

on the 30th November, 1889. The force at Quebec was still maintained, but in a reduced condition, and in 1891 consisted of 18 men. The number of arrests made was 29. There was an excess of receipts over expenditure of \$349, but during the past 22 years the total expenditure has exceeded the total receipts by \$214,739. There is a general feeling among steamboat owners and agents of vessels trading to the St. Lawrence, that this force should be abolished altogether, and a Bill to that effect is now before the Dominion Parliament.

528. 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; at Yarmouth, Pictou, Sydney, Lunenburg and Point Tupper, in Nova Scotia, and at Victoria, in British Columbia. Seamen are also cared for at the Provincial and City Hospital, Halifax, and the Prince Edward Island and Charlottetown hospitals, Prince Edward Island. The total amount received from dues in 1891 was \$43,831, being a decrease of \$4,051 as compared with 1890. The total expenditure was \$35,155, being \$8,676 less than the receipts. The total excess of expenditure over receipts during the past twenty-three years has been \$6,690. 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. The hospital property has since been sold to the asylum of the Good Shepherds of Quebec.

Provision  
for sick  
and dis-  
tressed  
mariners.

529. The total number of steamboats in the Dominion was 1,433, with a gross tonnage of 221,679 tons; 86 were added to the number during the past year, with a gross tonnage of 7,583 tons. The expenditure on account of the steamboat inspection fund during the last 22 years has exceeded the receipts by \$24,764. During the year 1891 the receipts amounted to \$21,645 and the expenditure to \$22,184, being an excess of expenditure of \$539.

Steamers  
and  
steamboat  
inspection  
fund.

530. Since the 16th September, 1871, when the Act came into operation, 1,791 candidates have passed and obtained masters' certificates, and 1,204 certificates as mates; of certificates of service, 947 have been issued for masters and 380 for mates. The receipts from

Masters'  
and mates'  
certificates