

The same rapid increase appears also to have taken place in every railroad into the statistics of which your Committee has had an opportunity of examining.

It is also satisfactory to observe that the dividends have also steadily increased, as is shewn by the following official return.

	1840.	1848.
Providence - - - - -	7 per cent.	7½ per cent.
Boston and Worcester - - - - -	6 "	10 "
Lowell - - - - -	8 "	8 "
Eastern - - - - -	6 "	8 "
Taunton - - - - -	6 "	8 "
New Bedford - - - - -	3 "	8 "
Western - - - - -	0 "	8 "
Norwich - - - - -	0 "	0 "
Boston and Portland - - - - -	5½ "	9½ "
Nahouse - - - - -	7 "	10 "
Charlestown - - - - -	0 "	10 "
Auburn and Rochester		
(nett revenue) - - - - -		15 "
Fitchburg, do. - - - - -		8 "
Fall River, do. - - - - -		7 "

This table has not been selected from any numerous list of comparative failures, but because it was the only list that, in the brief time at their disposal they could obtain.

Your Committee can confidently state, as the result of their inquiries into the railroad system of the United States, that as a general rule, the American Railroads have been of immense advantages to the country through which they run; they rapidly increase the population and commerce, and afford a safe investment and an adequate return for the capital so invested.

Your Committee would also further remark their importance to the large towns forming the termini of such lines, and which are especially benefitted thereby.

Such is the result of your Committee's investigation into the success of national enterprise in the United States. In Great Britain the result is if possible still more satisfactory with respect to the influence of railroads in augmenting business and increasing travel especially, taking into consideration the fact that the population of that country,