

Increase and decrease.

156. The revenue was \$1,300,614 less than that of the preceding year, while the expenditure showed an increase of \$349,537. The decrease in revenue was as follows—from Customs, \$569,653; from Excise duties, \$703,268, and from various sources, \$27,693. The increase in expenditure will be found to be in small amounts under various heads.

Consolidated Fund, 1868-1891.

157. The following table gives the receipts and payments on account of the Consolidated Fund—that is, the ordinary revenue and expenditure of the country—for the last 24 years, and shows the surplus or deficiency in each year:—

RECEIPTS AND PAYMENTS ON ACCOUNT OF THE CONSOLIDATED FUND (ORDINARY REVENUE AND EXPENDITURE)—1868 TO 1891.

YEAR ENDED 30TH JUNE.	CONSOLIDATED FUND.		Revenue in Excess of Expenditure.	Expenditure in Excess of Revenue.
	Revenue.	Expenditure		
	\$	\$	\$	\$
1868.....	13,687,928	13,486,092	201,836	
1869.....	14,379,174	14,038,084	341,090	
1870.....	15,512,225	14,345,509	1,166,716	
1871.....	19,335,560	15,623,081	3,712,479	
1872.....	20,714,813	17,589,468	3,125,345	
1873.....	20,813,469	19,174,647	1,638,822	
1874.....	24,205,092	23,316,316	888,776	
1875.....	24,648,715	23,713,071	935,644	
1876.....	22,587,587	24,488,372		1,900,785
1877.....	22,059,274	23,519,301		1,460,027
1878.....	22,375,011	23,503,158		1,128,147
1879.....	22,517,382	24,455,381		1,937,999
1880.....	23,307,406	24,850,634		1,543,228
1881.....	29,635,297	25,502,554	4,132,743	
1882.....	33,383,455	27,067,103	6,316,352	
1883.....	35,794,649	28,730,157	7,064,492	
1884.....	31,861,961	31,107,706	754,255	
1885.....	32,797,001	35,037,060		2,240,059
1886.....	33,177,040	39,011,612		5,834,572
1887.....	35,754,993	35,657,680	97,313	
1888.....	35,908,463	36,718,495		810,032
1889.....	38,782,870	36,917,835	1,865,035	
1890.....	39,879,925	35,994,031	3,885,894	
1891.....	38,579,311	36,343,568	2,235,743	

Surplus of revenue.

158. In sixteen years out of the twenty-four 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 \$38,362,535, and of deficit, \$16,854,849, being a net excess of revenue over expenditure of \$21,507,686. The revenue in 1891 was exceeded in the two preceding years, but was \$24,891,383 in excess of that of 1868, the first year after Confedera-