

During the past fiscal year the sum of \$2,981.08 was paid to the Imperial Board of Trade to reimburse expenses incurred in caring for shipwrecked and distressed Canadian seamen in foreign ports.

The total expenditure by this Department on account of sick, disabled, shipwrecked and distressed seamen during the past fiscal year, including the grant of \$500 to each of the hospitals at St. Catharines and Kingston, and the entire expenditure on account of the Marine Hospital at Quebec, amounted to \$58,237.34, being \$762.74 in excess of that of the preceding year, and \$12,762.66 less than the amount appropriated by Parliament for the service. It will be seen, however, that as the entire collections of sick mariners' dues amounted only to \$37,779.57, the excess of expenditure over receipts amounted to \$20,457.77. Should a deduction, however, be made of the fair proportion of expense of maintaining residents and immigrants in the Marine Hospital at Quebec, which amounts, as stated above, to \$15,507.98, the expenditure would amount only to \$42,729.36, and there would be an excess of expenditure over receipts of \$4,949.79. The receipts and disbursements in connection with this service during the last eleven fiscal years are as follows:—

	Receipts.	Disbursements.
For fiscal year ended 30th June, 1869.....	\$31,353 78	\$26,987 64
“ “ 1870.....	31,410 46	27,029 34
“ “ 1871.....	29,683 41	28,971 22
“ “ 1872.....	34,911 64	38,947 60
“ “ 1873.....	37,136 10	41,016 43
“ “ 1874.....	41,500 16	59,778 90
“ “ 1875.....	37,801 46	50,684 76
“ “ 1876.....	41,287 66	48,828 49
“ “ 1877.....	43,739 21	51,647 94
“ “ 1878.....	44,665 07	43,780 99
“ “ 1879.....	37,779 57	42,729 36
	\$411,268 52	\$458,402 67
		411,263 52
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Balance to debit of Fund.....		\$47,134 15

#### IMPROVEMENT OF HARBOURS.

Under the provisions of the Act 32 and 33 Vic., cap. 40, a tax of ten cents per ton was formerly imposed for the improvement of Harbours on all vessels arriving at the Ports of Bathurst and Richibucto, N.B., Amherst and House Harbour, Magdalen islands, and Cape Chatte, Quebec, these Ports having been proclaimed to be under