

SHIPPING INTERESTS OF MONTREAL.

The following data show that, during the past sixteen years, the Harbor of Montreal was open, as near as may be, an average of eight months each season :—

YEAR.	Opening of Navigation.	Close of Navigation.	First Arrival from Sea.	Last Vessel for Sea.	Greatest No. in Port at one time.
1848	April 18	December 22	.....	.....	.....
1849	April 17	December 9	.....	.....	.....
1850	April 16	December 11	.....	.....	.....
1851	April 13	December 6	.....	.....	.....
1852	April 28	December 21	.....	.....	.....
1853	April 18	December 18	.....	.....	.....
1854	April 25	December 2	May 20	November 20	21 on Oct. 16
1855	April 27	December 3	May 9	November 25	30 " June 14
1856	April 24	December 3	April 30	November 24	26 " June 9
1857	April 18	December 13	May 1	November 25	26 " June 13
1858	April 9	December 12	April 30	November 20	22 " June 5
1859	April 4	December 11	May 3	November 20	24 " June 3
1860	April 10	December 7	April 30	November 25	35 " Oct. 7
1861	April 24	December 22	April 27	December 4	117 " June 6
1862	April 23	December 7	April 28	November 27	78 " Oct. 16
1863	April 25	December 12	May 6	November 26	86 " June 13

These figures show that the harbor was open 249 days in 1848; 238 in 1849; 240 in 1850, 238 in 1851; 238 in 1852; 245 in 1853; 226 in 1854; 229 in 1855; 224 in 1856; 240 in 1857; 248 in 1858; 252 in 1859; 242 in 1860; 243 in 1861; 229 in 1862; and 232 in 1863. The longest season was in 1859; and the average of the sixteen years was 238 days.

The subjoined Table affords a comparative view of the Tonnage employed in the Atlantic trade of Montreal during the past ten years :—

YEAR.	Ocean Steamers.	Tons.	Ocean Vessels.	Tons.	Vessels to Lower Ports	Tons.	Total Sea-Going Vessels.	Total Tons.
1854	6	5,545	174	58,416	78	6,949	258	70,910
1855	6	5,545	90	38,433	107	9,721	197	48,154
1856	16	14,267	117	47,497	114	9,548	247	71,321
1857	9	7,541	123	51,795	95	8,404	227	67,740
1858	16	17,887	127	53,553	82	7,369	225	78,809
1859	35	43,704	118	43,705	77	7,251	230	94,660
1860	37	45,387	149	69,742	73	6,470	259	121,559
1861	40	51,298	433	202,601	101	7,894	574	261,793
1862	53	62,912	430	195,348	88	6,983	571	265,243
1863	54	56,460	369	144,585	81	8,179	504	209,224

As compared with the season of 1862, there was a decrease in 1863 of 67 vessels, representing 56,018 tons. Notwithstanding this, the average Tonnage of the past three years shows that the figures of 1860 have been more than doubled, and of 1859 nearly trebled,—while in six years the tonnage of 1857 may be said to have quadrupled.