

when, as has very lately occurred in a small district of this Government, the processes of justice are resisted, its officers maltreated, and its mandates defied, it becomes my first duty to assert the supremacy and vindicate the dignity of the Laws.

I request your attention to a dilemma in which I may find myself placed by the want of some retiring allowance for worn-out public servants.

When there is no alternative between retaining a man in a post for which age or infirmity has rendered him unfit, and consigning him for the remainder of his days to wretchedness and destitution, it is clear that the very principle of humanity is brought into operation against the public welfare.

Having pointed out what seems of highest consequence, inasmuch as without security of person and property there can be no happiness, I would next propose the encouragement of education—some aid will be well bestowed on the different associations for the promotion of that benevolent purpose; and this I know, if given at all, will be given with strict impartiality.

In connexion with this subject I have further to observe, that the foundation of a public seminary for the higher branches of learning and useful and elegant accomplishments, would do honour to our society, and spare its wealthier and middle classes the painful necessity of parting from their children at an age when parental care and supervision are supremely requisite.

I will cause to be laid before you copies of the instructions under which surveyors are marking out roads, in pursuance of your votes and intentions; as also of such reports as have been or shall be made by them. From one of these gentlemen I have received very gratifying accounts of the character of the soil on the line between St. John's and the Bay of Bulls.

The sum as yet allotted for this judicious preliminary survey will not be sufficient to cover the expense, but the guardians of the public purse will feel with me the great advantage of a liberal appropriation of money to an object so essential as a ready communication between the scattered settlements of this extensive colony.

The Hospital at River Head in its present state is, I regret to say, rather a disgrace than a credit to the community. I commend it to your protection, and will joyfully resign any rights of Government therein, provided you will convert it into a public institution. An additional wing should be built, and special care should likewise be taken for the separate accommodation of lunatics—both in compassion to them, and in commiseration of other patients who now suffer extremely from the occasional turbulence of those unfortunate creatures.

We have of late been enduring a severe infliction of small pox, which has committed great ravages amongst the inhabitants of St. John's and its vicinity. This evil has been aggravated by the unhappy prejudice existing here against vaccination, a discovery which, duly appreciated and universally and properly applied, would, if it failed wholly to eradicate the disease, at least render it nearly innocuous—and might therefore well be ranked amid the greatest blessings of Providence.

It appears to me that an arrangement for the diffusion of vaccination and the free distribution of *lymph*, with printed directions and instructions for its use, might be united with the proposed establishment of a public Hospital.

You will perceive by documents which shall be forwarded, that a portion of land on "Church Hill" was granted by Government as a site for the construction of a Market Place. Several years having elapsed with-