

WINTER SEASON.

YEAR.	Average Passage to Liverpool.			Number of Pas-sengers.	Barrel Bulk.	Average Passage to Portland.			Number of Pas-sengers.	Tons of Freight.
	d.	h.	m.			d.	h.	m.		
1867-68	10	12	44	1,026	169,375	12	12	0	4,399	16,095
1887-88	8	22	47	1,533 *	To Halifax. 9 1 12			6,986	57,366

SUMMER SEASON.

						To Quebec.				
1868	9	20	34	5,044	241,877	10	15	57	14,073	28,398
1888	8	10	0	5,006	649,978	8	16	5	14,687	57,387

* The bulk of cargo was loaded at Portland and Baltimore.

Fastest passages.

281. The fastest passage from Quebec to Liverpool in 1868 was made in 8 days 14 hours 15 minutes and in 1888 in 7 days 19 hours 47 minutes. In the latter year the passage from Liverpool to Quebec was made in 7 days 13 hours 5 minutes, but the average of the eastward voyages was the highest during the season.

Number of letters sent in principal countries.

282. The following table gives the numbers and number per head of letters and post cards sent in the principal countries of the world. The figures have been taken partly from official sources and partly from the Statesman's Year Book, and the calculations have been made in this office. Attention is again called to the extraordinary quantity of mail matter sent in the Australasian Colonies. The Australasian trade is undoubtedly very large in proportion to population, and the correspondence may be expected to be accordingly large, but it does not seem likely that it should be so much larger than, and out of all proportion to that of any other civilized country and the high figures are probably caused by some defect in the system of enumeration, by which duplication occurs, or it may be by a more perfect