

VESSELS, MEN, NETS, &c., EMPLOYED IN THE FISHERIES OF CANADA, 1891.

PROVINCES.	Vessels and Boats.		Men, Number	Nets.		Other Fishing Material.
	Number	Value.		Fathoms.	Value.	
		\$			\$	\$
Nova Scotia.....	13,924	1,524,335	24,376	2,284,906	592,717	609,180
New Brunswick	5,928	344,394	12,222	530,612	389,881	698,605
Prince Edward Island.	1,429	105,587	4,026	100,000	69,001	201,700
Quebec	6,483	220,668	12,530	268,823	158,998	152,684
British Columbia.....	1,988	673,388	8,666	285,818	178,257	827,875
Ontario.....	1,203	234,782	2,920	1,441,695	241,305	108,080
Manitoba.....	509	30,016	835	102,225	14,733
Total..	31,464	3,133,170	65,575	5,014,079	1,644,892	2,598,124

Seal fishery in British Columbia. 561. British Columbia employs about 700 men and 30 vessels of over 2,000 tons aggregate, in the seal fishery. The total number of seals caught by Canadian vessels in 1890 was 54,853, valued at \$510,111, while 3,768 seals caught by foreign vessels were disposed of in Victoria, B.C.

Number of hands employed. 562. It will be seen that upwards of 65,500 men are employed in the fisheries proper, while no account can be given of the number of men, women and children employed on shore in connection with them.

Fisheries Protection Service. 563. Five steamers, viz., the "Acadia," "La Canadienne," "Stanley," "Dream" and "St. Nicholas" (the last two chartered), and three schooners (one Government and two chartered), were employed in the Fisheries Protection Service in the Gulf of St. Lawrence and on the Atlantic coast during the season of 1891, but only one seizure was made, viz., that of the U. S. schooner "F. D. Hodgkins," which was seized at Fox Bay, Anticosti, by the "La Canadienne," for fishing within the three mile limit. The master having pleaded ignorance of the law, the vessel was subsequently released on payment of a fine of \$2,000. The *modus vivendi*, which had been in force for four years, pending a settlement of the fisheries question, was continued for another year. By this arrangement United States fishing vessels are admitted to Canadian fisheries on payment of a license fee of \$1.50 per ton, and the privilege was largely taken advantage of during the past year, being evidently highly appreciated by United States fishermen. This is shown by the fact that 98 licenses were issued, as compared with 36 in 1888, and \$11,098 collected in fees, as against \$3,831 in 1888.

United States mackerel fleet. 564. The United States mackerel fleet, fishing in Canadian waters in 1891, comprised 36 vessels, and the take amounted to 6,824 barrels, as compared with 64 vessels in 1890 and a take of 8,443 barrels.