

**THE REPORTS:THE PAST AND  
PRESENT STATE OF HER MAJESTY'S  
COLONIAL POSSESSIONS,  
TRANSMITTED WITH THE BLUE  
BOOKS FOR THE YEAR 1861, PART II**

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The Reports: The Past and Present State of Her Majesty's Colonial Possessions, Transmitted with the Blue Books for the Year 1861, Part II by Various

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**VARIOUS**

**THE REPORTS:THE PAST AND  
PRESENT STATE OF HER MAJESTY'S  
COLONIAL POSSESSIONS,  
TRANSMITTED WITH THE BLUE  
BOOKS FOR THE YEAR 1861, PART II**



THE  
R E P O R T S

*Made for the Year 1861 to the Secretary of State having the Department of the Colonies ;  
in continuation of the Reports annually made by the Governors of the British  
Colonies, with a view to exhibit generally*

THE PAST AND PRESENT STATE

OF

HER MAJESTY'S COLONIAL POSSESSIONS.

TRANSMITTED WITH THE BLUE BOOKS  
For the Year 1861.

PART II.

NORTH AMERICAN COLONIES ;  
AFRICAN SETTLEMENTS AND ST. HELENA ;  
AUSTRALIAN COLONIES AND NEW ZEALAND ;  
EASTERN COLONIES ;  
MEDITERRANEAN POSSESSIONS AND IONIAN ISLANDS, &c.

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Presented to both Houses of Parliament by Command of Her Majesty.  
1863.

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FOR HER MAJESTY'S STATIONERY OFFICE.

1863.

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**NORTH AMERICAN COLONIES.**

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CANADA.

No. 1.

## CANADA.

No. 1.

COPY of a DESPATCH from Governor-General Viscount MONCK to his Grace the Duke of NEWCASTLE, K.G.

(No. 126.)

MY LORD DUKE,

I HAVE the honour to transmit herewith the Blue Book of Canada for 1861.

Quebec, August 22, 1862.

I have, &amp;c.

His Grace the Duke of Newcastle, K.G.  
&c. &c. &c.

(Signed) MONCK.

NOVA  
SCOTIA.

No. 2.

## NOVA SCOTIA.

No. 2.

COPY of a DESPATCH from Lieut.-Governor the Earl of MULGRAVE to his Grace the Duke of NEWCASTLE, K.G.

(No. 1.)

MY LORD DUKE,

Government House, Halifax, Nova Scotia,

January 1, 1863.

I HAVE the honour herewith to transmit to your Grace a copy of the Blue Book of this Colony for 1861, bound up with a copy of the census taken in that year.

The comparison between the financial condition of Nova Scotia in 1860 and 1861 is decidedly unfavourable to the latter year, and affords conclusive evidence of the injurious effects of the civil war in the United States upon the commerce of the British North American colonies.

The imports of 1861 show a decrease of 175,668*l.* 8*s.* against those of 1860. The exports have in like manner decreased 169,058*l.*, and when compared with those of 1859, 222,959*l.* 10*s.*

The following table will show the comparative imports and exports from 1858 to 1861 inclusive.

	Imports.		Export.	
	£	s.	£	s.
1861	1,892,645	12	1,154,866	16
1860	1,702,909	16	1,323,906	16
1859	1,620,191	0	1,377,826	0
1858	1,615,118	0	1,264,298	0

A considerable decrease is also observable in the amount of tonnage entered and cleared during 1861; 21,340 tons less being entered inwards, and 36,185 less outwards, than in 1860.

The natural result of such a diminution in the commerce of the Colony was a large decrease of the revenue; and the expenditure of the year having at the same time increased to some extent, the total deficiency amounted to 33,860*l.* 5*s.* 6*d.*

By the assistance of the census, I am enabled to bring to your Grace's notice many evidences of the increasing internal prosperity of the Colony.

A population of 330,857, when compared with the 276,117 returned by the census of 1851, shows an increase of 54,740 in the last ten years; 19.80 per cent., or nearly 7 per cent. more than the increase in Great Britain during the same period, and one that has not been aided by emigration to any material extent.

The land now in cultivation in the Colony is stated to amount to 1,028,032 acres; 188,710 acres more than in 1851. But while productive land has increased in quantity nearly one fourth, the products therefrom, consisting principally of potatoes, turnips, hay, wheat, and oats, have increased about three fourths; from which it may be argued, that the mode of farming is much improved, and a much greater amount of labour and capital than before is expended now upon agriculture.



**STATE OF HER MAJESTY'S COLONIAL POSSESSIONS.**

That live stock has largely increased may be seen by the table annexed.

NOVA  
SCOTIA.

	Horses.	Cows, &c.	Sheep.
1861 - - -	41,927	262,267	332,553
1851 - - -	28,789	243,713	282,180
Increase - - -	13,138	18,554	50,473

The returns under the important heading of " Fisheries " show that this branch of provincial trade is still prosecuted with increasing industry and success.

EMPLOYED IN FISHERIES.

