

485. Belgium has the largest extent of railway accommodation, and in this respect is ahead of the United Kingdom; the German Empire, Switzerland, the Netherlands and France follow very closely. Egypt and Brazil have the smallest amount of railway facilities, and there are no railways in Persia.

Greatest railway accommodation.

486. The railways owned by the Dominion Government are the Intercolonial, Windsor Branch, Eastern Extension and Prince Edward Island Railway, with an aggregate mileage in operation of 1,190 miles, and the following table gives the financial position of each road for the year ended 30th June, 1886 :—

Government railways.

FINANCIAL POSITION OF GOVERNMENT RAILWAYS IN CANADA,
1885-86.

RAILWAY.	Capital Paid up.	Earnings.	Expenses.	Profit.	Loss.	Percentage of Expenses to Earnings.
	\$	\$	\$	\$		
Intercolonial	41,172,743	2,383,201	2,489,244	.....	106,043	104·4
Eastern Extens'n	1,284,496	66,893	94,756	.....	27,863	141·6
Windsor Branch..	.....	23,658	19,229	4,429	.....	81·3
P. E. Island.....	3,735,981	155,584	216,744	.....	61,160	139·3
Totals.....	.....	.....	.....	4,429	195,066	107·2
Less profits...	.....	.....	.....	.....	4,429	.....
Total loss.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	190,637	.....

487. It will be seen that the working expenses exceeded the earnings by \$190,637, which was a larger excess by \$65,170 than that of the preceding year, but of the loss on the Intercolonial, \$115,000 were spent for improvements generally charged to capital, and the repairs necessary on the Eastern Extension were unusually heavy. The Windsor Branch, while owned, is only maintained by the Government, and is operated by the Windsor and Annapolis

Excess of working expenses.