

valves have been provided in accordance with Government requirements also at cost of revenue; the hull also and upper works of this boat have been painted, and the pipes for carrying off the bilge water extended.

Both boats are in good and efficient condition at the present time.

BUILDINGS AND TOOLS.

During the half-year considerable progress has been made with two new and improved boilers, now under construction at the cost of revenue, for the Hamilton stationary engine of this department, to replace the two at present in use, which from long service are now nearly worn out.

A new piston has also been constructed for this stationary engine.

The condition of the other tools, and of the buildings generally, has been well maintained.

Yours faithfully,

W. A. ROBINSON,

Mechanical Superintendent.