

The Commissioners report that the contractors for the harbour improvements in the River St. Charles will not be able to fulfil their engagement to complete their contract by the 1st October, 1882, and have asked for an extension of time, which request is under consideration. The graving dock works at St. Joseph de Levis have been retarded in some measure, owing to unusually low tides in the spring and early summer. The lifting barge has been busily engaged during the past season in removing boulders, anchors and other obstructions to navigation in the harbour.

The Report of the Harbour Commissioners for the Port of Pictou, N.S., for the calendar year ended 31st December last, will be found in Supplement No. 1, together with an account of their receipts and disbursements. The receipts from harbour dues and wharfage amounted to \$2,219.30, and the expenditure to \$378.37, leaving a balance in hand with amount remaining from preceding year, of \$2,248.81. The Commissioners report that they contemplate expending a large portion of the balance in hand in building a ballast wharf.

The Report of the North Sydney Harbour Commissioners for the year ended 31st December last, will also be found in Supplement No. 1, together with statements of account, and the Report of Harbour Master. The harbour dues and moneys collected amounted to \$959.28, and the expenditure to \$723.46, leaving a balance in the Commissioners' hands of \$235.82. From the Harbour Master's Report, it appears that during the past season 1,153 vessels arrived at the Port of North Sydney, having an aggregate tonnage of 245,220 tons. In this number, however, are included vessels calling for orders and those loading within the harbour, as well as those which entered at the port.

In Supplement No. 1 to this Report, will be found Reports from a number of Harbour Masters at the more important ports, appointed under the Acts 35 Vic. chap. 42, 36 Vic. chap. 9 and 63, and 37 Vic. chap. 34, with a statement of the fees collected by the Harbour Masters during the year ended 31st December last, and also a list of all the Harbour Masters appointed under these Acts.

The following Harbour Masters have been appointed by Order in Council during the past year, viz.:—

John A. McGowan, for Shelburne, N.S., on the 22nd January, at a salary not to exceed \$200 of the fees collected, in the room of James Muir, deceased.

James A. Halliday, for New Westminster, B.C., on the 23rd January, at a salary not to exceed \$100 of fees collected. Has since resigned.

James E. Hatfield, for Grenville, N.S., on the 5th March, at a salary not to exceed \$200 of fees collected.

Edward O'Bryan, for Halifax, N.S., on the 18th March, to receive the fees of office, in the room of Elijah Wood, deceased.