

874. The Burlington Bay Canal, half a mile in length, connects Burlington Bay and Lake Ontario, giving access to the port of Hamilton. There are no locks on this canal. Burlington Bay Canal.

875. St. Peter's Canal, Cape Breton, Nova Scotia, gives access from the Atlantic to the Bras d'Or Lakes. It is 2,400 feet long, and has one tidal lock. The rise and fall of the tide is 4 feet. St. Peter's Canal.

876. The Trent River system, which comprises a series of water stretches extending from Trenton, on the Bay of Quinté, Lake Ontario, to Lake Huron, is only efficient for local use. A scheme for making use of these waters to effect a system of through water communication between Lakes Huron and Ontario was projected many years ago, and construction was commenced in 1837, but afterwards deferred, and up to the present time only certain sections have been made navigable, or fit for the passage of timber. In view, however, of the interest taken in the scheme, it was thought advisable that the matter should be again investigated, and accordingly a commission was appointed to examine into the question, which reported in December, 1890, but the report has not yet been made public. The total distance between the lakes is 235 miles, and about 155 miles of this are available for light draft vessels. Trent River system.

877. The Murray Canal has been built through the Isthmus of Murray, giving connection westward between the Bay of Quinté and Lake Ontario. It has no locks, is $5\frac{1}{6}$ miles in length, and with improvements at either end in the way of dredging and other work, covers a total distance of $9\frac{1}{2}$ miles. It was opened for traffic on 14th April, 1890. Murray Canal.

878. The total amount spent on canals by the Imperial Government previous to Confederation was \$4,173,921, and by the Provincial Governments, \$16,518,323. At the time of Confederation all the systems became the property of the Dominion Government, who have expended the further sum of \$36,522,048, making a total amount spent for construction and enlargement alone of \$57,214,292, the amount expended for repairs not being included in these figures. Government expenditure on canals.

879. The following table is a statement of the number, tonnage and nationality of vessels that passed through the several canals during the season of navigation in each of the years 1886 to 1890, inclusive, and of the number of passengers and tons of freight carried, and tolls received. Traffic through canals, 1886-1890.