

## Railways of the Dominion.

At the close of the fiscal year, 30th June, 1876—later than which there are no authorized returns—there were in actual operation in the Dominion 4,929½ miles of railway, besides 228 miles in United States, owned and worked by Canadian Companies. There were under construction 2,142½ miles upon which work was actually done during the year, and a good many other lines chartered, upon which, work at that date had not been commenced. The gauge of the total mileage was—

	Miles.
5 ft. 6 in.....	618½
4 ft. 8½ in.....	3,938½
3 ft. 6 in.....	600½
	5,157½

Of these, were laid with steel rails..		2,373½
do. iron do.		2,758
do. wooden do.		25½
		5,157½

The number of miles of sidings was 637.

The total capital raised for railways in operation at that date was \$317,795,468.47, viz.:

Ordinary share capital paid up.....	\$111,208,479 76
Preference do. do.....	69,747,177 64
Bonded debt paid up.....	76,079,530 61

Amounts paid and loaned by—	
Dominion Government...	51,948,529 33
Ontario do. ..	1,884,719 43
Quebec do. ..	228,521 00
N. Brunswick do. ..	2,099,000 00
Nova Scotia do. ....	.....
Municipalities.....	\$5,426,505.70
Less included in paid up securities	817,995.00
	4,608,510 70

Total ..... \$317,795,468 47

The increase during the year was \$19,233,613.72, of which the increase in Government and Municipal loans and bonuses amounted to \$11,823,914.42, and in bonded debt to \$1,004,139.05.

The paid up capital of railways under construction was:

Ordinary share capital .....	\$3,023,188 74
Bonded debt.....	827,382 66
Government loans or bonuses.....	11,258,293 26
Municipal loans or bonuses .....	\$1,043,764 60
Less paid up securities.....	62,000 00
	981,764 60
	\$16,090,579 26

a decrease in the year of \$4,004,797.13 due to the opening of some new railways for

traffic. The total paid up capital on 30th June, 1876, was \$333,886,047.73; \$17,454,300 had been granted by the Dominion Government as loan to the Grand Trunk and Northern Railways, and \$42,823,726 as bonus principally to the Intercolonial, P. E. Island and Pacific Railways. The Ontario Government had granted a loan of \$70,000 to the Brantford, Norfolk & Port Burwell, and bonuses of \$2,661,134 to other railways. The bonuses of the Quebec Government amounted to \$6,944,600, of which two-thirds were to the Quebec, Montreal, Ottawa & Occidental. The New Brunswick Government had bonuses of \$1,878,000, with a loan of \$150,000, and share subscriptions \$300,000, and Nova Scotia bonuses of \$871,000.

The total train mileage was 18,103,628—an increase of 423,450 over 1875. The number of passengers was 5,544,814, and of tons of freight 6,331,757. Nearly two million passengers and two million tons of freight were carried by the Grand Trunk, the Great Western carrying the second largest number. The total earnings of all the railways were—

Passenger traffic. ....	\$6,254,866 74
Freight do. ....	12,211,158 46
Mails and Express. ...	703,994 01
Other sources .. .....	188,064 90
	Total ..... \$19,358,984 11

The cost of operating was—

Maintenance.....	\$3,813,668 27
Working and repairs of engines. ...	4,825,676 19
Working and repairs of cars .. .....	1,588,296 01
Gen'l operating charges	5,575,080 94
	\$15,802,721 41

leaving a net profit of \$3,556,362.70 on the year's operations, about sufficient to pay \$4.67 per cent. on the bonded debt alone, and leaving nothing for other indebtedness. The earnings averaged \$3.753 per mile, and the expenses \$3.064.

The number of accidents on Dominion railroads was 413—109 persons killed and 304 wounded; 5 passengers were killed and 9 wounded—an average of one killed out of every 1,108,963 passengers carried.

The total amount which the Dominion and Local Governments and Municipalities had expended and become liable for up to 30th June, 1876, was \$83,853,364.75, none of which, so far, has returned any direct payment of interest, but the increase in the value of the property of the country from opening it up to settlement and trade has probably been very much greater. The accompanying tables give statistics of the railways so far as they have been returned: