

August 16th 1907.

Joseph Girard Esq., M.P.,
St. Gedeon,
Las St. Jean,
Quebec.

Dear Sir:

May I trouble you with what we, who live in Harrington feel to be a serious drawback and terrible inconvenience, The settlement at Harrington is situated on the islands, which at one point approach the main land within a mile.

The Government telegraph office is situated, in summer a distance of about four miles from the people, and in winter is still further away from the islands.

Many times for several days at a time, and oftentimes for a week, it is impossible to get there on account of gales of wind. In the spring and early winter, when the ice is either too thin or too rotten, it is impossible to reach the office for about ten days or two weeks.

May we not have the question of cable connection looked into, the water is not deep, there is mud and sand bottom for the most part, the ice melts out, it does not drive out, and so far as we can see there are no difficulties in the way that could not be easily and inexpensively overcome.

Harrington has a population of over two hundred people, and it is at this place that my mission has established its quarters on the Cote Nord.

We have erected buildings, hospital and doctor's house, storehouses, wharf, etc., at an outlay of something like twenty two thousand dollars.

You can imagine what a drawback it is to be cut off from telegraphic communication in the way that I have mentioned.

More than one numerous signed petition has been sent to the telegraph Department, praying for an office on the island, with cable connection but no notice has ever been taken of these petitions, not even their receipt has been acknowledged.