

"Some hundreds of tons have likewise been added by rebuilding and enlarging old vessels. Several new and large steamboats have been built, but as they were not finished in time to do business in 1846, they properly belong to the new tonnage of 1847; I therefore exclude them. A very large number of vessels of all descriptions, are now under construction, which will be out and in commission in 1847, sufficient to swell the amount to a good deal over 100,000 tons; being an increase of more than 33 1-3 per cent. in two years."

"Question 4th.—*Cost of the same?*"

"The capital invested in the various description of vessels on the upper lakes, is not far from \$6,000,000. About \$1,000,000 has been expended during the last year in the construction of new, and the repairing, fitting up and enlarging old ones."

"Question 5th.—*Number of mariners engaged in navigating the craft?*"

"The various description of vessels engaged in this commerce, employ, as seamen and others, about six thousand persons to navigate them."

"Question 6th.—*Probable annual expense of sustaining mariners and craft?*"

"I have submitted this question for an answer to some of our most extensive shipping merchants, and they have furnished me with the figures of their calculation, by which it appears, that the amount paid out, for wages, wood, coal, provisions, current repairs, and other expenses, (exclusive of insurance and interest on the capital) is about \$1,750,000; which will, of course, increase as our Lake Marine enlarges."