

CHAPTER VI.

CANALS AND INLAND REVENUE.

Supervi-
sion of
canals.

399. The collection of revenue derivable from the various canal systems is under the control of the Department of Inland Revenue, while their construction, repairs and maintenance are attended to by the Department of Railways and Canals.

Canal re-
venue.

400. The total revenue from all sources from the several systems amounted, in 1886, to \$364,456, as compared with \$338,036 in 1885, showing an increase of \$26,420, the net revenue showing an increase of \$7,687.

St. Law-
rence
system.

401. The system of inland navigation in Canada is the largest and most important in the world. The St. Lawrence system alone, in conjunction with the great lakes, extends for 2,260 miles, viz., from the Straits of Belle Isle to Port Arthur, at the head of Lake Superior; of this distance 71 miles are artificial navigation by means of canals, and 2,189 miles open navigation; from Port Arthur to Duluth, which is the principal port in that section of the United States for the produce of the Western States, is a further distance of 124 miles, making altogether 2,384 miles. When it is considered that by this means unbroken water communication is afforded from Port Arthur and Duluth to Liverpool, a total distance of 4,618 miles, the importance of this system and the necessity for its thorough maintenance will be at once understood.

Sault Ste.
Marie
Canal.

402. Lake Superior and Lake Huron are connected by the St. Marie River, which is not capable of navigation, owing to the numerous rapids. This difficulty has been overcome by the construction of a canal on the United States side of the river, which is rather more than one mile in length, and