

— *Progress of British Merchant Shipping.* — A British journal says :

"A parliamentary paper has just been published showing in a variety of tables the progress of the British shipping trade since the year 1838. The returns relate to a great many interesting questions in comparative statistics, but we need only pick out for the present one or two of the less known facts. One of these is the enormous preponderance of the British steam fleet, the evidence of which has never before been put before the whole world in the same way. In the year 1868 the British Empire possessed no less than 977,292 tons of sea-going steamers, against 135,259 tons belonging to France, 22,194 to Holland, and 36,856 to Hamburg.

The total for the United States is not given but it was 198,115 tons in 1867, and the trade is known to have been since at a standstill. England has more than twice the tonnage in steamers of the States named put together. The rapidity of the increase in England is equally remarkable. In 1850 the tonnage we possessed was 187,631; in 1860 it was nearly treble that figure, viz., 500,144 tons; and in 1868 it was 977,292 tons—almost double the figure of 1860. There is also ample evidence in the figures that the progress made during late years in the maritime commerce of the world is mainly English. Making a comparison with France, it appears that while the tonnage employed in France in 1858 was 12,784,336 tons, and in the United Kingdom 50,316,553, the comparison in 1867 was—France, 14,928,622 tons, and England, 65,037,056 tons. Our rate of progress has thus been much greater, although the magnitude of our trade even ten years ago was so much over that of France. Of the 65,037,056 tons no less than 56,593,816 tons, or four-fifths were English, while of the 14,928,622 tons engaged in the French trade only about two-thirds are French. From another statement again, it appears that French shipping has hardly increased at all during these ten years; and that while 69 per cent., of the shipping employed in 1858 in the direct trade between England and France was English, and 28 per cent. French, 3 per cent. being under foreign flags, the proportions in 1867 were,

English.....	82 per cent.
French.....	16 "
Other flags.....	2 "

The Board of Trade has thus made out its point as to the preponderance of British Shipping. The transformation cannot have taken place without causes which are well worth inquiring into, Shipping at any rate is not one of the trades in which there is any suspicion that we have not been holding our own against the foreigners.

## OFFICIAL DOCUMENTS.

TABLE of the Apportionment of the Grant in Aid of Superior Education to Catholic Institutions for the year 1869, in Virtue of the Act 18th Vict., Cap. 54.

LIST No. 1.—CLASSICAL COLLEGES.

INSTITUTION.	Number of Pupils.	Annual Grant for 1868.	Annual Grant for 1869.
Nicolet.....	238	1588 00	1688 00
St. Hyacinthe.....	241	1588 00	1688 00
Ste. Thérèse.....	154	1272 00	1372 00
Ste. Anne Lapocatière.....	219	1588 00	1688 00
L'Assomption.....	166	1272 00	1372 00
Ste. Marie, Montreal.....	314	1272 00	1372 00
Trois-Rivières.....	121	1000 00	1200 00
Ste. Marie de Monnoir.....	185	650 00	750 00
Rimouski.....	100	1200 00	1372 00
Total.....		\$12502 00	

LIST No. 2.—INDUSTRIAL COLLEGES.

INSTITUTION.	Number of Pupils.	Annual Grant for 1868.	Annual Grant for 1869.
Joliette.....	158	781 00	831 00
Laval.....	130	313 00	363 00
Longueuil.....	220	317 00	367 00
Masson, Terrebonne.....	234	1000 00	1200 00
Notre Dame de Lévis.....	144	781 00	831 00
Rigaud.....	122	781 00	831 00
Sherbrooke.....	60	234 00	284 00
St. Laurent.....	290	462 00	662 00
St. Michel, Bellechasse.....	113	591 00	641 00
Varennes.....	61	234 00	284 00
Verchères.....	106	313 00	363 00
Ste. Marie, Beauce.....	110	313 00	363 00
Schools of Science applied to the Arts.....			2500 00
Total.....			\$9520 00

LIST No. 3.—MALE ACADEMIES OR MIXED.

INSTITUTION.	Number of Pupils.	Annual Grant for 1868.	Annual Grant for 1869.
Aylmer.....	54	210 00	210 00
Baie du Febvre.....	98	140 00	140 00
Baie St. Paul.....	90	155 00	155 00
Beauharnais.....	216	210 00	210 00
Belœil.....	89	312 00	312 00
Berthier.....	175	312 00	312 00
Bonin, St. André d'Argenteuil.....	92	210 00	210 00
Buckingham.....	248	140 00	140 00
Chambly.....	125	164 00	164 00
St. Columban de Sillery.....	165	140 00	240 00
St. Cyprien.....	136	140 00	140 00
Dufresne, St. Thomas Montmagny.....	55	190 00	240 00
St. Eustache.....	122	210 00	210 00
Farnham.....	238	185 00	185 00
Gentilly.....	70	140 00	140 00
Girouard.....	120	142 00	142 00
St. Grégoire.....	135	140 00	140 00
L'Islet.....	132	210 00	210 00
St. Jean.....	150	450 00	450 00
St. Jean, Montmorency.....	107	140 00	140 00
Kamouraska.....	94	310 00	310 00
Laprairie.....	160	185 00	185 00
Lotbinière.....	16	124 00	124 00
Ste. Marthe.....	105	140 00	140 00
Montmagny, St. Thomas.....	205	232 00	232 00
Montreal Commercial Academy.....	224	284 00	1784 00
Pointe-aux-Trembles, Hochelaga.....	60	277 00	277 00
Quebec Comm. and Lit. Acad., St. Roch.....	88	140 00	140 00
Roxton.....	88	122 00	122 00
Sorel.....	413	364 00	364 00
St. Timothée.....	140	204 00	204 00
Vaudreuil.....	77	140 00	140 00
Yamachiche.....	90	210 00	210 00
Princeville.....	34	250 00	300 00
Total.....			\$8622 00