

medical treatment, but is now, as well as the Captain, recovering. Dr. Shea, sent over to attend the sick, by some means did not reach the schooner "Wasp" in time, and yet remains separated from his family, and actually a prisoner on the Island, he went over to help to bring others off. There also remains three of the "Bristolian's" men who were too ill to be removed. The disasters to shipping last fall, awakened much sympathy in the hearts of the people ashore and caused our Department great anxiety. But, while the public remembering the horrors they had read and heard of, which the poor castaway might expect on Anticosti, were on the *qui-vive* for news, we published all the messages received, and, as often as possible, the answers I sent; and I may here state that in 4 days I received and answered from above and below Quebec, 93 telegraphic messages, nearly all connected with disasters, and the plans to adopt to prevent others.

As to the means of supporting life on Anticosti, I am happy to say that Government, with a view to helping the inhabitants and shipwrecked people, generously placed at my disposal sufficient funds to carry out a plan which has been attended with the happiest results.

In 1874, owing to the number of fishermen from Newfoundland, who by the glowing promises of an Anticosti Company, managed by a venturesome foreigner who thought he could found a colony and thereby make a fortune, whole families were induced to leave their homes and settle on this land of great promise. They were provided with means to build houses, and some supplies for which they were expected to pay in fish,—but it was not long before the company came to grief, and at the approach of winter—no more provisions could be got from them. Our light-house keepers wrote most doleful accounts of the state of affairs; and as our Depots would be emptied by these poor people to prevent them from starving, if any shipwrecks should take place, the crews would be without