

GOVERNMENT TELEGRAPH LINES IN CANADA—EARNINGS AND
WORKING EXPENSES, 1886.

TELEGRAPH LINES.	Expenditure	Revenue.	Deficit.
	\$	\$	\$
Anticosti Island.....	1,793	602	1,191
Magdalen Islands (including Meat Cove Lines)	3,594	1,171	2,423
Cape Sable—Barrington	286	63	223
Chatham—Escuminac	479	183	296
Grosse Isle—Quarantine	724	205	519
Bay of Fundy.....	1,104	748	356
North Shore, St. Lawrence.....	7,419	1,934	5,485
Subsidies, office material and contingencies—			
Gulf Lines.....	2,395	2,395
Ontario—Bath, Amherst Island Line.....	74	50	24
British Columbia system.....	36,482	30,796	5,686
Total.....	54,350	35,752	18,598
Corresponding figures for 1884-85.....	48,932	38,919	10,023
North-West system, 1885-86.....	45,829	7,944	37,885

Excess of
expendi-
ture.

392. The total revenue amounted to \$43,696, and the expenditure to \$100,179, being an excess of expenditure over revenue of \$56,483. As compared with the preceding year the revenue showed a decrease of \$2,723, and the expenditure an increase of \$29,202. Two expensive breaks occurred in the cables in the Gulf of St. Lawrence, and very considerable damage was done by prairie fires in the North-West, no less than 40 miles of poles being destroyed by one fire; light galvanized iron poles are now being used instead of wood, and it is believed that they will be found not only more durable, but far cheaper.

Telegraph
lines of
the world.

393. The following table gives the length of telegraph lines and wire, the number of messages and offices, and the proportion of population to each office, in the principal countries of the world. The information has been taken from various sources, and the calculations have been made in this office:—