

Harbour. A new lighthouse has been erected on Machias Seal Island, on the south-east side of the Island, to range with the light on the north-west side of the same, which will shortly be put in operation; notice of particulars have already been forwarded to the Department.

BUOYS AND BEACONS.

OLD PROPRIETOR.

Lat. 45° 33' 10" N.; Long. 66° 40' 0" W.

On my last visit of inspection in August, to the light stations, I was able to see this spindle from Gannet Rock Light. Mr. McLaughlin reports that he thinks it requires additional cement wedged between the spindle and the rock at its base. I directed him to attend to it, and I herewith send a copy of his Report on this subject.

Mr. McLaughlin reports as follows:—

"In accordance with instructions that I gave Mr. W. B. McLaughlin on the 2nd October last, he visited the above ledge with four men on the 15th and 16th October, and found the spindle listed to the northward, so that it leaves a space of some two or three inches between the foot of the spindle and the rock on the southerly side; they ran the blade of the oar down some two feet between the shaft and the rock. The sea ran so high that he could not make out whether the cementing had given way or not, but it is evident the spindle was loose in its socket. He also found that the spindle bent to the northward near the shoulder upon which the iron ball is placed. He further thinks that the spindle has been struck by some vessel, during one of the heavy gales last winter. The sea ran so high at the time, that it was impossible for him to paint the spindle at that time. The spindle was not listed enough to injure it, providing it is secured in the socket.

BELL BUOY.

This is situated off the eastern end of Partridge Island, at the entrance to the Port of St. John, an indispensable guide to vessels entering this port. The new mooring tackle provided last year has been attached, and the buoy has been safely moored in her proper position since. It requires painting, and the mooring again overhauled before winter. It would be well for the Department to have an automatic buoy at this position, and also at Split Rock.

ST. GEORGE.

The above named district, which is under the charge of Mr. James Dick, is very extensive. In addition to the River and Port of St. George, he has supervision of the West Isles, a district which has long been neglected, and one where buoys were more required than almost any other cove on our coast. Part of these Islands are frequented by fishermen, and many of the harbours are used by merchant vessels in lumber and other trades. There have been nine new buoys placed outside, where there was none before, and still a number is yet required. There are two buoys needed off Hatheway's Head to mark the sunken rocks which lay right in the middle of the channel. The first buoy is required to mark the ledge that lays in the mid channel between St. Helena and Deer Island; this ledge is bare two hours before low water. The second buoy is required off a chain of Ledges lying between Deer Island and the north-east point of Dinner Island, and is bare at low water. There is another buoy required off Pompey Ledge, at the north-east end of Bar Island, at the entrance to the North-West Harbour. A buoy is also required off the south-west ledge buoy requires to be large and firmly bedded, as it is most important, and cannot well of Dinner Island, to mark the channel leading into North-West Harbor. The last-named