

The reason why the exports for the year 1883 were made use of here is, because owing to the manner in which the Customs Returns of Canada, as published are made up, little can be had from them, but in that year Mr. W. C. Desbrisay and assistant were employed by the Government of the Island to prepare a statement of the value of the exports of the products of Prince Edward Island for that year, of which the above is a condensation. Mr. Desbrisay had access to all of the manifests in the Custom House. All that could have escaped him were such products as left the Island in vessels so small that they were not required to clear or enter. No doubt there is considerable increase in the exports of Prince Edward Island since that date, their mean annual increase from the Island for twelve years from 1871 to 1883 having been \$126,779, or upwards of a million and a half of dollars for that period. There is a good deal of trade between Prince Edward Island and the West Indies, more from Summerside than from Charlottetown. Oats and potatoes shipped there are exported in bags, and when they are sold the bags and articles contained therein are disposed of together.

The exports and imports of the Island are for the greater part being carried by the following lines and steamers:

1. The Boston, Halifax and Prince Edward Island Steamship Company, which owns two wooden steamers, the "Carroll" and "Worcester," of 822 and 796 registered tons respectively.
2. The Quebec Steamship Company, which owns the iron steamer the "Miramichi," of 491 registered tons.
3. The Black Diamond Line, which owns the iron steamers the "Coban," of 688 registered tons, and the "Bonavista," of 883 registered tons.
4. The Prince Edward Island Steam Navigation Company, which owns two wooden steamers, the "Princess of Wales," 686 registered tons, and the "St. Lawrence," 675 registered tons.
5. The Halifax and Prince Edward Island Steamship Company, Limited, which owns the iron steamer "Beatrice," 270 registered tons.