

Period of navigation through Sault Ste. Marie Canal.

379. The canal was only open for navigation for 224 days in 1886 and for 216 days in 1887, and during that time the traffic through was relatively almost as large as that through the Suez Canal, which will accommodate the largest vessels, and is open to the commerce of the whole world.

Traffic through the Suez Canal.

380. The following table gives the number and total tonnage of the vessels passing through the Suez Canal in the years 1882 to 1886. The figures are taken from the Statesman's Year Book 1888.

TRAFFIC THROUGH THE SUEZ CANAL—1882-1886.

YEAR.	Number of Vessels.	Tonnage.
1882 .....	3,198	7,122,125
1883 .....	3,307	8,106,001
1884 .....	3,284	8,319,967
1885 .....	3,624	8,985,411
1886 .....	3,100	8,183,313

Sault Ste. Marie and Suez Canal traffic compared.

381. If the Sault Ste. Marie Canal had been open for the whole year, and the traffic had maintained the same rate during all that time as it did during the season of navigation, the tonnage passing through in 1887 would have amounted to 8,276,033 tons, which would have been more than the total tonnage through the Suez Canal in the same year.

Canals on St. Lawrence system.

382. In addition to this, the canals on the St. Lawrence system are the Welland, from Port Colborne on Lake Erie to Port Dalhousie on Lake Ontario, 26 $\frac{3}{4}$  miles in length by the enlarged or new line, with 26 locks, and a total rise of 326 $\frac{3}{4}$  feet; and, along the St. Lawrence, the Galops, 7 $\frac{1}{2}$  miles in length, with three locks and a rise of 15 $\frac{3}{4}$  feet; the Rapide Plat, 4 miles in length, with 2 locks and a rise of 11 $\frac{1}{2}$  feet;