

In 1877 the number of vessels built in Canada was 508, of which 365 were launched in New Brunswick, Nova Scotia, and Prince Edward Island. This *Ships built in 1877.* refers simply to vessels large enough to be registered. There were built in addition a large number of small boats for fishing-purposes along shore, the production of which may have been as many as 2,000, there being built four of these independent small boats on an average to one of the registered craft. The figures for Newfoundland are not at hand. Of the 508 vessels built in 1877, 110 were sold to foreigners. The Canadian ships are generally built of soft wood, — that is, spruce, hackmatack, and pine, — in distinction from oak, the latter wood being the more common wood in American ships. They are good sailers, and last for from twelve to fifteen years. The Canadian merchant-marine in 1871 included 5,672 vessels; 399 of them being steamboats, and 2,019 barges.

