

The winter steamer "Northern Light" is employed for the purpose of maintaining communication between Prince Edward Island and the mainland during the winter season. She commenced to ply between Georgetown and Pictou on the 17th December, 1879, and made daily and occasional trips to the 11th March, when, owing to the packing of the ice in the Gulf, she was unable to reach Georgetown, and was obliged to remain outside of that harbour until the 28th March. On the 10th April trips were resumed and continued till the 6th May, when the ordinary steamers commenced to run.

The earnings of this vessel during the winter season amounted to \$1,282 40; and the cost of repairs, improvements and running expenses for the fiscal year ended 30th June last, amounted to \$14,429.52, as will be seen by reference to Appendix No. 9.

The amount expended during the fiscal year ended 30th June last, as will be seen by reference to Appendix No. 9, for the maintenance of the "Napoleon III.," was \$26,996.56; of the "Druid," \$22,322.37; of the "Newfield," \$21,738.53; of the "Glendon," \$10,836.11; of the "Northern Light," \$14,429.52; and of the "Sir James Douglas," \$9,733.34, making an entire expenditure of \$106,051.43.

#### HARBOUR POLICE.

A Police Force is maintained at each of the harbours of Montreal and Quebec for the purpose of keeping order amongst the shipping during the season of navigation, and for restraining the practice of crimping. A tax of three cents per ton for the support of the force is imposed under the provisions of the Act 31 Vic., cap. 62, on all vessels arriving at these ports—vessels of 100 tons and under being required to pay the tax once in each year, and vessels over 100 tons twice in each year.

#### QUEBEC.

The Report of Mr. Benjamin Trudel, Chief Constable of the Quebec Harbour Police, together with a return of all the arrests made during the past season, will be found in Supplement No. 1 to this Report. The force was, as usual, sworn in on the 1st of May and disbanded on the 30th November. It consisted of the following:—The Chief Constable, who is also Shipping Master, at a salary of \$1,200 for the joint offices; a Deputy Chief Constable, who is also steersman of the steamer "Dolphin," at \$1.90 per diem; seven coxswains (one of whom acts as detective and clerk in the shipping office) at \$1.50 per diem, and thirty constables at \$1 per diem; together with two engineers at \$1.30 each per diem.

An addition or bonus of 25 cents per diem was paid to each of the men for the entire season.

It appears that the duties of the force at Quebec have been very arduous during the past season, owing to the large increase in shipping, the scarcity of sailors and consequent temptation to crimps to ply their nefarious trade. The Chief Constable reports that desertions becoming frequent, the force made vigorous efforts to crush