

The period of the greatest use of the canal was that of 1871-75.

The greatest year of use was 1871, when 1,554,118 tons of shipping passed through.

The smallest year of use was 1864, when only 446,106 tons of shipping passed through.

The year of highest percentage of United States tonnage passing through was 1860, when 69 per cent of the whole tonnage belonged to the United States.

The year of the highest percentage of Canadian vessels using the canal was 1880, when 80 per cent of the total was under the flag of Canada.

In 1850 the tonnage locked through was 587,100 tons, of which 49 per cent was Canadian and 51 per cent United States.

In 1892 the tonnage locked through was 1,192,301 tons, of which 49·66 per cent was Canadian and 50·34 per cent United States.

In 1893 the total tonnage was 1,487,743 tons, Canada being represented by 33·2 per cent and the United States by 66·8 per cent.

Taking the whole period 1850-93, the United States have used the canal for 24,315,707 tons of shipping and Canada for 22,180,672 tons, the United States using it for 2,135,035 tons more than Canada used it. By percentages the United States shipping using the canal during 44 years was 52·3 per cent, and Canadian 47·7 per cent.

During 23 years, 1869-1893, 4,310,894 tons of vegetable foods and 4,558,689 tons of heavy goods have passed through the Welland Canal in transit between ports in the United States.

The vegetable foods consisted of flour, 142,633 tons; wheat, 1,662,034 tons; corn, 2,006,362 tons; barley, 55,385 tons; oats, 245,725 tons; rye, 3,680 tons, and other articles of food, 195,075 tons. The heavy goods comprised 122,097 tons of railway iron; 119,936 tons of other iron; 265,443 tons of salt; 3,627,150 tons of coal, and 424,063 tons of ores.

It is evident, therefore, that the use made of the privilege of transit by the United States is very considerable.