

Pictou.—Prepared and type-written as above; and posted at the agency and the custom house. Supplied also to the following papers:—In *Pictou*, *The Advocate* and *The Standard*; in New Glasgow, *The Chronicle* and *The Enterprise*.

TIDE TABLES FOR 1898.

The tide tables issued for 1898 will include tables for St. John, N.B., as well as Halifax and Quebec. The tables for Halifax are based upon the four years of the old record above mentioned; and one complete year of the new record has been prepared for analysis. The new record is reduced to the original Admiralty low water datum, used for the chart of Halifax harbour; and this analysis, and the determination of Mean Sea Level, enables the same datum to be carried back to the old observations formerly obtained, and thus to bring them all to a uniform basis. A further year of the Quebec record has also been prepared and analysed, and the basis of the tables extended to include the two years from November, 1893, to January, 1896. The tables for St. John, N.B., are based upon the record extending from April, 1894, to May, 1896, or two full years. The time used in these tables is Standard time in all cases; and the tidal differences give the time of the tide for other places in Standard time also. Eastern standard time is used for Quebec and the Lower St. Lawrence as far as Point de Monts; as this is the best position for the dividing line between the River and the Gulf of St. Lawrence. This line is midway between the 75th and 60th standard meridians, and includes the whole of New Brunswick with the other Lower Provinces, in the region of Standard time for the 60th meridian. The tables for St. John, N.B., are therefore given in 60th meridian time, as well as Halifax; and also Charlottetown and Pictou.

These tide tables have been offered as usual to all the leading British and Canadian almanacs willing to publish them. We have unfortunately no Canadian almanac of sufficient breadth, either in Ontario or the Lower Provinces, to be willing to publish tide tables for all three of the principal tidal harbours of eastern Canada. It would therefore be much more satisfactory if the tide tables were published by this department; but to do so, it would be necessary to have a special assistant to attend to their preparation during the summer, and have them in print for the coming year not later than September, in time to furnish them to the almanacs for re-publication before the end of the year. This would enable all the tables to be issued in a uniform way, and accompanied by proper explanations; and in sufficient quantity to distribute to the agents, collectors of customs, pilots and others who should have copies. At present the expense of the printing itself cannot be met; as the appropriation for this survey is reduced for this year to two thousand five hundred dollars; and this has to cover the salaries of the tidal observers, maintenance of stations, inspection and travelling expenses, as well as the cost of calculation and preparation of the tide tables themselves. The present method of publication will therefore have to be continued in the meantime; and it will not likely be possible to prepare again for the coming season of navigation the tide tables for Father Point, Charlottetown and Pictou, so long as the work of the survey devolves upon myself alone without assistance, as there is already a large accumulation of arrears. This is to be regretted, as these tables could now be put upon a better basis with direct reference to St. Paul Island, as already explained.

The tide tables for Halifax, Quebec and St. John, N.B., will appear in *Greenwood's Almanac*, published by Mr. W. N. Greenwood, of Lancaster, England; and the tables for Halifax and Quebec in the *Canadian Almanac*, published by the Copp, Clark Co., of Toronto. The tables for Halifax alone will appear in *Belcher's Almanac*, published by the McAlpine Co.; in *Cogswell's Almanac*, published by Mr. R. H. Cogswell, of Halifax; and in *Brown's Almanac*, published by Messrs. J. Brown & Son, Glasgow. In the *Tide Tables* published by the U. S. Coast and Geodetic Survey, the Halifax tables are calculated from the tidal constants furnished by this survey. The tide tables for Quebec will be given in the publication prepared by the Montreal Harbour Commissioners for the use of the Pilot service. The tide