	Vessels.	Boats.	Men.
1861 - - -	900	8,816	14,322
1851 - - -	812	5,161	10,394
Increase - - -	88	3,655	3,928

The business of ship-building, judging from the returns under that head, is the only one which does not appear to be on the increase; 26,049 tons only having been launched in 1860, which, when compared with 57,776 tons launched in 1851, shows the large decrease of 31,726 tons. This diminution may partly arise from capital and labour being diverted into other channels, such as agriculture, or from the scarcity of good timber within easy distance of the shore, but is more probably caused by the fluctuating nature of that branch of trade, as during 1862 shipbuilding has been again prosecuted with greater enterprise than ever.

The reorganization of the militia, and the increase of volunteer force, which has taken place during 1862, will prevent the military statistics of 1861 giving any idea of the local defences of the Colony.

The result of the gold discoveries in this Province, of which this Blue Book only contains the first mention, are now being embodied in the Report of the Gold Commissioner, and will shortly be transmitted to your Grace.

Having thus briefly drawn attention to the leading features of the Blue Book of 1861, it affords me great satisfaction to be able to assure your Grace that the financial condition of the Province at present contrasts most favourably with 1861.

I am unable to state the exact increase which has taken place, in consequence of the returns from the outports for the last quarter not having as yet been received. In Halifax alone, however, the customs receipts have exceeded those of last year by \$210,000 (42,500*l.*); and I am sure it will be gratifying to your Grace to learn that on the 31st December (1862), the Receiver General was enabled, after meeting all the ordinary services of the year, to pay off in full the debt of 25,000*l.*, incurred to meet the deficiency of 1861, thus liquidating in one year a debt which it was calculated would require three years to pay off; and I trust that the Government will be enabled, on the meeting of the legislature, to recommend the remission of the extra 2½ per cent. which was added to the tariff during last session.

I have, &c.

His Grace the Duke of Newcastle, K.G.  
&c.      &c.      &c.

(Signed) MULGRAVE.

**NEW BRUNSWICK.**

NEW  
BRUNSWICK.  
No. 3.

No. 3.

Copy of a DESPATCH from Lieut.-Governor the Honourable ARTHUR H. GORDON to his Grace the Duke of NEWCASTLE, K.G.

(No. 118.)  
MY LORD DUKE,

Fredericton, New Brunswick,  
December 31, 1862.

I HAVE the honour to transmit herewith the Provincial Blue Book for 1861.

2. As I only arrived in New Brunswick towards the close of the year, your Grace will not expect from me any very detailed or minute account of the events by which it was marked.

3. The war in the United States, which broke out early in the spring, exercised a most pernicious effect on this Province, and caused an almost total stagnation in every department of its commerce. Your Grace will therefore not be surprised to learn that

NEW  
BRUNSWICK.

the revenue fell considerably short of that of the previous year; the figures being 178,663*l.* 14*s.* 10*d.* in the year 1860, and 145,593*l.* 17*s.* 1*d.* in 1861.

4. During the summer, a dissolution of the Provincial Parliament took place; the period of four years for which the Parliament is here elected having nearly expired. The elections were conducted quietly, without excitement, or much apparent interest on the part of the people at large. For the first time in this Province vote by ballot was adopted at the elections. The results do not appear to have altogether satisfied the more sanguine supporters of that measure.

5. Before the close of the year the loyal feelings of the Province were highly excited by the anticipated rupture between Great Britain and the United States; and it is right that I should bear testimony to the cheerfulness with which all classes of the community were prepared, had the need arisen, to make any sacrifice to uphold the national honour, and maintain that connexion with the mother country which is so justly dear to them.

I have, &amp;c.

His Grace the Duke of Newcastle, K.G. (Signed) ARTHUR H. GORDON.  
&c.      &c.      &c.

PRINCE  
EDWARD  
ISLAND.  
No. 4.

## PRINCE EDWARD ISLAND.

No. 4.

COPY of a DESPATCH from Lieut.-Governor DUNDAS to his Grace the  
Duke of NEWCASTLE, K.G.

(No. 77.)

MY LORD DUKE,

Government House, November 10, 1862.

I HAVE the honour to transmit herewith duplicate copies of the Blue Book for the year 1861.

2. I am not surprised at observing how few and unimportant the changes are in the statistical information which these annual returns contain, when I consider how little room there is for enterprise in a Colony dependent principally upon the cultivation of land for its advancement.

3. The war in the North American Union caused considerable depression in every branch of trade throughout the year. It affected seriously the fisheries on the coasts of this Island, which had previously been carried on chiefly by American enterprise and capital.

4. Under several heads the statements in the Blue Book for 1861 are more accurate and more detailed than those of the preceding years.

5. I allude to those which have been compiled from the census taken during the year. These comprise not only returns of the population, but also various statistics concerning the land, its cultivation and produce, and the tenures under which it is held.

6. I shall now direct your Grace's attention to various details under their several heads,

*Finance.*

7. The revenue of the Colony for the year, 28,006*l.* 6*s.* 2*d.*, was principally derived from impost duties, which yielded 18,655*l.* 17*s.* 5½*d.* The remaining revenue is composed of assessments on land, sales of public lands, and various fees. There are no direct taxes except those on land.

