

*The Railways of the Province of Ontario.*

Railways in Ontario.	Length—Mile..	Cost (Dollars).	Cost per mile (Dollars).	Gross receipts (Dollars).	Receipts per mile (Dollars).	Working expenses in per-centage of gross receipts	Remarks.
Grand Trunk .....	485	67,900,000	140,000	4,233,000	6,553	80.4	The cost of the Grand Trunk is estimated at £28,000 per mile on the authority of Sir Hugh Allan's pamphlet.
Buffalo and Lake Huron	161	6,443,000					
Great Western ...	342	30,773,000	90,000				
G. W. leased lines.....	102			5,390,000	12,132	59.7	The blanks in the table apply to new roads not yet introduced in specification into "Poor's Manual."
Canada Southern .....	324	17,000,000	52,000	895,000	6,023	79.8	
Northern.....	140	6,086,000	43,000				
Toronto, Grey, and Bruce	88						
Toronto and Nipissing ..	87			304,000	2,719	56.9	These roads are given, however, in order to show the full mileage in the Province.
Midland ....	109	3,348,000	31,000				
Brockville and Ottawa..	84						
Central .....	28	691,000	24,000	275,000	3,279	65.6	
St. Lawrence and Ottawa	59			32,000	1,137	77.4	
Cobourg Line.....	46			162,000	2,742	71.6	
Whitby Line .....	19						

With the foregoing specification of the railways in Ontario, the comparison suggested may now be made. It is put in the following table, on the faith of the figures of Poor's Manual of 1873-4—that is to say, for the

year ending with June, 1872—the population being estimated to that date; in the case of the American lines, from the census of 1870; in the case of the Canadian lines, from the census of 1871:

Basis of comparison.	Total miles of railway.	Total Population.	Population per mile of railway.	Gross receipts of the railways.	Gross receipts per mile of railway.	Gross receipts per head of population.	Dividends on stocks.
				\$	\$	\$	
Ontario.....	2074	1,647,000	794	11,291,000	5,444	6.85	
Minnesota .....	1616	510,000	268	3,515,000	2,113	6.89	1.60
Iowa .....	2734	1,315,000	360	8,969,000	3,280	6.82	2.06
Wisconsin .....	1779	1,120,000	595	7,832,000	4,224	6.99	2.92
Maine.....	933	630,000	723	4,653,000	4,988	7.38	2.57
New Hampshire .....	627	320,000	395	3,625,000	5,830	11.33	5.70
Vermont .....	568	332,000	467	4,260,000	7,500	12.63	3.91
Michigan.....	1904	1,280,000	672	11,921,000	6,261	9.31	4.85
Indiana.....	3748	1,730,000	443	24,415,000	6,514	14.11	0.50

The table just given goes directly to the question of excessive railway construction in Ontario. It shows that, in proportion to population, that Province has less length of railway than Maine, Michigan, Indiana, only one-half of the length in New Hampshire, and only one-third of the length in Minnesota. Excluding though it does all

the earnings of one-third of her lines—those for which the returns are not given in Poor's Manual—it shows that every inhabitant of Ontario contributed, notwithstanding, as much to railway earnings as every inhabitant of Minnesota, of Iowa, of Wisconsin, and very nearly as much as every inhabitant of the old State of Maine. These points of