

factory a result. The figures for 1885 may be slightly altered when the full returns for the year come in.

453. The great loss of life in 1873 was occasioned by the wreck of the White Star steamship "Atlantic", at Marr's Head, N. S., on 1st April in that year, when 545 persons were drowned. On the 5th November in the same year, the steamer "Bavarian" was burned on Lake Ontario and 20 lives lost. In 1881 the steamer "Victoria" upset on the Thames river, near London, Ont., and 182 lives were lost.

454. The value and importance as well as the efficiency of the Meteorological Service is continually increasing. Out of 830 warnings issued last year, 741 were verified, being 89 per cent. It is not possible, of course, to form any correct estimate of the number of disasters and casualties that are prevented by these warnings, but there can be no doubt that it is large. There are now 29 signal stations in connection with this service in the River and Gulf of St. Lawrence, all of which have been established since 1879.

455. The following table shows that the number of warnings verified in 1885 formed a larger percentage of the total issued, than in any previous year,

Year.	No. Issued.	No. Verified.	Percentage Verified.
1877.	743	510	68·6
1878.	860	673	78·3
1879.	712	591	83·0
1880.	889	736	82·8
1881.	854	727	85·1
1882.	841	658	78·2
1883.	1,085	858	79·1
1884.	798	663	83·2
1885.	830	741	89·3

456. Out of a total number of 7,612 warnings issued, 6,157, or 80·80 per cent. were verified, being a yearly average of warnings verified of 80·94 per cent.

457. There were also 7,129 weather predictions issued during the year, 79·7 per cent. of which were fully, and 92·7 per cent. fully and partly verified.