

467. There was a decrease in the total number killed, as compared with 1885, of 13, and 6 passengers only were killed as against 8 in the year before ; 138 therefore of the total number killed were employés of the various roads ; 59 passengers were injured, being a reduction of 18. Returns were not available of the number of employés injured during the year.

Passengers killed and injured.

468. In an excellent work recently published, entitled "Railway Problems," and written by Mr. J. S. Jeans, a statistician of authority, a great injustice is done to the railway companies of this country, with reference to the number of accidents to passengers. The author, after first stating that the distinction between accidents to passengers and employés is a very necessary one, proceeds, in what seems rather an inconsistent manner, to give a table showing the proportion of accidents to passengers, employés and persons of all kinds to the number of passengers carried, and as a result declares Canada to be one of the most dangerous countries to travel in. This statement, while correct as far as Mr. Jeans' figures go, is entirely at variance with the actual facts. It must be obvious that the number of accidents to brakemen, car couplers and others can have no practical bearing on the safety of the passengers, and it is not fair to assume that every passenger, while travelling, runs the same risk of injury as the employés of the road. The casual reader would suppose from Mr. Jeans' table that in 1884 (the year taken) 22·77 passengers in every million were killed in this country while travelling, whereas the correct proportion was 4·60 in every million, and this proportion was most exceptionally high, far higher than in any other year during the last 12 years, and also far higher than the average for the same period, which is 1·42.

Safety of railway travel in Canada.

469. The following figures show the number of passengers

Proportion of