- the St. Lawrence to St. Johns on the Richelieu. It was opened in July, 1836, the cars being drawn by a locomotive. The length of the line was 14½ miles. The object was to connect the waters of the St. Lawrence with those of Lake Champlain, thus securing speedy communication between Montreal and New York. The second railway was the Cobourg Railway, and the third the London and Gore Railway, both incorporated in 1834; the latter was afterwards known as the Great Western.
- 907. Nova Scotia built its first railway in 1839 to connect the Albion coal mines with the loading grounds on the shores of the Gulf of St., Lawrence.
- 908. As early as 1835 a project was laid before the Imperial authorities to construct a railway from the port of St. Andrews, New Brunswick, to Quebec, requiring the construction of 380 miles of railway. Surveys were made at the expense of the British Government, and the works were commenced by a local company in 1837. Operations were suspended in 1842, when the Ashburton Treaty gave to the United States the territory over which for more than half its distance the surveys had been carried.
- 909. Subsequently, arrangements were made with the contractors of the Grand Trunk Railway, and an agreement signed by which they were to extend their railway from Portland, Maine, to the frontier of New Brunswick, and then through that province to the Gulf of St. Lawrence. Construction was begun in 1852 near Moncton, but the work was not pushed, and finally the New Brunswick Government bought out the contractors in 1856.
- 910. In 1850 there were 71 miles of railway in operation in all Canada, which increased to 2,087 miles in 1860, and to 2,258 miles in 1867, when the provinces were united. In the next ten years there was an increase of 3,316 in the mileage. In 1888 there were 12,162 miles in operation, and in 1893 the miles of railway in operation had increased to 15,020. Thus since Confederation (1867) there has been an increase of 12,762 miles of railway in operation. In 1868 the paid-up capital amounted to \$160,471,190, and in 1893 to \$872,156,476.
- 911. Canada has 127 railways. Twenty-four of these have been amalgamated and form the Grand Trunk Railway system. The consolidation of 21 others has produced the Canadian Pacific Railway system. The remaining 82 are separate organizations. Of these 82, four had no finished mileage on the 30th June, 1893, but were building 37 miles; two are bridge companies, with