305. The Trent River system is only efficient for local use. Trent River The scheme of making use of these waters to effect a system system. of through water communication between Lakes Huron and Ontario has been in contemplation for many years, but up to the present time only certain sections have been made navigable, or fit for the passage of timber. The total distance between the lakes is 235 miles, and about 155 miles of this are available for light draft vessels.

306. The Murray Canal has been built through the Murray Isthmus of Murray, giving connection westward between Canal. the Bay of Quinté and Lake Ontario. It is 44 miles in length, and has no locks, and is expected to be open for traffic during the season of 1889.

307. The total amount spent on canals by the Imperial Expendi Government previous to Confederation was \$4,173,921, and canals. by the Provincial Governments, \$16.028,840. At the time of Confederation all the systems became the property of the Dominion Government, who have expended the further sum of \$32,226,002, making a total amount spent for construction and enlargement alone of \$52,428,764, the amount expended for repairs not being included in these figures.

308. The following table is a statement of the number, Traffic tonnage and nationality of vessels that passed through the Canals, several Canals during the season of navigation in each of the 1883-188' years 1883 to 1887, inclusive, and of the number of passengers and tons of freight carried, and tolls received.