

871. For the purpose of stimulating the iron industry, the Dominion Parliament, in 1883, authorized the payment of a bounty of \$1.50 a ton upon all pig-iron manufactured in Canada. This bounty was continued until 1st July, 1889, when the rate was made \$1 a ton. A further change was made on 1st July, 1892, when the rate was increased to \$2 a ton until 1st July, 1897.

In the Session of 1894 an Act was passed providing that the Governor-in-Council may authorize the payment of a bounty of \$2 per ton on all pig-iron made in Canada from Canadian ore, a bounty of \$2 per ton on all puddled bars made in Canada from Canadian pig-iron made from Canadian ore, and a bounty of \$2 per ton on all steel billets manufactured in Canada from Canadian pig-iron, and such other ingredients as are necessary and usual in the manufacture of steel billets. These bounties are applicable till 26th March, 1899, in the case of furnaces in operation on the 27th March, 1894, and in the case of furnaces commencing operations subsequently to that date, but before 27th March, 1899, for 5 years from the date of commencing.

872. The Legislature of Ontario passed an Act in the Session of 1894 appropriating the sum of \$125,000 to be known as the Iron Mining Fund. Out of this fund the treasurer is authorized to pay \$1 per ton of pig-metal product of iron ores raised or mined and smelted in the Province of Ontario, the amount so paid not to exceed in any one year \$25,000.

None of the other provinces has done anything for the encouragement of their iron industry.

873. Under the operation of the bounty given by the Federal Parliament the production of pig-iron has increased from 29,593 tons in 1884 to 62,522 tons in 1894.

The following table gives 1st, the production in Canada of pig-iron; 2nd, the importation of pig-iron, iron kentledge and scrap-iron and steel for home consumption—the two columns making up the the total consumption—and 3rd, the percentage of home manufactured pig in the total consumption.

YEAR ENDED JUNE 30TH.	Production.	Imports.	Total Consumption.	Per cent of Home produced to total consumed.
	Tons.	Tons.	Tons.	
1884.....	29,593	52,184	81,777	36·2
1885.....	25,770	43,398	69,168	37·2
1886.....	26,180	45,648	71,828	36·4
1887.....	39,717	50,214	89,931	44·2
1888.....	22,209	48,973	111,182	20·0
1889.....	24,823	72,115	96,938	25·6
1890.....	25,697	87,613	113,310	22·7
1891.....	20,153	81,317	101,470	19·8
1892.....	30,294	68,918	99,212	30·5
1893.....	46,948	107,842	114,790	40·9
1894.....	62,522	75,275	137,797	45·4