

	1888.	1889.	1890.	1891.
*Revenue.....	\$1,370,029	\$2,102,993	\$1,831,336	\$1,973,275
*Expenditure.....	1,831,441	2,208,736	1,993,288	1,831,432
Public debt....	3,335,589	4,133,202	4,138,627	5,223,364
Imports—				
United Kingdom.	3,625,229	2,653,152	2,174,524	2,341,706
Canada.....	2,041,144	2,076,258	2,423,319	2,830,441
United States....	1,422,188	1,615,143	1,247,754	1,526,674
Other countries..	331,839	262,512	523,258	169,637
Total.....	<u>\$7,420,400</u>	<u>\$6,607,065</u>	<u>\$6,368,855</u>	<u>\$6,869,458</u>
Exports—				
United Kingdom.	\$1,607,007	\$1,407,242	\$1,514,131	\$1,966,581
British possess'ns.	998,614	1,112,105	1,247,686	1,172,145
Other countries..	3,976,392	3,603,638	3,338,019	4,298,432
Total.....	<u>\$6,582,013</u>	<u>\$6,122,985</u>	<u>\$6,099,836</u>	<u>\$7,437,158</u>

While the imports come almost entirely from Great Britain, Canada and the United States, the exports go largely to other countries, viz., Portugal, Brazil, West Indies and Spain.

New-
foundland
shipping.

64. The total tonnage of shipping entered and cleared in 1891, exclusive of the coasting trade, was 656,310 tons. There are about 170 miles of railway in operation, and 2,087 miles of telegraph open. A cable from Ireland lands at Heart's Content and one from America at Placentia. Steamers run about twice a week for the greater part of the year between St. Johns and Halifax, and fortnightly to Great Britain.

Discovery
of Canada.

65. According to what may be called tradition rather than history, the shores of North America were visited on several occasions, as early as the tenth century, by parties of Norsemen, some of whom settled in what is now the State of Massachusetts, but were eventually either killed or expelled by the natives. The earliest authentic record of the landing of Europeans on these shores is that of Sebastian or John Cabot,† who reached some part of the coast of Labrador on the 21st June, 1497, and two or three days afterwards discovered the Island of Newfoundland. Columbus did not reach the mainland until the following year, 1498, and Amerigo Vespucci, from whom the continent took its name, until 1499. Cabot, therefore, is fairly entitled to be considered as the discoverer of what is now the Dominion of Canada. In 1517 Cabot made another voyage, and succeeded in making his way into what was afterwards called Hudson's Bay, but nothing further was done towards the exploration of the mainland, until the expedition of Jacques Cartier in 1534, who landed in the neighbourhood of Miramichi Bay on the 4th July in that year, and with this date Canadian history proper may be said to begin.

*Including loans.

† It is not certain that the father accompanied the expedition.