

1871 was \$57,203 tons. Many Canadian vessels, however, being registered in the United Kingdom, the tonnage is probably much larger.

WRECKS.

The number of wrecks in 1872 was very large. 6 steam vessels laden with grain which sailed from Montreal during the fall, were lost and a large number of their crew with them. There was also great loss of life and property among timber laden vessels, carrying deck loads from Canada to Europe. The number of casualties to sea going vessels in 1872 was 221 and the probable loss about \$2,083,974. The number of casualties to Lake and Inland vessels was 69 and the estimated loss \$423,364. The number of lives lost, as appears by the returns was 237, but it was doubtless much larger.

REWARDS FOR SAVING LIFE.

The amount expended during the last fiscal year for this service was \$3,158.32 including \$792 for the purchase of two life boats and appurtenances.

MONTREAL HARBOUR COMMISSIONERS.

The total revenue of these Commissioners for 1872 was \$225,717.50, an increase over the previous year of \$32,025.91. The expenditure was \$264,897.34, of which \$184,564.84 was for repairs, dredging and new works in the Harbour.

QUEBEC HARBOUR COMMISSIONERS.

The total receipts of these Commissioners was, in 1872, \$94,908.21. The total expenditure, \$80,675.76. The total value of their assets on the 30th April, 1872, was \$703,647, and the amount of their liabilities, \$713,577.50.

SUBSIDIES TO STEAMERS.

For the encouragement of steamers plying between Quebec and Pictou, \$750 is paid by the Dominion Government for each round trip, and \$50 to \$100 additional for a side service up the Bay Chaleur to Dalhousie.

During the season of 1872, \$23,600 was paid for this service, \$15,000 by the Marine, and the remainder by the Post Office Department.

Indians of the Dominion.

The Secretary of State for the Provinces in his Report for the Year 71-72 gives some interesting details concerning the native tribes in the different Provinces of the Dominion. In the Provinces of Ontario and Quebec, there exists among the Indian population a spirit of confidence in, and contentment with, the Government. The population returns show an increase in numbers; the system of aiding agriculture has been attended with beneficial results; the cultivation of land has increased and education is more sought for; the number of children in the Indian schools, in these provinces having been 2261, an increase of 626 over the preceding year. The reports from the Maritime Provinces are less favorable, but this is partly attributable to imperfect returns. The receipts from land and timber during the year were \$111,705.73 being an increase of \$19,600; and from all sections of the Dominion, there are indications that the moral and social condition of the Indians is gradually, and, in some cases, rapidly advancing. Steps have been taken to locate and set apart sufficient reserves for the various bands of Indians in British Columbia, and it is proposed to allot to each head of a family, land corresponding to the allotments in the older Provinces, giving each family its homestead. Dr. Powell, the Indian Superintendent for British Columbia, states that the Cowichan Indians, numbering about 7000, inhabiting the coast of Vancouver's Island and the mainland, are generally good workers, and very useful aids to the settlers, and their

conduct and appearance were highly satisfactory. Most of the other coast Indians are savages. The Ahts carry on a lucrative trade in furs, and both these Indians and the Hydahs inhabiting the islands in Queen Charlotte's Sound build superb canoes, perfections in design and workmanship. The Shuswhaps and Kootenays are the most advanced, of all the British Columbian Indians. They live in the interior on the mainland, prosecute agricultural pursuits with success, and the Shuswhaps hold a considerable amount of farming stock. The Church of England, Roman Catholics and Methodists have a number of missions among these Indians. At one of the Church of England missions is an Industrial School which has been attended with satisfactory and surprising results. The Indians show wonderful mechanical genius; guns are stocked, main springs forged, and household furniture manufactured with facility and elegance. They are splendid carvers in wood, metal and slate, and the jewellery fashioned from gold or silver coin, would do credit to first rate artists. The total number of British Columbian Indians is estimated to be about 30,000. In Manitoba, exertions are being made to have the Indian reserves properly surveyed and distributed. \$16,905 were paid to different tribes at \$3 a-head, the annual stipend agreed upon. The total receipts from the Indian Fund for the Fiscal Year, were \$283,881.67. The total expenditure \$200,835.60, leaving the credit balance of the Fund on the 1st July 1872, \$2,777,597.

Militia.

According to official reports, 30,144 men of the Active Militia were present at the Muster parades, during the time of the annual drill 1872. Besides these 339 attended the Infantry Schools of Instruction, being either officers or non-commissioned officers