

the improvement of the Atlantic Mail Service, and will also subsidize the line from British Columbia, so that a fast line of travel may be established in connection with the Canadian Pacific Railway between Great Britain, the East and the Australasian Colonies. Negotiations have been in progress for some time with reference to the Atlantic fast service, but no satisfactory agreement has yet been come to with any company.

339. The "Empress of India," the first of the steamers specially built for the Canadian Pacific Railway Company for the Pacific service, left Liverpool on 7th February, 1891 and arrived at Vancouver on the 28th of April, having made the passage from Yokohama to Vancouver in 10 days, 14 hours and 36 minutes—the fastest time on record by 2 days. The passengers by this boat left Vancouver at 6.30 p.m. on the 28th April and arrived at Montreal at 6 p.m. on the 2nd May, having crossed the continent in 3 days, 17 hours also the quickest time on record. Liverpool and Yokohama have thus been brought within 21 days of one another, the usual time by the Suez Canal having been 6 weeks.

New fast  
Pacific  
service.

340. The following particulars of the passages in 1867-68 and in 1889-90 will be interesting for comparison:—

Comparison of pas-  
sages.  
1868-1890.

## WINTER SEASON.

YEAR.	Average Passage to Liverpool.			Number of Passengers.	Barrel Bulk.	Average Passage to Portland.			Number of Passengers.	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		
1889-90 ....	8	21	53	2,290	*	To Halifax.		11	0	50	5,404	47,089

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