

station on Signal Hill, connected by telephone with all the important points of the Island—Cape Spear, Cape Race, Cape Ray, Cape Norman, and Cape Bauld; and by telegraph and cable with all the principal seaports and scientific centers in the world! Such a project would be no mere childish pageant, but would raise us at once to a high and important position. I have not the slightest doubt that if this matter were properly and (let me say) unanimously set forth and supported by our people, we would receive immediate and generous assistance from outside countries. So much is our importance, as an observing station, already valued by America, that even now our small and insignificant observatory is, if I mistake not, liberally subsidized by the Smithsonian Institute; and there can be no doubt that our newly proposed Cabot observatory, erected according to the latest and improved designs, and equipped with the best approved instruments and apparatus, would be liberally and eagerly supported by the government of America, and England, also, might hold forth a friendly hand towards us, and thus make some restitution for all she owes us on account of Treaty restrictions. The new observatory would be ornamental as well as useful. It would be a center of practical study, of astronomy, of meteorology, and kindred sciences, for the youth of our various colleges and educational institutions, who would thereby be able to have practical experiments of the theoretical lectures received in their academical halls. It should also be adorned with a lofty and massive tower of our native granite, surmounting which would arise a colossal statue of Cabot, our discoverer and our patron, who would stretch out his protecting arm over our city and our coast; while from his brow should radiate a beacon bright, whose electric rays would flash across the bosom of the ocean, would be a guiding star to the approaching ship, over the tempest tossed billows to the haven of safety, and at the same time would enlighten the hearts of our people with noble aspirations, and fill with sentiments of patriotism and national pride, the minds of our countrymen for centuries to come.