THE YEAR IN BRITISH SHIP-BUILDING.

As was expected, the year 1899 witnessed the surpassing of all previous records by British ship-builders. The largest vessel put into the water during the year was the "Oceanic," of 17,250 gross tons, and indeed, her builders, Messrs. Harland & Wolff, of Belfast, head the list of shipbuilders in the aggregate of tonnage turned out. Next to the "Oceanic," the largest boat of the year was the "Ivernia," of 15,512 gross tons, which was constructed by C. S. Swan & Hunter, and the "Saxonia," of 14,000 gross tons. The following table shows the amount of mercantile and naval tonnage launched at private ship yards in Great Britain during the past twelve months, as compared with the output during seven previous years:

	Vessels.	Tons, gross.
1899	956	1,641,783
1898	794	1,488,130
1897	635	1,016,066
1896	743	1,257,339
1895	630	1,028,708
1894	637	1,052,779
1893	545	849,881
1892	702	1,210,657

That Great Britain has no intention of allowing her naval prestige to lapse is indicated by the record for warship construction during the year. There were launched for the British navy from five royal dockyards and the various private ship-building plants throughout the country, a total of nineteen vessels, aggregating 12,322 tons, and 196,400 indicated horse power, and which will cost ultimately about $45,000,000. In 1898 the number of vessels was thirty, the tonnage 140,988, and the horse power 253,600. For countries other than Great Britain there were launched during the year sixteen war vessels of 47,170 tons, and 124,000 indicated horse power.—Review.

OFFENCES AGAINST THE STATE.

A despatch of Monday, 7th January, from Lansing, Michigan, says that the Ingham county Grand Jury, which created a series of sensations by bringing indictments, charging several State officials with flagrant criminal offences, has adjourned, the term of office of Circuit Judge Person, who summoned the jury, having expired. Judge Nist, successor to Judge Person, discharged the Grand Jury and indicated that further investigations will be made by a new Grand Jury. The following are the persons who have been indicted and the offences alleged: Edgar J. Adams, Speaker of the House of Representatives, two indictments for bribery; William A. French, State Land Commissioner, offering bribes; Charles H. Pratt, agent for a law book concern, offering bribes; Representative D. Judson Hammond, of Pontiac, soliciting b.ib. -: . A. Maynard, ex-Attorney-General, misdemeanor, in retaining portion of his chief clerk's salary; Will L. White, State Quartermaster-General; Col. Ha o d A. Smith, assistant quartermaster; Arthur F. Marsh, adjutant-general, and chairman of Republican State Central Committee, and Eli R. Sutton, regent of the University of Michigan, and member of Governor Pingree's staff, charged with alleged fraud and embezzlement in connection with the sale and alleged pre-purchase of military supplies.

—Messrs. Edward Lichtenhein and Samuel Edward Lichtenhein, who have done business for some years past in Montreal, under the name of "The Montreal Cotton and Waste Company," have dissolved partnership by mutual consent.