

69. It will be seen that there have been five complete Parliaments and one Session of the sixth since Confederation. The first Parliament was the longest one, and the second was the shortest. The average length of each Session has been 87 days, or about 12 weeks, the longest Session was in 1885, viz., 24 weeks, 4 days, and the next longest was in 1867-68, viz., 16 weeks, 4 days. The shortest Session was in 1873, and only lasted 2 weeks and 1 day.

Duration of Parliament.

70. The next table gives the names of the holders of the different Cabinet offices since Confederation, with the dates of their respective appointments. There have only been two changes of Government and three Ministries, and with the exception of from 7th November, 1873, to 17th October, 1878, Sir John A. Macdonald has been in power during the whole period.

Cabinet Ministers.

71. In 1879 a Bill was passed dividing the office of the Minister of Public Works ; the new Department assuming exclusive control of Railways and Canals, and in the same Session the office of Receiver General was abolished.

Departmental changes.

CABINET MINISTERS OF CANADA SINCE 1867.

PORTFOLIO.	Name.	Date of Appointment.
Premiers	Right Hon. Sir John A. Macdonald.....	July 1, 1867
	Hon. Alex. Mackenzie.....	Nov. 7, 1873
	Right Hon. Sir John A. Macdonald.....	Oct. 17, 1878
Ministers of Justice and Attorneys-General....	Right Hon. Sir John A. Macdonald.....	July 1, 1867
	Hon. Antoine Aimé Dorion.....	Nov. 7, 1873
	“ Téséphore Fournier.....	July 8, 1874
	“ Edward Blake.....	May 19, 1875
	“ Rodolphe Laframme.....	June 8, 1877
	“ James McDonald.....	Oct. 17, 1878
	“ Sir Alexander Campbell.....	May 20, 1881
“ John Sparrow David Thompson.....	Sept. 25, 1885	