

## **Wreck Statistics at Key West.**

A letter from the agent of the Boston Underwriters, at Key West, furnishes a list of the vessels wrecked upon Florida Reef, or arriving at Key West in distress, during the year 1856, amounting to seventy-one. The value of vessels and cargoes amounted to \$1,484,600, and the expenses to \$262,664 19. The salvage amounted to \$163,117 05, and the amount of sales at auction was \$172,111 52. The agent remarks:

"Notwithstanding all that has been done and is still doing, by the general Government to light, and buoy, and mark this coast, still we have an uncommon number of wrecks, and almost every week some unaccountable one occurs. Not a few, I fear, were, if not intentional, very careless; and not until an example is made of some of them, will the wrecks be less frequent, or the expenses reduced.

"The salvages paid the last year are frightful, and must admonish the Underwriters of the necessity of seeing that sober, good men, are put in command of ships and property. My opinion is, a good vessel upon this station would do good service, and be a profitable investment for all the insurance companies. I fondly hope the coming Summer some arrangement will be made to have a steamer or sailing vessel for the purpose of protecting the interests of all concerned in insuring property."