

through the Suez Canal, which was open for the whole year. The number of vessels that went through the Suez Canal in 1891 was 4,207, with a total tonnage of 12,217,986 tons, being an average of 2,904 tons, while the average tonnage of the vessels passing through the Sault Ste. Marie Canal was 862 tons. There is of course no comparison as regards value of freight, that through the Suez Canal being upwards of \$300,000,000 annually; but considering that the Suez Canal will accommodate the largest vessels, and is used more or less by the mercantile marine of the world, some idea can be gathered of the business done through the Sault Ste. Marie Canal and of the importance of providing additional accommodation for it, both from the foregoing figures and also from the following table, which gives a complete statement of the traffic through the canal since its opening in 1855. The proportion of freight tonnage carried by Canadian vessels was : in 1887, 7 per cent; in 1888, 6 per cent; in 1889, 4 per cent; and in 1890, 3½ per cent.