

Brunswick, 193,800, and of Nova Scotia, 276,854. Responsible Government granted by Imperial Parliament to Prince Edward Island. Young Men's Christian Association organized in Montreal; first in America. First Provincial Council (Roman Catholic) held at Quebec.

1852. Commencement of the Grand Trunk Railway. Trinity College, Toronto, opened.
1853. The number of members in the Legislative Assembly was increased from 84 to 130, being 65 from each province. May 9. First ocean steamer arrived in Quebec. Railway between Montreal and Portland opened.
1854. January 27. Main line of the Great Western Railway opened for traffic. Abolition of Seigniorial Tenure in Lower Canada and settlement of the Clergy Reserve question. June 5. Reciprocity Treaty with the United States signed at Washington. It provided for mutual rights of fishing in certain Canadian and American waters, for free interchange of the products of the sea, the soil, the forest and the mine; it allowed Americans the use of the St. Lawrence River and Canadian canals on the same terms as British subjects, and gave to Canadians the right to navigate Lake Michigan. The Treaty was proclaimed by the President of the United States on the 16th March, 1855, at which date it came into operation. First screw steamer from Liverpool to the St. Lawrence River. Sugar refining established in Montreal. Oil wells first opened in Canada.
1855. Opening of the Niagara Suspension Bridge. Money order system established in the province of Canada.
1856. The Legislative Council of the province of Canada was made an elective chamber. Allan steamship line commenced regular fortnightly steam service between Canada and Great Britain. Submarine Cable laid between Cape Breton Island and Newfoundland. First meeting of Legislature of Vancouver Island. Railway between Montreal and Toronto opened.
1857. March 12. Desjardins Canal railway accident, 70 lives lost. City of Three Rivers incorporated. Steamer "Montreal" lost near Quebec, 253 lives lost.
1858. Adoption of the decimal system of currency. Selection by the Queen of the city of Ottawa as the Capital of the Dominion and permanent seat of Government made known to the Legislature 16th March. Atlantic cable laid between England and Nova Scotia. Representative Institutions granted to mainland of British Columbia.
- April. Gold found in British Columbia.
- September. Gold found in Tangier River, Nova Scotia.
1859. New Westminster founded by Colonel Moody. Allan line of steamers made weekly trips. Money order system established in Nova Scotia.
1860. Winnipeg founded.
- August 25. Opening of the Victoria Bridge by the Prince of Wales.
- September 1. Laying of the corner stone of the Dominion Buildings at Ottawa by the Prince of Wales. These buildings, together with the Departmental buildings, have been erected at a total cost of \$4,887,538, not including the cost of repairs rendered necessary by the fire that occurred on the 11th February, 1897.
1860. Art Association founded in Montreal. Oil wells of Petrolia in operation.
1861. Population of Upper Canada, 1,396,091; Lower Canada, 1,111,566; of New Brunswick, 252,047; of Nova Scotia, 330,857; of Prince Edward Island, 80,857; of Vancouver Island, exclusive of Indians, 3,420.
- Land Commission for Prince Edward Island appointed. Hon. J. H. Gray for the Crown, Hon. Joseph Howe for the tenants, and Hon. J. W. Ritchie for the proprietors. Award made August, 1861.
- First triennial session of the Provincial Synod Church of England held in Montreal.
- Trent Affair.—Capt. Wilkes boarded (8th November) British Mail Packet Trent and carried off Messrs. Mason and Slidell, Confederate Commissioners. 18th December. British Government demand surrender of Mason and Slidell. Demand acceded to by United States Government and war averted.
1862. Conference at Charlottetown *re* Confederation. Manitoulin Island Treaty with Indians arranged by Hon. William Macdougall.
1864. Quebec Conference held. Resolutions passed in favour of Confederation of British North American provinces. Raid from St. Albans into Canada.
1866. Nova Scotia and New Brunswick accepted Confederation with Canada. Great fire in Quebec, 2,129 houses burned in St. Roch and St. Sauveur suburb. May 17. Termination of the Reciprocity Treaty, in consequence of notice given by the United States. It lasted 11 years.
- June 1. Invasion of Canada by Fenians. Battle of Ridgeway.
- June 3. Withdrawal of the Fenians into the United States.
- June 8. First meeting of Parliament in the new buildings at Ottawa. At this meeting the final resolutions necessary on the part of the province of Canada to effect the confederation of the provinces were passed.
- November 17. Union of Vancouver Island and British Columbia proclaimed.