

## COMPARATIVE STATEMENT OF SHIPMENTS YEARS 1896 and 1895.

DESCRIPTION.	1896	1895	1896	
			INCREASE.	DECREASE.
Wheat.....Bushels	7,425,742	3,827,201	3,598,541	
Peas....."	1,897,136	860,386	1,036,750	
Barley and Rye....."	630,488	17,062	613,626	
Oats....."	2,653,176	10,240	2,642,976	
Corn....."	6,752,277	2,462,306	4,289,971	
Flour and Meal.....Barrels	952,184	1,341,752		389,568
Ashes....."	1,753	1,783		30
Apples....."	707,201	189,639	567,562	
Sundries.....Tons	165,283	129,331	33,952	
Hay....."	761	12,479		11,309
Hops....."	32	29	3	
Oilcake....."	4,452	549	3,903	
Phosphates....."	21	528		507
Minerals....."	2,867	1,171	1,696	
Lumber, Ft. B. M.....	221,334,580	175,372,976	45,961,604	
Cattle and Horses.....	173,929	107,248		319
Sheep.....	5,842	206,501		129,659
Cheese.....Boxes	1,734,308			
Butter.....P'k'gs	154,011			
Eggs....."	139,649			
Box Meat....."	219,671			
Lard....."	297,832			
Dead Meat.....Q'trs	15,837			

Comparative figures cannot be given for these articles as they have hitherto been included in "Sundries."

STATEMENT OF ARRIVALS.					CLEARANCES TO LOWER PORTS.				
	1896.		1895.			1896.		1895.	
	No.	Tons.	No.	Tons.		No.	Tons.	No.	Tons.
Steamers.....	400	888,856	345	765,597	Steamers.....	115	108,514	97	92,632
Ships.....	5	7,349	1	1,545	Ships.....				
Barques.....	4	2,127	8	6,529	Barques.....				
Brigs and Schooners	12	3,343	4	1,084	Brigs and Schooners	12	1,081	17	1,495
Totals.....	421	901,675	358	774,775	Totals.....	127	109,595	114	94,157

Increase of 63 Vessels and 126,920 Tons.

Increase of 13 Vessels and 15,438 Tons.

## SHIP CHANNEL BETWEEN MONTREAL AND QUEBEC.

At the request of the Marine Underwriters' Association, the Council early in the year addressed the Government expressing apprehension that, owing to the low state of the water in the river, the movement of ice would cause a heavy deposit of sand, boulders, etc., in the ship channel, and therefore asking that the channel should be surveyed and dredged at the earliest possible date, so as to remove any obstructions to navigation from those causes. The Council at the same time renewed the