

A Light Beacon has recently been placed on the ferry house, at the entrance of St. Ann's harbor, Victoria County, at a cost of \$187.35. Mr. J. Morrison was appointed keeper, at a salary of \$100 per annum.

The cost of these seven new Lights which were erected during last fiscal year was \$10,736.69 Canadian currency, and the amount voted in the estimates for their construction was \$10,936. In addition to this amount there was a sum of \$5,000 voted for constructing a Lighthouse at Sable Island.

The total number of new Lighthouses which have been put in operation in Nova Scotia since the date of confederation up to the close of 1871, was fourteen, including two which were rebuilt, and there are now under contract thirteen, which when finished will make twenty-seven new Lights exhibited since that period.

The total number of Lights in operation in Nova Scotia at the close of 1871, was sixty-five. There are no assistant keepers of Lights in this district paid by the Government, but in cases where keepers wish to employ assistants they pay them for their services.

During last fiscal year the following mentioned changes took place among the Light keepers of Nova Scotia :—In the month of October, 1870, Mr. Morrison, the keeper of Bird Island Light, Cape Breton, was killed by the bursting of his gun, and Mr. Angus Ross was appointed keeper in his place, at a salary of \$400 per annum.

The keeper of Sable Light, in the County of Shelburne, died last spring, and his son, Mr. Harvey Doane, was appointed in his place, at a salary of \$480.

On the 6th May, 1871, Mr. Nathan Smith, the keeper of Burnt Coat Light, in the County of Hants, was placed on the superannuation list, with an allowance of \$157.50, but no permanent appointment has been made to the office, the duties of the station having been performed by his son.

The number of light-keepers in this division during the last financial year was	63
Number of persons employed at the Humane Establishments, in addition to the light-keepers	24
Engineers for the fog whistles and trumpets at Yarmouth, Seal Island, Cranberry Island and Sambro	4
Superintendent of lights	1

The cost of maintaining the buoys and beacons in Nova Scotia during last fiscal year was \$2,091 52.

The superintendent at St. Paul's Island reports only one wreck at that place during last season. The iron ship *Minerva*, laden with general cargo and passengers from Liverpool to Montreal, went on shore on the 15th July, 1871, during a dense fog, and the vessel became a total loss. No lives were lost on this occasion, as the vessel held together long enough to enable the passengers, numbering over 300, along with the crew, to land in safety. They were taken care of on the island until a vessel was sent to take them off. It is supposed that if a powerful steam fog whistle had been in operation on this island, at the time the *Minerva* went ashore, the casualty would not have happened. The new