

Meetings.

During the period under review six General Meetings of the Board and seventeen meetings of the Council have been held ; in addition to nine Committee Meetings ; being thirteen in excess of the number held in the preceding twelve months, and necessitated by the increasing matter dealt with by the Board. The attendance at General Meetings has been most satisfactory, being exactly twice as large as in the year 1888-9, and 87 per cent. better than during the year 1889-90, and your Committee anticipate that, with the rapidly increasing business of the Board, the same active interest will continue and expand. The attendances of members of Council are shewn in the appendices.

Vacancies.

We regret to record the loss by death of the late James Fell, Esq., an indefatigable member of your Council. A resolution of the Board in reference thereto was passed on the 2nd January last, a copy of which will be found in the Appendices. At a meeting of Council held January 13th, Gustave Leiser, Esq., was elected to fill the vacancy caused by Mr. Fell's death.

**China-Japan
Mail Steamship
Service.**

The Board has continued to press the claims of the Port of Victoria upon the Canadian Pacific Railway Company for the calling here of their China-Japan mail steamships, and the landing of mails, passengers and freight. In April last the President of the C. P. R. Co., in an interview with the Board, gave his re-assurance that the ships of this line would call at this Port both inwards and outwards. In the conference with Mr. Van Horne, his attention was called to the inequality of rates, and stress was laid upon the loss and inconvenience to shippers in having Victoria freight from the Orient carried past the Port, and the delays which have occurred in getting it shipped back from Vancouver. Within the past eighteen months, Victoria merchants have contributed \$84,650.00 as freight on 7,000 tons merchandise carried by ships running in connection with the Canadian Pacific Railway, and as the Port is a contributor to the Dominion Revenue of about \$1,000,000 annually (from which revenue a subsidy is granted yearly to the C. P. R.