Cape Breton Railway 456. A line of railway is now in course of construction by the Government through the Island of Cape Breton, a distance of 98 miles, from Point Tupper, at the Strait of Canso, to Sydney. This road will form part of what is known as the Short Line, in which expression is comprised a scheme for connecting Montreal with Canadian Atlantic ports by the shortest route.

Government expenditure on construction, &c., 1883457. The following table shows the amounts spent by the Government during the last five years, on the construction, staff and maintenance of railways:—

STATEMENT SHOWING AMOUNT OF GOVERNMENT EXPENDITURE ON CONSTRUCTION, STAFF AND MAINTENANCE OF RAIL-WAYS IN CANADA, FOR THE LAST FIVE YEARS.

RAILWAYS.	YEAR ENDED 30TH JUNE,				
	1883.	1884.	1885.	1886.	1887.
	\$	\$	<u> </u>	\$	<u> </u>
Pacific	4,729,692 5,323,077	3,963,381 7,254,208	3,25°,921 6,862,201	818,150 2,890,427	471,795 460,087
per contract		11,313 943	125	2,985	1,200
Intercolonial	23,101 309,994	22,141 367,092	18,751 289,651	221,413	26,042 210,037
Eastern Extension		208.000	403 245	85,479 2,326,349	2,300 1,406,533
Short Line Railway claims. Bridge at Emerson Cape Breton Windsor and Annapolis			*********		76,502 125,937
Royal CommissionAlbert Railway				.1	13,831 11,437
Total on Railways		17,030,982	15,610,530	9,659,791	6,466,633
Pacific Railway Loan Account		,,	1 ' '	'	
way Extension		143,600	135,200	.,,	