

Provision
for sick
and dis-
tressed
mariners.

514. 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 grant of \$500 is made to each of the General Hospitals at Kingston and St. Catharines for the care of seamen. At Montreal sick seamen are cared for at the General and Notre Dame Hospitals, at Quebec at the Marine and Immigrant Hospital, and Marine Hospitals are established at St. John, St. Andrews, Miramichi, Richibucto, Bathurst and Sackville, in New Brunswick, and at Yarmouth, Pictou, Sydney, Lunenburg and Point Tupper, in Nova Scotia. Seamen are also cared for at the Provincial and City Hospital, Halifax, and the Charlottetown Hospital, Prince Edward Island. The total amount received from dues in 1890 was \$47,882, being an increase of \$8,576 as compared with 1889. The total expenditure was \$41,729, being \$6,153 less than the receipts. The total excess of expenditure over receipts during the past twenty-two years has been \$15,345. The Marine and Immigrant Hospital, Quebec, was closed on 31st December, 1890, the Government having found the building to be too large and expensive to maintain, but sick mariners are now cared for at the Jeffery Hale and Hotel Dieu Hospitals.

Steamers
and
Steamboat
Inspection
Fund.

515. The total number of steamboats in the Dominion was 1,103, with a gross tonnage of 195,419 tons; 80 were added to the number during the past year, with a gross tonnage of 12,207 tons. The expenditure on account of the Steamboat Inspection Fund during the last 21 years has exceeded the receipts by \$24,225. During the year 1890 the receipts