

House last year, and that it was now better fitted up than it had been for some time, and it was expected that it would not require much outlay for some years. It was a fortunate circumstance that government house was in such order last summer when we had such distinguished visitors.

Mr. OWEN could not see what use a light on Souris Bridge would be to masters of vessels, as it could not be seen any distance out the harbor, but it might be placed in some other position where it would be a benefit.

Mr. KICKHAM said it was agreed last session that a sum should be given for a light on Souris Bridge. A light there would be very useful to ship-owners, and would also serve another purpose—give light to the postman and other travellers crossing that Bridge at night. A light could not be kept on the breakwater on account of the impossibility of getting out to light the lamp when the tide was high.

Mr. PROWSE understood that in other places two lights were kept up for £20 and wished to know why £15 was required for one on Souris Bridge. If there was only one post-office in Souris, instead of two, a light would not be required to show the postman his way across the bridge.

Mr. McLEAN said there were two post-offices in Souris, but they were pretty far apart and were both required. The grant ought to be given for this light, which should be put in the most suitable place.

Hon. Mr. HOWLAND said that light-houses were now kept up much cheaper than they were some years ago. There were first-class lights at North Cape and East Point and Sea Cow Head. The apparatus for these light-houses had been imported by the late Government, and at that time it was thought necessary to use Colza oil, which was very expensive. The Colza oil would freeze at a temperature such as we had on our coast in autumn, when light-houses were required. Of late years it was found that Kerosene oil answered the purpose better, and was a great deal cheaper. There was one thing to which he would like to call attention, and of which a complaint had been made by ship-masters to the Admiralty Court, the light at North Cape was the same as the one at Escuminac, and one was sometimes mistaken for the other. Ship-masters wished to have this

remedied, by having a flashing light at North Cape. We were quite willing to have that light changed if the Dominion would bear the expense, and as they had the most vessels passing that way, it was of most consequence to them.

Mr. McNEILL said he had often thought there was some mismanagement in having the lights at North Cape and Escuminac similar, for the coasts were so much alike that, in thick weather, it would be very difficult to distinguish one from the other.

Mr. McCORMACK thought the people of Souris were entitled to a light, as it was a place where a great deal of trade was carried on. A light on the bridge could be seen for a long distance out the harbor.

Hon. Mr. HAVILAND said if the light on Souris Bridge was chiefly for the benefit of the travelling public, it was establishing a dangerous precedent to grant money for it.

Mr. KICKHAM said the light was required for the benefit of vessels; but the fact of its being useful to travellers also should be no objection against placing it on the bridge.

Mr. RAMSAY said that as the subject of light houses was being discussed, he would remark that a light house was much required at West Point.

Hon. Mr. DUNCAN said he had some acquaintance with Souris harbor, having been there with the *Heather Belle*, but the channel was so narrow it was impossible to turn the steamer, and she had to be backed out a considerable distance.

Mr. McLEAN said the reason the hon. member from Belfast (Mr. Duncan) had to back his steamer out was because he (Mr. Duncan) did not know how to turn a steamer, and having taken the command from the captain he was obliged to get out the best way he could.

Hon. Mr. LAIRD was sorry that the hon. member for Belfast (Mr. Davies) was not in his place, as last year he had stated that loaf sugar could be procured much cheaper by way of Souris than if it was entered at any other harbor, intimating that goods were brought into Souris in a somewhat different manner than at any other port. He would be in favor of giving Souris two lights, which would probably prevent such insinuations being thrown out against that place.