

The Minister of Marine and Fisheries in his last Report presented to Parliament, states, that the weather during the year 1870 was more boisterous than usual, and caused more wrecks and casualties on the coasts of the Dominion, as well on the seaboard as on those of the Great Lakes in the interior, occasioning both loss of life and property. The Minister is of opinion that there are some dangerous places, both on the seaboard and the great inland lakes, where life-boats should be placed.

#### LIGHT HOUSES AND FOG WHISTLES.

The various light houses referred to in the *Year Book* of 1871, as being under construction by the Department of Marine and Fisheries, have been completed. The Minister states that twelve were finished last Fall and twelve more last Spring; the remaining five were built later in the season. A new iron light ship, with a powerful steam whistle, has been placed at the lower end of Red Island Reef. She shows lights on the Catoptric system.

Despite storms and difficulties a new light house has been completed at Bird Rocks, in the Gulf of St. Lawrence, the most difficult place in the Dominion on which to erect a light house. The light is a fixed white one, being a powerful French Dioptric; it is placed at an elevation of 140 feet, and is seen at a distance of twenty-five miles. The Minister recommends that a sufficient supply of fuel and provisions should be kept at this point for the relief of distressed mariners. The station is to be supplied with a code of signals.

Two important Light Houses have been erected in the Straits of Belle Isle; one at Cape Norman, at the Eastern entrance, the other at Point Rich, at the Western. The lights, on the Catoptric system, are intended to show a distance of twenty-five miles. There were before two powerful fixed Dioptric lights in the Straits. It is believed that these Straits are now lighted with four as fine lights as can be found at any point in the world.

Another Light House of great importance which has been constructed, is situated on Cape Ray, on the South West of Newfoundland. It is a powerful flash light.

Another important Light House for the Gulf trade and fishing craft, has been erected on Amherst Island, one of the Magdalen's. It shows a powerful revolving white and red light.

A Light House, with a powerful steam Fog Whistle, has been erected at the South point of the Island of Anticosti. This was much needed.

A new Light House was erected at River Magdalen, on the South shore of the St. Lawrence, in Gaspé, in 1871.

A new Light was erected at Cape Chatte, in the River St. Lawrence, in the county of Gaspé.

The whole of these fine lights are powerful sea lights of the first class, on the Catoptric system, and it is believed they can all be seen at a distance of twenty-five miles.

A new Light House has been erected on Seven Islands, in the Gulf of St. Lawrence. The light is Catoptric, elevation 150 feet, and can be seen at a distance of twenty miles.

A new Light House has been erected at Cape Rouge, Montee du Lac, a short distance below the city of Quebec, on the North shore.

A fine minor light has been erected at Paspebiac Point, the Bay of Chaleurs; and a light of a similar description has been erected

on the West end of Caraquet Island, New Brunswick, in the same Bay, nearly opposite Paspebiac Point.

A minor light has also been erected at Arseneau Point, near Dalhousie, N.B., at the head of the Bay of Chaleurs; the light is on the Catoptric system.

Two Beacons for lights have been erected at the entrance of Bathurst Harbour, N.B., in the Bay of Chaleurs.

A minor light has been placed on Portage Island, N.B., at the entrance of the Miramichi River. Two Beacon lights have also been exhibited on Preston's Beach, both on the Catoptric system.

A more powerful light has been placed on Seal Island, near the South-west coast of Nova Scotia, in consequence of representations made to the Department by mariners. The light is placed 98 feet above the sea. It is a fixed white light, and can be seen in favourable weather, twenty-five or thirty miles. This Island is frequently enveloped in dense fogs, and it has been considered advisable to erect a powerful steam whistle, near the light house; it can be heard in moderate weather fifteen miles; in stormy weather, against the wind, from five to eight miles; and down the wind, twenty to twenty-five miles.

The caloric engine and fog trumpet at Cranberry Island, N. S., having become comparatively useless, from weakness of sound and breaking down of machinery, has been replaced with a powerful Steam Whistle, similar to those at Seal Island, Yarmouth and Lepreau.

The Minister recommends the erection of a Fog Whistle at Digby Gut, in the Bay of Fundy, to accommodate the increasing steamboat traffic, in consequence of the completion of the railway at that point.

A new minor light has been erected at the entrance of Lessiboo River, N. S., at an elevation of thirty-six feet above high water, Catoptric system, and can be seen eight or ten miles.

Apple River Light House, N. S., was burnt in 1869. A new light, Catoptric system, sixty-four feet high, can be seen twelve miles, has been erected.

The Light-House at Chester, or East Ironbound Island, N. S., was also burnt in 1870. It is replaced by a new Light House, 150 feet above the sea, and can be seen sixteen miles.

A new Light House has been erected on Scattarie Island, N. S., for lighting vessels through the Main-a-Dieu Passage, for the service of the coal traffic.

A new Light House has been erected on Ingonish Island, Cape Breton, light on the Dioptric system, visible sixteen or twenty miles.

A new Light House has been built on Fishing Point, entrance of Pugwash Harbour, N. S., light revolving, on the Catoptric system, visible sixteen or twenty miles.

A Beacon light is to be placed in St. Ann's Harbour, Cape Breton, for the service of local marine interests.

Also a Beacon light has been erected at Cox's Point, Grand Lake, N. B., visible ten miles.

#### CAPE RACE FOG WHISTLE.

A correspondence has been had with the Imperial authorities respecting the erection of a powerful Steam Fog Whistle at Cape Race, in addition to the Light House at that point, for preventing accidents to life and property in the dense fogs which frequently