and will, probably, become law during next session. The Act devolved upon the Counc'l the duty of appointing official assignees for the district of Montreal and neighbourhood. As the gentlemen thus appointed have been required to give security to a considerable amount for the proper discharge of their duties, it is hoped that they will be liberally supported by the mercantile community.

The increase in the trade of this port has shown the necessity of more stringent regulations with regard to warehouse receipts. There is reason to believe that a Bill having reference to this subject will be introduced to the Legislature during the next session.

A Bill providing for the appointment of a public Weigher, Measurer, and Guager has recently become law. The new Council will doubtless take immediate action in this matter.

A Bill providing for the licensing of Stevedores has also been passed.

The Pilotage Bill which was passed in the session of 1864 is working satisfactorily.

A Bill for the incorporation of the Pilots for and above the Harbor of Quebec, and providing for a common fund to be equally divided without reference to the amount or efficiency of the work performed by each, was introduced during the late session of Parliament, but was not carried. The Council deemed it their duty to petition against it.

The office of Flour Inspector, rendered vacant by the death of the late Mr. Collis, was filled by the appointment of the Hon. John Young, who assumed the duties in November last.

Some amendments have been proposed to the Flour Inspection Act, and a Bill embodying them is in course of preparation by the Corn-Exchange Association.

Statistics bearing upon the operation of the Reciprocity Treaty will be found in the Report prepared by our Secretary for this Board jointly with the Corn Exchange, which is now being printed and nearly ready for distribution. The great labor involved in procuring accurate information has delayed the publication of what, it is believed, will be found a very interesting document.

THE HARBOR TRUST.

The construction of the Windmill-Point Wharf has made considerable progress during the past year. As, however, a large expenditure will be required before the wharf will become available; and as the state of trade is not such as necessitates its immediate completion, it seems not desirable, in view of an anticipated diminution in the Harbor Revenue for the year, to expend any large sum of money on it during the present year.

It is believed that the deepening of the channel through Lake St. Peter to a depth of twenty feet and a width of three hundred feet can be completed during the present year at a cost of \$60,000 to \$80,000; and it is hoped that the Government, which assumed the work in 1860, will provide the necessary funds for this very important object, as there are none now available for this purpose at the disposal of the Harbor Commissioners, under whose direction the operations have been carried on.

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Comparative statement of the Opening and Closing of Navigation, Arrivals and Departures, Tonnage, &c., of Sea-going Vessels during the past Five years:-