

There are a number of casualties which occurred during the last calendar year of which the Department has not sufficient information to warrant it in publishing them in the list for 1878, but a supplementary list of wrecks for that year will be published along with the Report for 1879.

SHIPPING MASTERS AND SHIPPING OF SEAMEN.

In Supplement No. 2 to this Report, will be found a statement showing the returns received from the Shipping Masters appointed under the "Act relating to the Shipping of Seamen," for the half-years ended 30th June and 31st December last, and of the fees received under the Act.

The only changes which have occurred in the list of the Shipping Masters since the 1st of January last, are those caused by the appointment of Mr. Benjamin Trudel, on the 22nd May last, as Shipping Master (and Chief of River Police) for the Port of Quebec, in the room of Mr. R. H. Russell, superannuated, and the appointment of Mr. George Smith, on the 7th October last, as Shipping Master for the Port of Montreal. Mr. John D. Cummins, Shipping Master at Halifax, died on the 12th December, 1878, but no appointment has yet been made in his place. The following is a summary of the Reports received from Shipping Masters at some of the principal ports in the Dominion:—

The Shipping Master at St. John shipped during the year, 3,664 seamen, and discharged 1,620, and received as fees, at the rate of 50 cents for each seaman shipped, and 30 cents for each seaman discharged, \$2,318, out of which he paid for Assistant, and incidental expenses, \$882.01, leaving the net income of his office \$1,435.99.

The Shipping Master at Halifax shipped, during the calendar year, 2,668 seamen, and discharged 2,010, for which he received \$1,957, out of which, after deducting expenses (\$1,026.62), he had as remuneration \$910.38.

At Montreal, the Collector of Customs acted as Shipping Master, and received the fees until the appointment of Mr. Geo. Smith, on the 7th October last. The total number of seamen shipped during the calendar year, amounted to 396, and discharged 207 seamen, and the receipts as fees amounted to \$260.10.

At the Port of Quebec the total number of seamen shipped from the 1st January to 31st December last, was 1,148, of which number 395 belonged to British, 673 to Dominion, and 80 to foreign vessels; 366 seamen were discharged during the same period, of whom 126 belonged to British, and 240 to Dominion vessels. In addition to these, 103 wrecked seamen were discharged, for whom no fees were charged. The total amount of fees received during the calendar year was \$683.60, being \$398 less than the receipts of the previous year, and deducting the sum of