

IMPROVEMENTS IN THE NAVIGATION OF THE ST. LAWRENCE.

The Council have taken a deep interest in all questions affecting the security and efficiency of navigation on the Lower St. Lawrence, and, in furtherance of that object, have held communication with both the Trinity House and the Honorable the Minister of Marine and Fisheries. In a letter addressed to the latter gentleman, the Council urged on the Government the removal of the Light House from the centre of Red Island Reef, and the substitution of a Light Ship at the east end of Red Island Reef, with a steam fog whistle for thick weather, a Light Ship on Manicougan Shoals, which are very long and dangerous, and the establishment of guns on Egg Island, and at Point des Monts, to be fired at short intervals, as is done at Bic and Green Island. These important suggestions, your Council have reason to hope, will be favourably entertained by the Government, as the Trinity House have approved of them, and submitted estimates to the Marine Department of the cost of the Light Ship on Red Island. The gun on Point des Monts will be fired from 1st April.

ADDRESSES TO LORD MONCK AND SIR N. F. BELLEAU.

On the arrival of His Excellency Lord Monck, as Governor General of the Dominion of Canada, and of Sir N. F. Belleau, as Lieutenant Governor of the Province of Quebec, your Council presented them with complimentary addresses, congratulating them on their appointment to the high and responsible positions to which they had been called.

CULLING AND MEASUREMENT OF LUMBER.

The present regulations for the culling and measurement of boards and planks, intended for exportation, being detrimental to the interests of the trade, a deputation waited on His Excellency the Lieutenant Governor, and drew his attention to the matter. After consultation with the Executive, your Council were informed by His Excellency that the whole subject had been referred to the Federal authorities at Ottawa. A Special Committee of the Board, composed of merchants engaged in the timber and deal trade, have been actively engaged for some time past in revising the present Lumber Act, and have reported to the Council that several amendments and additions are necessary. This report having been approved of, has been forwarded to Ottawa, and strong hopes are entertained that a bill, founded on these recommendations, will become law.

FLOUR AND MEAL.

The Board of Examiners have been called upon, during the year, to decide two disputed cases referred to them, under the Inspection Act, for their arbitration.

SILVER QUESTION.

Considerable correspondence on this vexed subject has taken place between the Council and the several Boards of Trade in Ontario and

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