

The total tons of freight carried shows an increase of 2,742,404 tons over 1895, and an increase of 3,545,709 tons as compared with 1894.

The following is a statement of the number of accidents in connection with the railways in Canada, including Government railways, for the last 22 years :—

YEAR.	Killed.	Injured.	YEAR.	Killed.	Injured.
1875.....	92	289	1886.....	144	571
1876.....	109	304	1887.....	178	633
1877.....	111	317	1888.....	231	775
1878.....	97	361	1889.....	210	875
1879.....	107	66	1890.....	218	838
1880.....	80	102	1891.....	196	818
1881.....	99	147	1892.....	233	879
1882.....	147	397	1893.....	216	708
1883.....	169	550	1894.....	211	694
1884.....	227	796	1895.....	187	658
1885.....	157	684	1896.....	161	619

There was a decrease of 26 in the number of persons killed, and 39 in the number of persons injured. Fourteen employees were killed while coupling cars, and out of 454 injured no less than 204 were hurt while similarly engaged. The following are comparative figures for the last four years :—

	1893.		1894.		1895.		1896.	
	Killed.	Injured.	Killed.	Injured.	Killed.	Injured.	Killed.	Injured.
Passengers.. .. .	11	55	12	64	9	60	11	51
Employees.. .. .	72	533	67	521	51	488	46	454
Others.. .. .	133	120	132	109	127	110	104	114
	216	708	211	694	187	658	161	619

The number of passengers killed was 2 more, and the number injured 9 less than in 1895. Four of the passengers were killed by getting on or off trains in motion, one passenger was killed by being on tracks, so that the railway companies were really responsible for 6 deaths. Six employees were killed by being on the track and 12 by falling from trains. Sixty-eight "other" persons, out of 104 were killed by being on the track, and 42 out of 114 were injured from a similar cause.