

Cost of parliament buildings.

202. The construction of the Canadian Pacific Railway was the cause of the large expenditure on railways in 1883, 1884 and 1885. The Parliament Buildings at Ottawa, acknowledged to be the finest on this Continent, have been erected at a total cost up to the 30th of June, 1885, of \$4,256,512, and the sum of \$117,346 was spent during the past year on the new Departmental Building in Wellington St., making a total expenditure to the 30th June, 1886, of \$4,373,858.

Cost of repairs, maintenance, &c.

203. In addition to the large amount shown to have been spent on construction, there has also been expended for working expenses, staff, maintenance and repairs the sum of \$41,879,021, this, however, has, to a large extent, been provided for out of corresponding revenue.

Summary of expenditure on public works.

204. Including the expenses attendant on the acquisition of the North-West Territories, it will be seen that the following amounts, including expenditure charged to revenue, have been spent on public works since Confederation :—

Railways	\$97,056,423
Canals	29,876,800
Lighthouses and Navigation	8,284,580
Acquisition and management of the North-West.....	5,356,035
Government Buildings and Miscellaneous Public Works.....	13,680,829
	<u>\$154,254,667</u>

Prior to Confederation there was expended :—

On Railways and Canals	\$52,944,175
On Public Works	<u>10,690,917</u>

Making a total expenditure on Public Works of \$217,889,759.

Causes of the creation of the debt.

205. It will be seen from the foregoing that with the exception of the debts allowed to Provinces, which were in accordance with the conditions of Confederation, and which it must be remembered were themselves incurred for the purpose of public improvements, the whole of the public debt has been created by the construction of public works