

## Department of Public Works.

### MABOU.

Mabou Harbour, Inverness County, is on the west coast of Cape Breton Island, 6 miles north east from Port Hood.

The entrance was formerly at the southern extremity of a range of sand hills, by an intricate channel obstructed by a bar, over which there was a depth of only 4 feet at low water.

In 1870, a survey was made and a report submitted, on the project of opening a new channel through the sand hills at their northern extremity, and closing the existing channel.

The work was commenced in 1872, a pier, on the south side of the new channel, 753 feet in length was completed in 1876, and the same year the old channel was closed. Expenditures have been made nearly every year since 1876, in constructing a brush and stone dam on the south side near the outer end of the pier; constructing and repairing a breastwork on the north side of the channel; repairing and close-piling the pier; and, since 1885, in constructing a work of brush and stone, in shoal water, on the south side of the channel.

In December, 1890, a portion of the pier 290 feet in length 90 to 380 feet from the outer end was carried away, and the remaining 90 feet, more or less damaged. The breastwork on the north side of the channel was destroyed several years ago.

In 1890-91, a dam of brush and stone, 250 feet in length and 10 feet in width on top, was constructed between the pier-head and the sand hills; and the brush and stonework, then extending 1,087 feet beyond the head of the pier, was raised nearly to high water level from end to end.

In 1891-92, a large amount was expended in extending and raising the brush and stonework on the south side of the channel, and in constructing groynes on the north side to collect sand and gravel and thus form a natural protection to an exposed clay-bank. The brush and stone work was extended 600 feet in from 6 to 9 feet at low water, the inner end being left a little above, and the outer end about 2 feet below low water; a work of brush and stone 60 to 20 feet in width and 5 feet in average height was built, extending *in* 380 feet from the original head of the pier, and *out*, over the existing brush and stone work, 120 feet; the remains of the head of the pier were removed, and 4 groynes respectively 55, 40, 45 and 55 feet long, 5 feet in width and 5 feet in height, were constructed on the north side of the channel. The groynes were made by driving piles in pairs, 5 feet apart, filling in with brush, and securing with cross caps at each pair of piles.

During the fiscal year 1892-93, the sum of \$600, was expended in extending the groynes on the north side of the channel, two of them 20, and the remaining two 40 feet each, and in constructing a new groyne 45 feet in length.

### MAITLAND.

The village of Maitland, Hants County, is situated on the western side of the mouth of the Shubenacadie River, which empties into the south side of the head of Cobequid Bay, the eastern extension of the Basin of Minas.

During the year the sum of \$300 has been spent in patching up some dangerous holes in the floor of the wharf, and the purchase of materials for more extensive and much needed general repairs.

### MARGAREE.

Margaree Harbour, Inverness County, is at the mouth of Margaree River, on the Gulf of St. Lawrence, about 30 miles north-east of Port Hood.

The entrance is by a narrow channel obstructed by a bar of shifting sand, over which there is at times only 5 feet at extreme low water. Spring tides rise 4 feet.

A pier constructed on the west side of the entrance to the harbour by the provincial government, was repaired and extended by the department in 1876 and 1879. In 1890-91, the work was extended 200 feet, and some repairs to the old work were effected.