

ing to wrecks, &c., &c., besides the steamer "Sir James Douglas," which discharges the duties of this Department on the Pacific coast. The total cost of maintaining these vessels during 1889 was \$126,629.

477. The new steel steamer "Stanley," built expressly for the winter service between Prince Edward Island and the mainland, kept up communication, with the exception of two short intervals, during the whole winter of 1888-89, and the service has never been so successfully conducted before.

Communi-  
cation with  
Prince  
Edward  
Island.

478. A police force was established for a number of years at the harbours of Montreal and Quebec, for the purpose of keeping order and restraining crimping, to meet the expenditure for which a tax of 3 cents per ton was levied on all vessels at either port, paid once a year by vessels under 100 tons and twice a year by vessels over that amount. The force in 1889 consisted of 52 men, 21 at Quebec and 31 at Montreal. The number of arrests made was 600, being considerably less than in the preceding year. There was an excess of expenditure over receipts of \$11,959, and during the past 20 years the total expenditure has exceeded the total receipts by \$208,553.

Harbour  
police.

479. The Montreal Board of Trade having, in the interest of trade, urged the abolition of the dues in connection with the above, it was decided that the Harbour Police Force should no longer be maintained, and it was accordingly permanently disbanded on 30th November, 1889. The force at Quebec is still to be maintained, but in a reduced condition.

Abolition  
of Harbour  
Police at  
Montreal.

480. In order to provide for the treatment of sick and distressed mariners, all vessels over 100 tons register are required to pay a duty of 2 cents per ton three times a year, vessels under 100 tons only paying once in the same period; fishing vessels are also now entitled to the same benefits as other vessels, provided the dues are paid before leaving on a fishing voyage. Any vessel not registered in Canada and employed exclusively in fishing is exempt from the payment of this duty. These provisions do not apply to Ontario, but a parliamentary

Provision  
for sick  
and dis-  
tressed  
mariners.