

SUBSIDIES TO STEAMERS.

\$10,000 was paid to the Quebec and Gulf Ports S. S. Co. for keeping up a line of steamers to the lower ports for passengers and freight. The first boat started from Quebec on May 15th and the last arrived there on 21st Nov.

SHIPPING MASTERS AND SHIPPING OF SEAMEN.

At the four principal ports of the Dominion were shipped in 1875:-

Halifax	2,885	seamen
St. John	4,317	do
(18 mos.) Quebec.....	3,511	do
Montreal	688	do

Total 11,401

For which a fee of 50 cents each was paid to the shipping master of the port. There were discharged:-

Halifax	2,049	seamen
St. John	1,574	do
Quebec	1,191	do
Montreal	400	do

Total 5,374

For which a fee of 80 cents each was paid. The fees received at these ports amounted to \$7,412

PILOTAGE AUTHORITIES—TRINITY HOUSE, QUEBEC.

The powers of this corporation are now transferred to the Harbour Commissioners, Quebec. On the 31st December, 1875, there were on the active list 195 pilots and 54 apprentices. Three were in charge of steamers, 2 of light ships, and 18 were old pilots licensed for a year. The Decayed Pilot Fund had a balance to its credit of over \$80,000, and the number of pilots on the list was 49. The pensions are generally about \$36 a year. Twelve pilots were also temporarily relieved. Ninety-six widows received pensions of from \$40 to \$80, and 28 children from \$10 to \$45. The total receipts amounted to \$35,800, and the expenditure to a trifle more. The total pilotage receipts for the year were \$128,168. The expenditure by the Corporation of Pilots was \$20,914, and the dividend to each pilot \$563.

HARBOUR COMMISSIONERS.

The reports of the Harbour Commissioners of Quebec, Montreal, Toronto and Pictou show a decided falling off in the business of the ports. At Toronto, there were 84 fewer vessels visited the port. At Montreal the decrease was 89 steaming and 677 inland vessels. The figures for Quebec and Pictou are not given. The total revenue received at the ports during 1875 was:

Toronto.....	\$ 11,728
Montreal.....	547,428
Quebec.....	67,458
Pictou.....	2,044

Total.....\$628,658

The expenditure for dredging and other works during the same year was:

Toronto	\$ 25,871
Montreal	780,000
Quebec.....	64,999
Pictou	2,415

Total.....\$873,285

The operations in the Montreal Harbour were on a more extensive scale than in any former season, and nearly \$150,000 were expended in deepening the ship channel to Quebec.

Harbour Masters have been appointed to all the more important ports, and certain fees are collected twice a year from all vessels entering such ports.

THE MERCHANT SHIPPING

of the Dominion was in a depressed state during the year in common with every other branch of commerce. There was, however, an increase in the tonnage registered, of 47,203 tons. On the 31st December, 1874, there were on the register books 6,540 vessels, measuring 1,153,763 tons. On 31st December, 1875, 6,922 vessels measuring 1,205,585 tons. The total value of the registered tonnage on 31st December, 1875, is estimated at \$38,100,960. Of the vessels registered there belonged to

New Brunswick.....	1,133
Nova Scotia.....	2,793
Prince Edward Island.....	836
Quebec.....	1,821
Ontario.....	326
British Columbia.....	40
Manitoba.....	3

Total.....6,922

The number of new vessels registered in 1875 was 480, measuring 151,012 tons, of which there were from

Prince Edward Island.....	88
Nova Scotia.....	177
New Brunswick.....	65
Quebec.....	102
Ontario.....	58

SAVING LIFE, &c.

During the year 1875, 17 testimonials and money rewards were presented by the Government of Canada for humane exertions in saving life from Canadian vessels. For this service and purchasing life boats there was expended during the fiscal year \$3,583. Life canoes and sheds were provided at Crane Island, L'Islet, Murray Bay, Trois Pistoles, Ste. Anne, River Ouelis and Kamouraska in the Lower St. Lawrence, and building and repairs done at Port Hope and Nottawasaga, Ontario.

There were employed in the service of the different branches of the Department of Marine and Fisheries during 1875, besides the staff at Ottawa, 1,511 persons, not including 52 Registrars of Shipping and 60 Measurers and Surveyors of Shipping. Of these, 523 belonged to the Fisheries Branch of the service, the remaining 988 to that of the Marine. The staff of the Department at Ottawa numbers 20 besides the Minister.