

than \$111,000,000. Portugal, France and Egypt would appear to have the next heaviest indebtedness in proportion to revenue. Of all countries Switzerland has about the lightest burden of debt, as only one year's revenue would be required to redeem it, while the value of its state property, or so-called "Federal Fortune," amounts to over seven millions more than its liabilities. The debt of the United States showed a decrease of \$42,478,478 on the 30th June, 1893, as compared with the same date in 1892. Since the date to which the amount has been made up, it has been increased by \$50,000,000 of a new loan rendered necessary by the decrease in current receipts.

1269. Under the provisions of the Civil Service Superannuation Act, 1883, retiring allowances are granted to such members of the Civil Service, coming within the scope of the Act, as have served for not less than ten years and have attained the age of sixty years, or become in some manner incapacitated from properly performing their duties, or whose office may be abolished for the better promotion of efficiency, or otherwise.

1270. These allowances are calculated on the average yearly salary received during the then last three years, as follows:— For ten years but less than eleven years' service an allowance of ten-fiftieths of such average salary; for eleven years but less than twelve years' service an allowance of eleven-fiftieths, and a further allowance of one-fiftieth for each additional year of service up to thirty-five years, when the maximum allowance of thirty-five-fiftieths may be granted, but no addition is made for any service over thirty-five years.

1271. These provisions practically apply to all officers, clerks and employees of the Inside and Outside Service, including those of the Senate, House of Commons and Library of Parliament.

1272. As a provision towards making good the above allowances, a reduction is made of 2 per cent per annum on all salaries over \$600, and of one and a-quarter per cent on those under that amount.

1273. All persons under sixty years of age, in receipt of a superannuation allowance, and not mentally or bodily disabled, are liable to fill, if required, under pain of forfeiture of such allowance, any public position in any part of Canada for which their previous services have rendered them eligible. No such position, however, is to be lower in rank or salary than the position retired from.