the amounts that have been spent on the different canals, during the past five years, for construction, repairs and staff maintenance, together with the increase or decrease and percentage of the total expenditure.

CANALS—Amounts Expended for Construction, Repairs and Maintenance, 1881 to 1885.

Name of Work.	Year.	Con- struction.	Repairs.	Staff and Main- tenance.	Total.	Increase or Decrease.	Rate per cent.	Percent- age of Total Expen- diture.
		\$	\$	\$	\$	\$		
Lachine.....	1881	292,165	19,888	39,027	351,081	— 67,660	16.16	14.28
	1882	255,799	17,116	41,158	314,075	— 37,006	10.54	15.12
	1883	398,356	18,199	45,554	462,111	+ 148,036	47.13	20.04
	1884	189,034	19,683	48,624	257,342	— 204,769	44.31	11.72
	1885	111,215	20,199	49,004	180,419	— 76,923	29.89	8.75
Beauharnois.....	1881	10,770	17,659	28,430	+ 4,071	16.71	1.16
	1882	20,813	18,804	39,618	+ 11,188	39.35	1.91
	1883	6,727	15,826	18,287	40,841	+ 1,223	3.09	1.77
	1884	3,277	16,232	19,107	38,617	— 2,224	5.45	1.76
	1885	7,999	14,637	18,960	41,597	+ 2,980	7.72	2.02