

with. When finished there will be a depth of 2½ feet at lowest water. These works are carried on under the direction of the Montreal Harbour Commissioners. The value of the dredging fleet employed is estimated at nearly \$600,000. On Lake St. Louis, above Montreal, the shoals were removed from the mouth of the river Chateauguay. In the Detroit River much of the Lime Kiln shoal was removed and a depth of 14½ feet at lowest water obtained. A tunnel under this river near Amherstburg is in contemplation. The engineer in charge has reported favorably as to its possibility, and has furnished designs and estimates. On Lake St. Clair a channel, on the east branch of River Sydenham, 50 feet wide and 10 feet deep has been obtained, and a survey of the north branch been ordered. On the St. John River, operations were confined chiefly to the Meductic Falls, the most difficult and dangerous point between Fredericton and Woodstock, and much improvement was effected. A large number of snags were removed from the river below Fredericton. The expenditure on these navigable rivers in the year was, \$215,905.

HARBOURS AND PIERS.

Repairs and improvements were made to 10 piers below Quebec on the River St. Lawrence, work continued in the harbours of Kingston, Napanee, Trenton, Cobourg, Port Hope, Port Darlington, Oshawa, Toronto and Oakville, on Lake Ontario; improvements made at Port Burwell and Port Stanley, and surveys of the harbours of Eagle and Morpeth, on Lake Erie; the works at Bayfield, Goderich, Kincardine and Chantry's Island on Lake Huron continued; the waters of Parry Sound on Georgian Bay surveyed; arrangements made for improving the navigation of River St. Mary at the Neebish Rapids; the Kaministiquia River and its entrance at Thunder Bay surveyed with the view of forming a channel 50 feet wide and 13 feet deep to the Pacific Railway terminus. Breakwaters are being constructed at St. John, Shippegan, Grande Anse, Campo Bello, in N. B., and dredging done in several harbours. Improvements were made at some 20 of the Nova Scotian harbours, and work done at Charlottetown, Crapaud, Colville Bay, Tignish and New London, P. E. Island; the S. W. Miramichi River has been improved to admit steamers at low water, and several harbours in the Maritime Provinces surveyed.

The total expenditure for harbours and piers during the fiscal year was:

In Ontario.....	\$279,517
In Quebec.....	56,331
In New Brunswick.....	98,905
In Nova Scotia.....	150,846
In P. E. Island.....	26,061
And for dredging.....	93,303
And for Dredge Vessels.....	26,545

Total..... \$729,508

SLIDES AND BOOMS.

The slides to effect the passage of lumber where impediments exist are on the Saguenay, St. Maurice, Ottawa, Trent and

their tributaries. The booms form bays, at the entrance and discharge of the slides, to retain the timber. The works on the Saguenay cover a distance of about six miles on La Petite Décharge, one of the two affluents of Lake St. John. There are six works on the St. Maurice besides the boom at its mouth, and one on the Vermillon, one of its principal tributaries. On the Ottawa and its tributaries there are 73 stations, the furthest being nearly 400 miles from St. Ann's Lock. On the Saguenay, St. Maurice and Trent Rivers, the expenditure for the maintenance of the slides and booms exceeds the receipts; but the reverse is the case with the works on the Ottawa and its tributaries.

The expenditure on the Saguenay

for the last four years was.....	\$12,411 88
On the St. Maurice.....	100,746 18
On the Trent.....	3,192 04

Total..... \$114,650 10

Besides this amount, there has been expended for construction \$108,030.68 on the St. Maurice, and 4,622.25 on the Trent, making a grant total of expenditure in three years of \$27,333.13, while the receipts have been only \$61,593.48 on the Saguenay and St. Maurice; on the Trent, none at all. On the Ottawa and branches the revenue in the same time was \$417,076.07, and the expenditure \$49,125.79 for repairs and maintenance, and for construction \$399,526.12. Total expenditure \$908,651.81. The total expenditure for slides and booms during the fiscal year 1875-76, was \$114,179.32, and the receipts \$99,764.73.

PUBLIC BUILDINGS.

Besides the usual repairs to the Houses of Parliament and Departmental Buildings, the Library has been completed, the old Library fitted up for the use of the Supreme Court, and the new building on the West Block proceeded with. The area of this is 1,790 feet, having 10 rooms in the basement and 53 on three upper floors.

The Examining Warehouses and Custom House at Toronto are finished and occupied, a new building for Post-office, Customs and Inland Revenue Offices being erected at Guelph; a portion of the extension of the Military College at Kingston proceeded with; an Examining Warehouse at Montreal built, and a large amount of work done on the fortifications at Quebec and Levis; a Marine Hospital constructed at Sydney, Cape Breton; the Penitentiary at Winnipeg and the Government Building completed, and also the Penitentiary at Westminster, B. C.

The expenditure on Dominion Public Buildings during the year was \$1,360,302, of which \$152,548 was for Parliament and Departmental Buildings and Rideau Hall.

BRITISH COLUMBIA TELEGRAPH.

This telegraph is in operation from Victoria to Saanich—15 miles—and from Saanich to Swinomish, Washington Territory, U.S.—60 miles—including 5 submerged cables, whose total length is 16½ miles, and weight about 5,000 lbs. the telegraph