

the fiscal year, was 1,377,815. Number of vessels, 5,972. Through the St. Lawrence Canals, 10,399 vessels; tonnage, 1,186,766. Ottawa Canals, 1,552 vessels; tonnage, 94,981. Ottawa & Rideau, 5,670 vessels; tonnage, 386,154. Burlington Bay Canal, 1,411 vessels; tonnage, 265,826. Chambly Canal, 5,043 vessels; tonnage, 409,909. As compared with the preceding year, these figures show a considerable decrease on the Welland Canal, and an increase on the Burlington Bay Canal. The system of "Let Passes" having been issued through the season of 1872 on the other canals, a comparison cannot be made.

The number of Canadian steam vessels that passed through the Welland and St. Lawrence Canals, was 124; of United States do., 57. The largest Canadian steam vessel was 665 tons; United States do., 504 tons. Total tonnage Canadian steam vessels, 14,794; U. S. do., 13,522. Canadian sailing vessels, 781. Largest, 761 tons. Total tonnage, 103,660 tons. U. S. sailing vessels, 479. Largest, 375 tons. Tonnage, 88,594.

Total Tonnage, Canadian vessels, 118,454 tons.

Total Tonnage, U. S. vessels, 102,416 tons.

The number of Canadian steam vessels that passed through the Rideau and Ottawa and Chambly Canals, was 68. Largest, 199 tons. Total tonnage, 2,677. Of United States steam vessels, 2. Largest, 65 tons. Total, 105. Of Canadian sailing vessels there were 489. Largest, 199 tons. Total tonnage, 39,301. Of U. S. do., 244. Largest 149 tons. Total tonnage, 16,730.

Total tonnage Canadian vessels, 41,978 tons.

Total tonnage U. S. vessels, 16,835 tons.

The tolls on the canals during the fiscal year ending June 30th, 1871, amounted to \$440,751 29, a decrease of \$21,836. This is attributed by the Minister of Inland Revenue to the reduction of tolls on the New York State Canals. The expenditure on account of canals amounted for salaries to \$26,301, and for construction and repairs to \$438,939 82. For tariff of Canal Tolls see Year Book of 1873.

WORKS ON NAVIGABLE RIVERS.

Surveys are in progress to ascertain the amount of work required to attain a sufficient depth for vessels drawing 12 feet of water in all the navigable reaches of the St. Lawrence. The tow path, above and below the grand Falls of the St. John has been improved, and a dredge employed to remove bars and accumulations of sand in the lower part of the river. Means have been taken to dredge the bar at the mouth of the river Thames, Ontario. A combined Steam Dredge and Hopper Barge has been obtained for use in the works on rivers.

NAVIGABLE STREAMS.

The commission appointed to inquire into the obstructions made by sawdust, &c. to the navigation of rivers, report that they made a personal examination of a number of streams, at high water in the spring, at summer low water, and again shortly before the setting in of winter.

The St. Maurice and Batiscan were the first visited, and these rivers gave no indication of any damage being done by any accumulation of sawdust, nor were any complaints made.

But this was not the case on the Ottawa,

Madawaska, Muskoka, Trent and some other rivers, and the Commissioners after careful consideration of all the circumstances, and the importance of the interests involved, recommend the prohibition under severe penalties of throwing any refuse except sawdust, into any lake, river or stream, and if it is found after a trial that the sawdust alone, still impedes navigation, then the Government to have power in such case to prohibit, by giving six months notice to the mill proprietors.

HARBOURS, PIERS AND LIGHT HOUSES.

Works are under construction at Chantry Island, near the mouth of the Saugeen river, at Goderich on the E. coast of Lake Huron, and at Rondeau Harbour, on the N. shore of Lake Erie. Kincardine Harbour, Lake Huron, has been dredged and improved, and the piers at the entrance of the harbour extended. The channel at the entrance of Presqu'île Harbour N. shore Lake Ontario is being dredged. Harbours of Refuge are to be established at Farther Point and Papebiac, and surveys have been made. A rocky shoal at the entrance to Amherst Harbour, Magdalen Islands, is being removed other repairs and improvements made to harbours on the St. Lawrence. The necessary surveys have been made and a plan prepared for the improvement of Richibucto Harbour, N. B., and contracts have been made for the construction of breakwaters at Quaco and Stony Creek Gully, N. B. Contracts have been entered into for the construction of breakwaters at Little Hope Island, Brooklyn, Liverpool Bay, McNair's Cove, and Mabou Harbour, Cape Breton, N. S., and repairs made to works in several other harbours in N. S. and N. B., some of them requiring very extensive works.

SLIDES AND BOOMS.

The works on the Saguenay cover a distance of about 6 miles. They required no repairs during 1872. They were begun in 1856 and finished in 1860. On the St. Maurice there are 6 stations, besides the booms at the mouth which were rebuilt in 1872, and two on the Vermillion, one of its tributaries. The last is at Iroquois Falls on the Vermillion 121 miles from the mouth of the St. Maurice. A side pier was built in 1872 at the Tuques Falls, and minor repairs made at all the stations. On the Ottawa works there are 11 stations on the main river and 62 on the tributaries. The works on the main river extend from Carillon 27 miles from its mouth to Joachim Rapids 219 miles up, and consist of 2,000 feet of canal, 3,835 feet of slides, 29,855 feet booms, 8,655 feet dams, 346 feet bulkheads and 1,981 feet bridges, 52 piers, 3 slide keeper's houses and 3 store-houses. Repairs were made to all the works, and dams at Chats, Portage du Fort, Mountain and Calumet. Plans have been ordered for a slide at Roche Capitaine Rapids. On the Rivière des Prairies, a boom and 5 piers were constructed above the Sault au Recollet bridge. The works on the Gati-neau, about a mile from its confluence with the Ottawa, were repaired. This river is 400 miles long, draining an area of 9,000 square miles. The Madawaska is 240 miles long, draining an area of 4,100 square miles, and flowing into the Ottawa 136 miles from the mouth. There are 15 stations on this river. The works from Chain Rapids [the 14th]