

Comparison of the Total Number of Lights in the Dominion of Canada, in the Years 1896 and 1903.

1896		1903	
Lightstations	616	Lightstations	799
Lightships	13	Lightships	14
Pole Lights	136	Pole Lights	186
	<hr/>		<hr/>
	765		1,000
	<hr/>		<hr/>

The fog-alarm stations operated by machinery are included in the above number. The number of fog-alarm stations for 1896 was 82, and this number has been increased to 94 in 1903, six of the alarms are sirens operated by compressed air.

Improvements in Buoy Service in the St. Lawrence River Between Montreal and Quebec.

Previous to the spring of 1899, the buoy service between Montreal and Quebec had been performed under contract, but this system would not admit of expansion without constant changes in the contract price. A change was made by the purchase of the steamer "Shamrock," which was built and fitted with hoisting apparatus for buoy work, and the work placed specially in charge of an engineer appointed to maintain the service.

Changes and Improvements in Buoys and Moorings.

Improvements have been made in classifying the steel buoys as first and second class, according to their importance and condition, and the spar buoys as first, second and third class. Each buoy is numbered under letters of the district to which it belongs, Q. Quebec district. C. Champlain district, L. Lake district, which includes Lake St. Peter, and M. Montreal district.

The anchors and mooring chains have been improved and a large number of inferior buoys, have been replaced by new ones. About 100 Martin patent anchors have been added since 1899, to replace the old fashioned stock anchors, and the mushroom anchors have also been largely increased.

The spar buoys are swift current buoys, ballasted with cast iron rings to keep them upright.