

and repairs. The lighthouse is indispensable to the safety of all vessels navigating the North Atlantic to and from Canada, and the transfer has relieved the Dominion of dues which amounted to about \$1,200 annually.

511. The Department has 8 steamers, the property of the Government, under its control, for the purpose of supplying the different lights, laying down and taking up buoys, attending to wrecks, &c., &c., besides the small steam launch "Dolphin" employed at Quebec in connection with the river police force. A new steamer for the British Columbia service is now being built on the Clyde. The total cost of maintaining these vessels during 1890 was \$114,959.

Government steamers.

512. The new steel steamer "Stanley," built expressly for the winter service between Prince Edward Island and the main land, kept up communication, with scarcely an exception, during the whole winter of 1889-90, and the service has never been so successfully conducted before.

Communication with Prince Edward Island.

513. 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 Montreal Board of Trade, however, having, in the interest of trade, on several occasions urged the abolition of 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, and in 1890 consisted of 20 men. The number of arrests made was 73. There was an excess of receipts over expenditure of \$1,632, but during the past 21 years the total expenditure has exceeded the total receipts by \$214,514.

Harbour Police.