

The charges for the transportation of all the freight on the Canals, in 1853 including the tolls paid to the State, averaged *one cent and one mill per ton per mile*.

The charges for the transportation of all freight on the Central Railroad, averaged *three cents and four mills per ton per mile*, and on the New York and Erie averaged *two cents and four mills*. * * *

The total sum paid for transportation on the Canals, in 1853, is ascertained to be about seven millions of dollars, which must be considered as the actual Receipts of the Canals in making a comparison with those of the Railroads.**

If this business had been performed on either of the two Roads in question, (i. e. the New York Central or New York and Erie,) at their present charges, it would have cost the people over Thirteen millions of dollars for its transportation.

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Of the articles of Fur and Poltry, live Stock, Pork in the Hog, Cheese, Butter, Wool, Hides, Peas, Beans, dried Fruit, Cotton, Hemp, Grass and Clover Seed, Hops, domestic Spirits, Leather and Furniture, domestic Woolens and Cottons, and Oysters and Clams, there were transported upon the Canals, for the four years named, Three hundred and eleven thousand four hundred and eighteen tons, and upon the Railroads, One hundred and thirty one thousand eight hundred and seventy one tons—a proportion of 2.36 to 1, while the proportion for the whole tonnage is as 32 to 1.

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Of the articles, Boards and Scantlings, Shingles, Timber, Staves, Wood, Lard, Lard Oil, Tallow, Flour, Wheat, Rice, Corn, Corn Meal, Barley, Oats, other Grain, Bran and Ship Stuffs, Potatoes, Beer, Linseed Oil, Oil Cake, Starch, Agricultural Implements, Iron, Machines, and Salt, there were transported upon the Canals, for the four years named, Nine millions one hundred and seventy two thousand nine hundred and ninety five tons; and upon the Railroads, Eighty four thousand six hundred and fourteen tons—a proportion of 108.4 to 1, while the proportion for the whole tonnage is as 32 to 1.

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Of all other articles named in the Table there were transported by the Canals, Two millions three hundred and fifty seven thousand nine hundred and two tons; and upon the Railroads, One hundred and forty three thousand four hundred and forty four tons. * * *

The whole tonnage of the New York Northern Railroad is six per cent; of the New York Central, is nine per cent; of the New York and Erie, is fourteen per cent; of the Pennsylvania Railroad, is two per cent; and of the Baltimore and Ohio, is seven per cent of the tonnage of the Erie Canal.