

The steamship "Normanton" of the Mitchell line of steamers, plying between Montreal and Pictou, was run into and sunk by the barque "N Churchill" of Liverpool, on the 6th of November last, about nine miles above Metis Light in the Lower St. Lawrence. The steamship, which was a superior iron screw-steamer, three years old, measuring 852 tons gross and 544 tons register, was on a voyage from Pictou up to Montreal, loaded with coal; and the barque was on a voyage from Montreal to London, loaded with grain, &c. The barque struck the steamship on the port side, stem on, crushing in her sides and sinking her in 20 minutes from the time of striking. By this casualty this fine iron steamship and cargo were lost, while the barque appears to have been so seriously disabled as to be unable to proceed on her voyage, and was taken back to Quebec. The value of the steamship was estimated at \$75,000, and the cargo was worth about \$4,500. No lives were lost by this casualty, the crew of the steamship escaping in her boats.

The new barque "President" of 874 tons register, of Windsor, Nova Scotia, was lost during a violent storm on the 29th September last, at South Haaks, in the North Sea, while on a voyage from New York to Hamburg. The vessel and cargo became a total loss. The ship was valued at \$38,000, and was owned by Messrs. A. & W. Smith, shipowners, of Halifax, Nova Scotia. Her cargo consisted of timber, staves and redwood, the greater portion of which was picked up along the coast. By this casualty one life was lost, but the rest of the crew were saved either by clinging to pieces of the wreck or by boatmen from the shore.

The steamer "City of St. John," of St. John, N.B., five years old, and 518 tons register, accidentally grounded on Seal Bar, Bathurst Harbour, on the 30th July last while her way from Bathurst to Dalhousie. She was got off at high water the same night, but floated to the other side of the channel, and again grounded breaking her back. A survey was held upon her, and was found to be so badly damaged that she was condemned to be sold as a wreck for the benefit of all concerned. She was valued at \$40,000, and was owned by Mr. Enoch Lunt and others of St. John, N.B., and was purchased by Mr. Lunt when sold at auction, and was subsequently repaired and made thoroughly seaworthy and restored to registry. No lives were lost, and no damage was done to the cargo by this casualty.

The steamship "Virgo" of Halifax, N.S., 1141 tons register, commanded by Capt. C. L. Burchell was stranded at St. Pierre Miquelon on the 12th of June last while on a voyage from Sydney to St. Johns, Newfoundland, with a cargo of coal, and became a total loss. Acting under instructions from this Department, Capt. P. A. Scott, R. N., Chairman of the Board of Examiners of Masters and Mates, Halifax, held a preliminary enquiry into the loss of this vessel, from which it appears that when the vessel left Sydney for St. Johns on the 11th of June, the weather was clear, but a few hours after sailing a thick fog shut down, which lasted till after the vessel struck. The course set was the same as that steered on all former voyages of this vessel between