

house was erected at Point Atkinson, in the Gulf of Georgia, but was not put into operation until the Spring of 1875. Two iron beacons were placed on Gabriola reef, in the Gulf of Georgia, and Walker Rock, Trincomalee channel. Two bell-buoys were placed near the entrance to Victoria Harbor, and on the Kelp reef. The number of buoys and beacons in this division amounts to 39—15 iron and the rest wood. The total cost was \$18,519.15.

THE OIL

Required for the light-houses was supplied by the Union Petroleum Co., London, Ontario, and except that required for Nova Scotia and British Columbian lights was of Canadian manufacture. The oil for Nova Scotia was American, supplied by Messrs. Yeoman & Burney, Montreal. Colza oil, imported by the department, was used in British Columbia, except at the new light-house at Cape Beale. The rate paid was 16 cents per gallon, delivered at Quebec; 11 cents at Montreal; 12 cents at Hamilton, and 11 cents at Sarnia. The oil for Nova Scotia was delivered at Halifax for 19 cents per gallon. The amount supplied at Halifax was 31,752 gallons; for the other places, 47,161 gallons. The total number of lights in the Dominion on the 31st December, 1875, was 341. The total expenditure for the year ending June 30th, 1874, was:

Construction	\$151,844 61
Maintenance	359,496 03
Total	\$511,340 64

DOMINION STEAMERS.

These consist of the screw steamer 'Napoleon III,' 'Lady Head,' and 'Sir James Douglas,' the paddle-wheels 'Druid' and 'Richelieu,' and two small river police steamers, the 'Dolphin' and 'Alert.' The first of these was unfortunately sunk by the shoving of the ice in the harbor of Quebec, in May, 1874, but was successfully raised, and not being so seriously damaged as was supposed, has been altered and repaired, to be employed again in "Light-house Service." The 'Druid' was employed during the early part of the season in light-house service, between Quebec and Montreal. During June and part of July she was used to convey the Governor General and suite to different places in the Lower St. Lawrence. During August she was put in good repair, and was employed again in the fall in attending to the buoy service. The 'Lady Head' was as usual employed in attending the Humane Establishment on Sable Island and supplying the lights in Nova Scotia and the Bay of Fundy. She also supplied several of the steam fog whistles with coal, and, late in the season, supplied the light-houses on Anticosti and in the Quebec Division, being employed till nearly December. The 'Sir James Douglas' was employed in carrying mails and passengers and supplying lights on the east coast of Vancouver, but owing to the breaking of her shaft, was rendered unfit for service. Repairs have been made, which it is expected will render her able to perform all the Dominion Service for some years. The total expenditure on account of Dominion steamers was \$105,064.64.

METEOROLOGY.

The chief stations in correspondence with the Central office at Toronto are Sydney and Halifax, Nova Scotia; St. John and Fredericton, New Brunswick; Montreal and Quebec, Quebec; Woodstock, Ontario; Winnipeg, Manitoba; and Spence's Bridge, British Columbia;—at these, observations are recorded at intervals not exceeding three hours, and at Quebec for several months every second hour. From these observations may be computed corrections for diurnal and non-periodic variations. The two Quebec and Nova Scotian stations are also Reporting Telegraph Stations, as are also Chatham, N. B., Cape Rozier and Father Point, Que., and Ottawa, Ont. A new telegraph station has been established at Parry Sound, Ont.

There are two Reserve Telegraph Stations at St. Andrews, N. B., and Charlottetown, Prince Edward Island. The Drum Stations are 13 in number, mostly in Nova Scotia and New Brunswick. The Ordinary Stations are divided into three classes. Of class I, there are 2 in Newfoundland, 5 in Nova Scotia, 1 in P. E. Island, 2 in New Brunswick, 1 in Quebec, 2 in Ontario, 2 in Manitoba, and 2 in British Columbia. Of class II, 3 in Newfoundland, 4 in Nova Scotia, 1 in P. E. Island, 3 in New Brunswick, 5 in Quebec, 13 in Ontario, and 1 in Manitoba. Of class III, 5 in Nova Scotia, 1 in New Brunswick, 9 in Quebec, 5 in Ontario and 1 in Manitoba. Besides these there are several stations from which special weekly observations are made and sent to Toronto. Instruments and books have been supplied to a number of stations in the North-West Territories and to a number of light-houses in the older Provinces. Storm-warnings were issued on 58 days in 1874, the number being 541. To Quebec and points westward, 224 warnings were addressed on 29 days, and to points east of Quebec on 31 days. The greatest number of these was in November—104; the least in July—none; and in March—4. These storm-warnings indicate that a storm will probably occur in some portion of a region within a radius of 100 miles of the port named. Delays in transmissions of these warnings are sometimes unavoidable from the closing of the telegraph offices, but this has been lessened by an arrangement with the Western Union Telegraph Company's agent at Sackville, who receives warnings at nights, and transmits them very early in the morning. The enlargement of telegraphic facilities and the addition of many new telegraphic reporting stations are needed to make the system more generally useful. The total expenditure at the Central office during the year, ended 30th June, 1874, was \$5,922.50. For chief stations, \$3,516.67; for telegraph stations, including reserve stations, \$5,451.50; for drum stations, \$815, and for instruments, apparatus and general expenses, \$18,556.36. Total, \$33,491.

HARBOUR IMPROVEMENTS.

At the Ports of Bathurst, N.B., Amherst, House Harbour, Cape Chat, and Quebec, a tax of 10 cents per ton is levied on all vessels arriving, and the money applied to the improvement of the harbours. The amount collected during the fiscal year was \$2,769.00, about 230 less than in the preceding year.