

must always be necessary, unless care for the roads is altogether abandoned.

Facilities for communication being acknowledged as of the first importance in growing communities, it is a matter of regret to the Government that they have failed, during the past year, to effect that improvement in the Coastal Steam Service which it was hoped to accomplish. Hitherto it has not been found possible to make arrangements for the purpose, on terms which would be likely to obtain your approbation. But this subject still commands the attention which it deserves, and I am sure that you will not withhold such reasonable means as are in your gift, for obtaining the object in view. It has been ascertained, as regards the Mail Service in Conception Bay, that advantages in new arrangements would be immediately derived from the erection of a Breakwater at Portugal Cove, a structure which would also confer considerable benefit on the seafaring population of that locality. The details of this useful work will be submitted for your information, and your sanction is sought to obtain the necessary means for its accomplishment.

Several other measures of public utility will be introduced by the Government for your favorable consideration, among which I may notice one aiming at the more efficient application of the funds appropriated by you for the great cause of Education. It has been found difficult to procure duly qualified Teachers for the Schools, and many obstacles have thwarted the attempts hitherto made to train persons who are disposed to take service in this capacity. On obtaining the authority for which it is necessary to apply to you, it is proposed to establish a Normal School for the preparation of Teachers, which, it is hoped, might overcome some of the difficulties which are now experienced. Institutions of this kind have, within my own knowledge, produced great benefit in other places.

Evidence, in many shapes, and from different quarters, has been presented to me, of serious detriment to the source of wealth in the Salmon Rivers of this Government by indiscriminate fishing, over which no control is exercised, and which threatens the destruction of possessions very valuable to the Colony. In other neighbouring Provinces the streams are made a source of revenue, to some extent ; but even regarding revenue so derived, for other purposes, as an object of secondary importance, I would suggest to you as matter for enquiry, how far it would be possible, by the adoption of provisions similar to those of Canada and New Brunswick, to establish a kind of Marine Police Regulations for the protection of the Salmon Fisheries in Labrador and Newfoundland, of which the expense might be covered by income produced from this source.

The Volunteer Organization Act, passed in 1861, and continued in 1863, will expire at the end of this Session. I hope that you will not only provide for the maintenance of the Volunteer Corps already in existence, but encourage extension of the organization. The public spirit