8. The revenue for the year falls short of that of the preceding twelvemonth by 736*l.* 2*s.* 9½*d.* This decrease arises from a corresponding one in the impost duties.

9. The expenditure for the year is 32,799*l.* 17*s.* 7*d.*,—8,396*l.* 10*s.* 11*d.* less than that of 1860; but in 1860 there is an item of 8,612*l.*, which was applied to the purchase of the estates of the Earl of Selkirk and Mr. Stanfield, and cannot be considered as ordinary expenditure.

10. The heaviest item occurs under the head of "Education." It amounts to 10,502*l.* 8*s.* 5½*d.*, or more than one third of the revenue, and is, moreover, an expenditure ever increasing with the population.

11. It is clear that, sooner or later, some measure must be introduced either to change the free system of education, which entails a charge so disproportionate to the resources of the Colony, or an additional revenue must be raised to meet it.

12. The system which at present obtains in the House of Assembly respecting the initiation of money votes appears to me to be objectionable. It is competent for any member to propose a grant for any purpose. I cannot but think that it would be more satisfactory were the legislature to yield to the executive the initiation of all money votes, and thus place the whole expenditure of the Colony directly within the responsibility of the Government.

13. The expenditure exceeds the revenue by 4,793*l.* 11*s.* 5*d.*, and increases the public debt by that amount. This debt was, on the 31st day of January 1862, 46,213*l.* 10*s.* 3*d.* The assets to meet it were, the sum of 21,948*l.* 19*s.* 2*d.* due as instalments on sales of land, bearing interest at 5 per cent., and 51,776 acres of land unsold.

PRINCE  
EDWARD  
ISLAND.

*General Commerce.*

14. The value of the imports for the year was 209,935*l.* 15*s.* 11*d.*; that of exports, 163,114*l.* 7*s.* 10*d.* In each of these there appears a decrease of 20,118*l.* 4*s.* 1*d.* in the value of commodities imported, and 38,319*l.* 15*s.* 6*d.* in that of those exported.

15. The imports in these returns exceed the exports in value by 46,821*l.* 8*s.* 1*d.*; but 48 vessels, measuring 8,095 tons, built in the Island, and transferred to other ports, are not taken into account. The value of these vessels, at an average of 5*l.* 10*s.* a ton, nearly equalizes the value of imports and exports.

16. The principal decrease in trade has been in that with the United States of America, viz., 13,420*l.* 4*s.* 0*d.* in value of imports, and 31,630*l.* 9*s.* 8½*d.* in that of exports.

17. Shipping trade shows a decrease corresponding with that in the imports and exports.

*Population.*

18. The population of the Island by the census returns of 1861 is 80,857; an increase of 9,361 since the year 1855, or 13 per cent. in six years. I have the honour to enclose, marked B, a return, which in a concise tabular statement exhausts all the information on this subject.

Encl. 1.

*Agriculture.*

19. The number of acres of land under cultivation has increased since 1855 from 322,298 to 368,127 acres. There still remain nearly 1,000,000 acres in a wilderness state, of which but little is incapable of cultivation. Enclosure C. gives a summary of returns containing the number of persons holding land, the tenure on which they hold it, the terms of years for which land is leased, and the rents reserved. It also gives the quantities of the various crops and manufactures, and contrasts each of these returns with those of the previous census.

Encl. 2.

*Grants of Land.*

20. I herein also enclose, marked D, a summary of the accounts of the several estates which are in the hands of the Local Government. This summary is taken from the returns of the Commissioner of Public Lands, and all sums of money in it are in currency money, which is of one third less value than sterling.

Encl. 3.

21. I have much satisfaction in observing that, after meeting all the ordinary expenditure on these estates, and making an allowance for loss of land tax and the interest on debentures, there is a balance for the year of 1,338*l.* 18*s.* 7*d.* sterling in favour of the receipts.

*Crime.*

22. I have great satisfaction in reporting that crimes of an aggravated character are scarcely known in this Colony, and also that minor offences have diminished with an increasing population.

23. It appears from returns extracted from the records of the Supreme Court, that only four criminal offences were tried in this Island in 1861, with a population of 80,857; while in 1855, with a population of 71,496, there were 24 such offences. It must be borne in mind, too, that as there are no Courts of Quarter Sessions in this Island, all the offences tried before these courts in England fall here within the jurisdiction of the Supreme Court, as well as the higher description of criminal offences.

*Volunteer Force.*

24. I cannot conclude this Report without referring to the satisfactory advancement made by the volunteer force in 1861, during which year the enrolment of men extended to 1,500.

25. It affords me much pleasure to be able to inform your Grace that the attention to drill, the proficiency attained by the volunteers in the use of the rifle, and the zeal generally displayed, reflect the highest credit upon them. At the same time it is due to the leading gentlemen of the Colony to acknowledge the continued and hearty support with which they have at all times seconded my efforts in the organization of the volunteers.

I have, &c.

(Signed) GEORGE DUNDAS,  
Lieutenant Governor.

His Grace the Duke of Newcastle, K.G.  
&c. &c. &c.