

Bearing in mind that our fisheries of the Gulf of St. Lawrence yielded annually \$2,500,000, and nearly \$1,000,000 worth of fish is sent in to our own markets from the United States, it becomes very important that proper means of communication be established in order that our own fish may at all seasons reach our own markets.

Our large mercantile firms now import extensively from Halifax, St. John, Quebec, Montreal, Toronto and Hamilton, and the traffic would increase considerably by the facilities that a railway would afford to the whole district of Gaspé, and the Inter-colonial would thereby find its revenue materially increased.

I have the honor to be, Sir, your most obedient servant.

L. J. RIOPEL.

Sir CHAS. TUPPER, K.C.M.G., Minister Railways and Canals.

EXTRACTS of Census, 1881, for Gaspé and Bonaventure Counties, forming the District of Gaspé. Total area—5,510,000 acres.

Comparative Statement

	Year 1871.	Year 1881.
1. Population	34,652	43,909
2. Land owners	4,695	6,213
3. Acres of land occupied	328,280	479,742
4. " " improved	79,114	108,075
5. " " under crop.....	54,482	79,980
6. " " in pasture	24,041	26,845
7. Number of horses	3,728	4,592
8. Working oxen	2,098	3,254
9. Milch cows.....	7,203	10,049
10. Other horned cattle.	6,240	8,900
11. Sheep	26,977	34,498
12. Swine.....	15,048	16,376
13. Pounds of wool.....	71,329	85,576
14. Butter	313,300	535,268
15. Cheese.....	3,267	3,133
16. Flax and hemp.....	8,445	14,549
17. Yards home-made cloth	139,670	185,958
18. " " linen	29,873	26,565
19. Pounds maple sugar.....	86,900	125,783
20. Bushels of wheat.....	30,860	63,866
21. " barley	70,159	78,884
22. " oats	231,730	281,121
23. " rye	16,532	12,138
24. " peas and beans.....	13,479	8,699
25. " buckwheat	42,454	65,998
26. " corn	337	428
27. " turnips.....	110,597	216,051
28. " potatoes.....	905,884	1,127,023
29. " other roots	3,903	45,196
30. " apples.....	435	573
31. " flax seed	446	761
32. Tons of hay.....	22,741	34,060
33. Pounds of tobacco.....	2,255	8,251
34. " hops	1,083	2,888
35. Value of furs.....	\$7,035	\$12,412
36. Number of cattle killed or sold.....	3,424	3,177
37. " sheep " "	9,038	9,073
38. " swine " "	10,174	12,123
39. " factories, stores, shops	624	4,140
40. Sea-going sailing vessels owned	70	94
41. Tonnage of "	3,765	5,000

L. J. R.