

Causes of accidents.

542. There was a decrease of 21 in the total number of persons killed, but an increase of 17 in the number of passengers killed, owing to the large number of 25 having been killed by the disastrous accidents near Hamilton and Paris on the Grand Trunk Railway. Of the remaining 12 passengers killed, 3 fell from cars, 5 were getting off trains in motion, 2 were on the track and 1 was killed by striking a bridge, and it is probable that all of the above 11 accidents were preventable by the persons themselves, and were not such as the railway companies could be held responsible for. Ninety persons were killed by being on the track, 74 of whom were persons other than passengers and employés. The total number of employés killed was 89 and of other persons, 84.

Persons injured.

543. The total number of persons injured was 100 more than in 1888, and 79 more than in any year since the statistics were generally collected. Out of the whole number, 103 were passengers, 637 employés and 135 other persons, 97 of which latter number were injured through being on the track. Rather more than half the number of the employés were injured while coupling trains, the number being 335, and the proportion to the whole number 52 per cent.

Passengers killed per million carried in Canada.

544. In calculating the safety of railway travelling the number only of those passengers for whose deaths the railway companies must be held solely responsible should, strictly speaking, be included; but even if the whole number is taken, it will be seen from the following figures that this country stands very well as regards safe travelling:—

PASSENGERS KILLED PER MILLION CARRIED, 1875-1889.

YEAR.	Passengers Killed per Million Carried.	YEAR.	Passengers Killed per Million Carried.
1875	2·11	1883	0·52
1876	0·90	1884	4·60
1877	0·82	1885	0·82
1878	1·40	1886	0·61
1879	1·38	1887	1·03
1880	1·55	1888	1·75
1881	0·72	1889	3·05
1882	1·07		

Average for the whole period 1·48.