

Nicholas Ferry Steamboat. His lordship performed the usual ceremonies of naming the vessel "Lady Aylmer," when she went off the stocks, from an awning decorated with flags; several thousand persons crowding the adjacent wharfs and heights. The Tow Boat Company had, in an extremely handsome manner placed the Steamer Richelieu at the service of the public, and Colonel Maitland, with his usual kindness permitted the excellent band of the 32nd regiment to attend on board. The boat was crowded and lay off the wharf in a position advantageous to witness the launch which was effected in a manner to gratify every one. The increasing spectators then set out for Mr. Campbell's shipyard where Lady Aylmer performed the ceremony at the launching of the Quebec and Halifax company's steamship "Royal William." This vessel had a magnificent appearance on the stocks, the prow, stern and quarter galleries are particularly tasteful, her actual builders' measurement is 1,370 tons, but she will not carry more, we suppose, than 4 to 500, owing to the space occupied by the engine, and her sharp build. She went off beautifully amid cheers and firing of cannon, and when she floated looked a gallant ship. Mr. Black was the contractor; she is built with the greatest fidelity and strength, the sides forming a protection to the wheels against heavy seas. We have no doubt she will prove very fast. Her cost when ready for sea will be about £16,000 and her proportions are as follows: length of keel 146 feet, breadth of beam across 44 feet, length of deck 176 feet, depth of hold 17 feet 9 inches.

"We witnessed these new strides to wealth with pride. Three of the steamers on the St. Lawrence, the John Bull, British America, and Royal William are not surpassed by any other vessel of the kind anywhere, and from the common deal seat to the elegant decorations of the cabin, and the ingenious and finished workmanship of the engines, all on board is of the manufacture of Canadian establishments. The Steamer John Bull was safely launched at Montreal on Tuesday.

"An incident occurred on board the Richelieu, Captain Morin of the Tow Boat company, while gratuitously placed at the service of the public yesterday and dispatched to the launches, which created much conversation and amusement. No wines or liquor of any kind were to be had on board of the boat, but Captain Morin invited the guests to partake gratuitously of coffee as a substitute, which they appeared to partake of with satisfaction. There is no place where the evils of intemperance are occasionally seen in a more afflicting light than in parties of pleasure on board of steam vessels, where a portion of the company is often disgusted by loud and frequently riotous indulgence.

"The new Steamship 'Royal William' proceeded to Montreal on Saturday, 30th April in tow of the 'British America' to receive her engines."

She was towed to the foot of St. Mary's Current, Montreal where she received her engines, of about 200 horse power, from Bennett and Henderson's foundry, and was ready to return to Quebec at the beginning of August.

The "Royal William" left Montreal at 2 o'clock P. M., Saturday, 13th August, and calling at Sorel and Three Rivers, arrived at Quebec about 9 P. M., Sunday 14th, having steamed the whole way down, her engines working satisfactorily, but having touched ground in getting out of the harbour of Montreal, she was placed on the gridiron for examination.

She is described in the Quebec Gazette as having three lofty masts, schooner rigged, but having three square sails on the foremast. The underdeck cabin was fitted out with taste and elegance, containing some fifty berths, besides a splendidly furnished parlour. The dining saloon occupied the round house on deck. Her register as entered at the Quebec Custom House is as follows:—

REGISTER OF "ROYAL WILLIAM".

No. 42. Port of Quebec, dated 22nd August, 1831. Name "Royal William". Burthen, 363 $\frac{3}{4}$ tons. John Jones Master. Built at this Port this present year, 1831. Which appeared by a certificate of Geo. Black, the builder, dated 15th July, last.