

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 five years from the date of commencing.

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.

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 53,948 tons in 1896.

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

YEAR ENDED 30TH JUNE.	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	71,182	31·2
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	63,522	110,470	42·5
1894	62,522	45,790	108,312	57·7
1895	31,692	35,060	66,752	47·5
1896	53,948	37,141	91,089	59·2

*2,000 lbs. †Cast scrap-iron not included.