COMPARATIVE STATEMENT OF WRECKS AND CASUALTIES, 1870 TO 1890.

YEAR ENDED 31ST DECEMBER.	Casual- ties.	Tonnage.	Lives Lost.	Damage.
				8
1870	335	82,808	210	901,000
1871	274	81,035	81	2,100,000
1872	290	99,109	237	2,507,338
1873	350	99,523	*813	2.844,133
1874	308	106,682	109	2,029,965
1875	286	99,427	78	2,468,521
1876	452	153,368	404	2,942,955
1877	468	177,896	153	3,952,582
1878	414	161,760	187	3,445,875
1879	533	198,364	339	4,119,233
1880	445	179,993	217	3,820,652
1881	440	210,719	399	4,992,423
1882	451	193,655	271	3,138,423
1883	366	158,826	259	2,029,752
1884	324	119,741	253	2,965,321
1885	346	144,726	198	2,753,667
1886	377	150,277	54	1,950,799
1887	335	149,395	91	1,662,688
1888	319	105,060	52	1,126,124
1889—11 months ended 30th Nov	268	110,716	163	1,554,319
1890 do 31st Oct	242	78,343	64	1,194,516
Total	7,623	2,861,423	4,632	54,500,286

* 545 persons were lost by the wreck of the White Star SS. "Atlantic."

Reduction in number of casualties.

520. In view of the largely increased and increasing efficiency of the Marine Protective Service it would be disheartening if the figures in the above table did not show some reduction in latter years over those earlier in the period, and it is pleasant to note that the figures of late years are markedly smaller than they used to be, while it must be remembered that the volume of shipping is constantly on the increase.

Meteorological Service.

521. Particulars of the operations of the Meteorological Service, which have such an intimate connection with the welfare of our sailors and our ships, are given on pp. 18 and 19.

Expenditure of Marine and 1890.

522. The following is a general summary of the expenditure of this Department during the years ended 30th June, 1889 ment, 1889 and 1890. The expenditure in 1889 amounted to \$1,023,801; there was, therefore, a decrease of \$216,383.