

value being doubtless considerably above the amount reported.

456. The total expenditure in 1886 was \$301,705, and in 1885, \$310,272; there was a decrease, therefore, in the year under consideration of \$8,567. Expenditure, 1886.

457. The cost of settlers per head, not including arrivals reported through the Customs, was \$6.87 and including arrivals so reported, was \$4.36; the figures for the preceding year, 1885, being \$6.62 and \$3.92 respectively. The following table shows the cost per head of settlers since 1875 :— Cost of settlers per head, 1875-1886.

YEAR.	NOT INCLUDING CUSTOMS.		INCLUDING CUSTOMS.	
	Settlers.	Amount.	Settlers.	Amount.
		\$ cts.		\$ cts.
1875.....	14,490	14 00	27,382	10 83
1876.....	14,490	19 60	25,633	11 12
1877.....	15,223	12 00	27,082	6 78
1878.....	18,372	9 63	29,807	6 23
1879.....	30,717	5 74	40,492	4 35
1880.....	27,544	6 59	38,505	4 71
1881.....	32,587	6 32	49,991	4 30
1882.....	81,904	4 23	112,458	3 08
1883.....	98,637	4 26	133,624	3 15
1884.....	68,633	6 28	103,824	4 15
1885.....	46,868	6 62	79,169	3 92
1886.....	43,875	6 87	69,152	4 36

And it will be seen that the average cost per head is considerably less than it was some years ago.

458. The following table contains a statement of the average rate of wages paid in 1886 in different parts of the Dominion. The table is compiled from the returns furnished by the Immigration Agents at the places named, and subject to the fluctuations to which they must always be liable, the figures may be considered as generally correct, and quite correct at the dates when furnished. Embracing, as it does, all the industrial centres from Halifax to Victoria, the table will be found fairly representative of the average wages throughout the Dominion. The ordinary working day for mechanics, artisans and general labourers, is at present ten hours. The hours of work on farms are not generally limited. Average rates of wages.