

1115. If registered tonnage alone is strictly taken Canada will take fourth place in the above table and the United States the fifth place, but as Canadian vessels engaged in the lake and river trade are on the registry books of this country, while those belonging to the United States, and engaged in the same trade, are only either licensed or enrolled, the latter, for the purposes of comparison, have been included in registered tonnage. The United States mercantile marine has declined very much of late years, and the registered tonnage proper was in 1895 only 822,347 tons. In 1856, 75·2 per cent of the foreign trade of the country was carried in United States bottoms, while in 1895 the proportion was only 11·7 per cent; the value carried having increased in the meantime from \$641,604,000 to \$1,456,403,388.

The sea-going shipping of the world is given by *Bureau Veritas* at 24,627,473 tons; of this amount 8,593,670 are sailing vessels and 16,033,803 tons are steamers. The British Empire has 13,317,887 tons, or over 54 per cent of the total. Of the tonnage in steamers, the British Empire has over 62 per cent.

1116. As early as 1723 ship-building was a branch of industry in Canada, six merchant ships and two men of war having been built in the colony during that year. In 1752 a 74-gun ship was built at Cape Diamond, Quebec, but it was wrecked in the launching. In 1810 no less than 26 vessels, having an aggregate tonnage of 5,836 tons, were built in the provinces. In 1812, 37 vessels were built at Quebec. In 1830-31 the "Royal William"—the first steam-driven vessel that ever crossed the Atlantic—was constructed in the "Cove," Quebec, and supplied with machinery in Montreal.

From these small beginnings sprang Canada's fleet, now numbering over 7,000 vessels.

1117. On July 1st, 1867, when the Confederation was created, there were 5,693 vessels with a registered tonnage of 767,654 tons on the registry of shipping.

In December, 1874, the registry contained 6,930 vessels with a tonnage of 1,158,363 tons.

In December, 1877, the registry held the names of 7,362 vessels with a tonnage of 1,310,468 tons.

The next two years saw the culmination of the development of our marine. In 1878 there were 7,469 vessels with 1,333,015 tons, and in 1879 there were 7,471 vessels with 1,332,094 tons.

1118. In 1867 the steamers on the registry numbered 335, with a tonnage of 45,766 tons. In 1874 there were 634 steamers, of a gross tonnage of 122,836 tons. In 1883 the steamers numbered 1,006 with a gross tonnage of 203,539 tons; in 1886, 1,198 steamers and gross tonnage 257,818 tons; in 1889, 1,348 steamers and gross tonnage 205,632 tons; in 1892, 1,500