

R E T U R N

To an Address of The Senate, dated 6th December, 1867; for Copies of Correspondence since 1st July last, between the Honorable the Minister of Marine and Fisheries, and the Boards of Trade, the Trinity Houses and the Harbor Commissioners of Montreal and Quebec.

By Command.

HECTOR L. LANGEVIN,

Secretary of State.

DEPARTMENT OF THE SECRETARY OF STATE,

Ottawa, 14th December, 1867.

[In accordance with the recommendation of the Joint Committee on Printing, certain portions only of this Return are printed.]

COPY OF CIRCULAR addressed by the Honorable the Minister of Marine and Fisheries to the Presidents of the Boards of Trade and Trinity Wardens at Montreal and Quebec.

DEPARTMENT OF MARINE AND FISHERIES,
OTTAWA, 1st November, 1867.

SIR,—It will be necessary to submit for the consideration of the Legislature, in connection with the Marine and Fishery interests of the Dominion, certain measures for the assimilation of the laws and the establishment, as well in system as of expense, to the interests involved throughout the Dominion of Canada, and I have taken the liberty of asking your opinion on the several points passed in the annexed memorandum, with the reasons which may influence your conclusions, and would feel much obliged by your giving me as full and explicit replies to these questions as early a day as possible.

I shall also feel much obliged for any suggestions which you may think it desirable to make in connection with the interests referred to, or which may in any way affect the Marine interests of the Dominion.

I have the honor to be, Sir,
Your obedient servant,
(Signed,) P. MITCHELL,
Minister of Marine and Fisheries.

Questions referred to in the accompanying letter from the Department of Marine and Fisheries.

1st. Whether it is desirable to establish a system of classification of vessels for the Dominion of Canada? Is it practicable? What is the best mode?

2nd. Is it desirable to extend over the whole Dominion the system which prevailed in Canada of making Lights, Light Houses, Buoys, Beacons, and their maintenance, and other such services, a charge upon the general revenues; or should they be sustained as they have heretofore been in Nova Scotia and New Brunswick, by a tonnage duty on vessels entering the several Ports of these Provinces, practically making the Shipping