

1088. The first ocean-going steamer arrived at Montreal in 1853, in which year four arrived, of a total tonnage of 1,951 tons, and in the same year 248 ocean-going sailing vessels arrived, of a tonnage of 57,752 tons. In the next year, 1854, six steamers of 5,545 tons aggregate, 252 ocean-going sailing vessels of 65,365 tons, and 4,251 inland vessels of 323,578 tons arrived at the port, making an aggregate tonnage of 394,488 tons, and the average tonnage of sea-going vessels 274 tons. In 1892, 38 years after, the total tonnage that arrived in Montreal was 2,086,307 tons, of which 1,036,707 tons belonged to sea-going vessels, 658 of which were steamers and 77 sailing vessels, the average tonnage of each sea-going vessel having increased to 1,410 tons. In 1880, 354 steamers, 42 ships and 143 barques, sea-going vessels, arrived at Montreal. In 1892 the numbers respectively were 658, 8 and 21. The number of vessels that arrived at Montreal from the Maritime Provinces in 1881 was 212, with a tonnage of 99,378. In 1892 the number of vessels was 331 and the tonnage 280,958. The following gives the total number of sea-going vessels which arrived at the port of Montreal during the calendar year 1893 :—

	Number.	Tonnage.
Total steamers.....	804	1,151,777
“ sailing vessels.....	67	23,219
Total ocean-going... ..	871	1,174,996

The total number of arrivals from the Maritime Provinces for the same period was 368 vessels, with a tonnage of 326,934 tons ; of these 333 were steamers with a tonnage of 324,188 tons, and 35 were sailing vessels with a tonnage of 2,746 tons.

1089. The coasting trade of Canada is regulated by the Act chap. 83, ~~Consolidated~~ Statutes of Canada, which provides that no goods or passengers can be carried by water from one port in Canada to another except in British ships. This provision, however, may be declared by the Governor General in Council not to be applicable to the vessels of any country that allows British vessels to participate in its coasting trade on the same footing as its own national vessels. By different Orders in Council, the ships of the following countries have been admitted to the coasting trade of Canada, viz., Italy, Germany, the Netherlands, Sweden and Norway, Austria-Hungary, Denmark, Belgium and the Argentine Republic.