

## LIGHTHOUSE AND COAST SERVICE BELOW QUEBEC.

Since 1st March last, this branch of the Public Service has been managed by this Department through its agent at Quebec. On the 30th June last, there were in this division twenty-seven lights, including one Light ship in the Traverse, and at the close of navigation they had increased to thirty-eight, including two Light ships in the Traverse, an iron Light ship, with a steam fog whistle on board, below Red Island Reef, and a Light vessel on Sandy Beach Spit, in Gaspé Basin. Of this number three are minor lights above Quebec. A steam fog whistle was also established at the new Lighthouse Station, at the south point of Anticosti. The new Light at Cape Norman on the coast of Newfoundland, near the north-eastern entrance of the Straits of Belle Isle, was exhibited for the first time on the 1st October last. It is a powerful, first-class, revolving white sea light, on the catoptric principle, consisting of two faces, with three No. 1 circular burner lamps in each face and twenty-inch reflectors. The total amount expended in the construction of this Lighthouse, including lantern and apparatus, up to 30th June last, was \$5,506.22, but some expenditure was made on account of it subsequent to that date, which will appear in the financial statements of the Department for the current fiscal year. Mr. Henry Locke, a resident of that locality, who has been highly recommended to me was placed in charge as keeper at a salary of \$500 per annum.

In order to make the approach to the eastern entrance of the Straits of Belle Isle still more safe and improve the summer route between the United Kingdom and the St. Lawrence, I am of opinion that a powerful Light with a steam fog whistle attached, should be placed on Cape Bauld, a prominent point of land, some distance to the eastward of Cape Norman. A similar class light is also much required at Cape Whittle, near the western entrance of the Straits of Belle Isle. At present there are four high class sea lights in the Straits and with these two additional lights, the passage through them will be rendered much safer than at present, with much less chance of detention. These additional Lights are all the more necessary on account of the outward mail steamers usually passing through the Straits at night.

The new Light at the south-western extremity of Point Rich, on the Newfoundland coast, in the Straits of Belle Isle, was exhibited for the first time on the 26th August last, and has been spoken of as a most superior light. It is a white flash light, on the catoptric principle, with six faces and two No. 1 circular burner lamps, with twenty-inch reflectors in each face. Mr. Eugene Roy was appointed keeper of it at a salary of \$500 per annum. The total cost of its construction up to the 30th June last, was \$9,129.52.

The new Light at Cape Ray, on the south western point of Newfoundland, at the southern entrance of the Gulf of St. Lawrence, was exhibited for the first time on the 13th July last. It is a first-class flash white sea light on the catoptric principle, with six faces, each containing two No. 1 circular burner lamps and twenty-inch reflectors. Mr. Robert Rennie was appointed keeper at a salary of \$600 per annum. The total cost of its construction up to the 30th June last, was \$10,903.82.

In my last report I alluded to the Light on the Great Bird Rocks, one of the Magdalen Islands in the Gulf of St. Lawrence, which was lighted up for the first time on