RESULTS OF WORKING.

The following is a summary of results of working, for year ending the 31st March, 1910, as compared with 1909:—

1)				Year ended 31st March.	
Particulars.				1909.	1910.
Total miles open for traffic	• • •		•••	2,682	2,717
Average miles open for year	•••	•••	•••	2,556	2,704
Capital cost of opened and unoper	ned lines			£29,052,432	£30,321,191
Capital cost of open lines		•••	•••	£27,762,592	£28,513,476
Capital cost per mile of open lines	s			£10,351	£10,494
Gross earnings	• • •		•••	£2,929,526	£3,249,790
Working-expenses		•••	i	£2,114,815	£2,169,474
NET PROFIT ON WOR	KING	•••	•••	£814,711	£1,080,316
PERCENTAGE OF PRO INVESTED	OFIT T	O CAP	[TAL	3.13	3.80
PERCENTAGE OF WO	RKING	-EXPE	NSES	72:19	66.76
Earnings per average mile open		•••	•••	£1,148	£1,203
Working-expenses per average mi	le open	•••]	£828	£803
NET EARNINGS PER OPEN	AVEF	RAGE N	ILE	£320	£400
Earnings per train-mile		, , , , , , , , , , , , , , , , , , , 	i i	d. 94·00	d. 98:75
Working-expenses per train-mile	•••	•••	•••	67.89	65.84
NET EARNINGS PER	TRAIN	MILE		26 ·11	32.91
Passengers, ordinary				10,457,144	11,141,149
Season tickets	•••			192,547	199,371
Goods tonnage				4,871,874	5,223,414
Live-stock tonnage				263,534	266,604
Frain-mileage		•••		7,458,236	7,889,166
Locomotives	•••	•••		452	465
Passenger-cars	•••			1,116	1,140
Wagons and brake-vans				16,476	17,220

VISIT TO AUSTRALIA.

In accordance with the intimation given to honourable members last session, I took the opportunity during the recess of visiting Australia for the purpose of meeting and conferring with the Railway Commissioners of the various States in reference to the methods of railway working in Australia. I had the pleasure of