

963. The following table gives the number of tons of ocean borne goods to and from Europe via the port of Halifax, carried over the Intercolonial Railway :—

Year.	Tons.	Year.	Tons.
1878.. .. .	18,354	1886... .. .	21,680
1879.. .. .	24,271	1887..... .. .	26,734
1880..... .. .	26,025	1888..... .. .	50,742
1881..... .. .	18,788	1889..... .. .	28,821
1882..... .. .	25,775	1890..... .. .	21,625
1883..... .. .	32,786	1891..... .. .	20,687
1884..... .. .	26,229	1892..... .. .	33,571
1885..... .. .	31,192	1893..... .. .	19,714

964. These tables show, first, that the earnings of the Intercolonial Railway, in 1893, were the largest of any year in its history, that the earnings from freight have been greater in three other years than in 1893, but that 1893 shows an increase of \$66,774 over 1892, in earnings from this source.

2nd. That the expenditure in 1893 is the lowest of any year since 1887, and is lower in every branch than in any of the preceding years, mileage being taken into account—maintenance and buildings showing a decrease of \$247,412 ; working and repairing engines a decrease of \$93,711 ; working and operating cars a decrease of \$28,997, and general operating expenses a decrease of \$26,563, in 1893 as compared with 1892.

3rd. That the gross earnings per mile of the railway in 1893 were higher than they were in 1892 and 1891, but not so high as they were in 1890, 1889, and 1888, before the Eastern Extension and other branches had been added.

4th. That the operating expenses per mile in 1893 were lower than they have been for ten years before.

5th. That the per cent of passenger earnings to total earnings in 1893 was the same as in 1892, and higher than in any other year since 1880, and of freight earnings lower than in any previous year back to 1880.

6th. That the earnings from passengers carried in 1893 were more per mile than in the two immediately preceding years, but not as much as in 1890, 1889, and 1888.

7th. That the freight rates in 1893 being slightly over \$1.36 per ton carried were less than in any previous year.