

The total number of vessels remaining on the register books of the Dominion on the 31st December, 1878, including old and new vessels, sailing vessels, steamers and barges, was 7,459, measuring 1,333,015 tons register tonnage; being an increase, as compared with 1877, of 107 vessels and 22,547 tons. The number of steamers on the register books on the 31st December last was 834, with a gross tonnage of 183,935 tons, and a net tonnage of 116,620 tons.

Assuming \$30 per ton as the average value, it will give the value of the registered tonnage of the Dominion at the close of the calendar year as being \$39,990,450 or £7,998,090 sterling.

A comparative statement follows showing the increase in the registered tonnage of the Dominion since 1873.

A statement follows, which has been compiled from the *Repertoire Général* for 1878 and 1879, from which it appears that the tonnage on the register books of the British Empire, including Canada and the other Colonies, was 7,860,702 tons. The United States of America come next with a tonnage of 2,444,408, but this does not include the tonnage trading on the inland lakes and rivers of that country. Norway comes next with a tonnage of 1,413,503, followed by Germany with a tonnage of 1,087,606. Italy has 1,019,137 tons, and France 817,732 tons. From this statement it will be seen that Canada with her 1,333,015 follows Norway and stands fourth on the list. With the exception of Canada these figures do not include the inland tonnage of the sailing vessels of these countries, or of steamers under 100 tons register, but with that fact taken into account, Canada appears to be entitled to rank as the fourth amongst the ship-owning countries of the world.

The number of new vessels built in the Dominion of Canada during the last year and registered at the different ports of registry in the Dominion, was 339, measuring 100,873 tons register, showing a decrease as compared with 1878 of 91 vessels, and 18,112 tons register. In addition to these vessels there was a fine new ship built at Alma, Albert County, New Brunswick, for Gilbert M. Steeves, Esq., of Liverpool, Great Britain, which sailed for that port under a Governor's Pass, without being registered, as she was built for registry in the United Kingdom; she measured 633 tons. Adding this vessel to the new vessels built and registered during the year, it gives a total of 3 vessels, and 101,506 tons as the tonnage built in the Dominion of Canada, during the calendar year of 1878. Estimating the value of the new ships at \$45 per ton it gives a value of \$4,567,770 £913,554 stg.

A comparative statement follows of the number of new vessels built and registered in the Dominion of Canada from 1874 to 1878.