

146. In fourteen years out of the twenty-two that have elapsed since Confederation, there has been a surplus of revenue, and in the remaining eight an excess of expenditure. The total amount of surplus during the period has been \$32,240,898, and of deficit \$16,854,849, being a net excess of revenue over expenditure of \$15,386,049. The revenue raised in 1889 was the largest ever raised, and was \$25,094,942 in excess of that of 1868, the first year after Confederation, being an increase of 83 per cent. After deducting the war expenditure from the expenditure of 1886 (in that year it was charged to Consolidated Fund and subsequently to capital account) it will be seen that the ordinary expenditure was the largest since Confederation, exceeding that of 1868 by \$23,431,743, being an increase of 74 per cent. The revenue therefore as the figures at present stand, has increased in a larger proportion than the expenditure, a fact which, in view of the difficulties and expenses attending the opening up of new country and of the large extent of territory brought under control since Confederation, must be considered as very encouraging.

Surplus
and deficit
of revenue.

Increase
of revenue
and expend-
iture.

147. The following is a detailed comparative statement of the various receipts on account of the Consolidated Fund from all sources in the years 1888 and 1889, showing the increase and decrease in each item :—

Heads of
revenue,
1888 and
1889.

HEADS OF REVENUE—CONSOLIDATED FUND—1888 AND 1889.

HEADS OF REVENUE.	Amounts Received.		Increase.	Decrease.
	1887-88.	1888-89.		
	\$	\$	\$	\$
TAXATION.				
Customs	22,105,926	23,726,784	1,620,858	
Excise	6,071,487	6,886,739	815,252	
Total	28,177,413	30,613,523	2,436,110	