

va-Scotia; the heavy charge attending the relief and providing for the numerous individuals thus thrown on shore, in a state of destitution, had been defrayed from the funds of the Province; and states, that the Local Legislature would be anxious and willing to contribute towards the expense of the proposed Lights, although their establishment much more nearly concerned the Trade to and from the other British North American Provinces.

My Lords further observe, that all succeeding Communications from the Secretary of State notice the receipt of intelligence of further wrecks and losses, and losses of life and property, and unequivocally evince the urgent necessity on the score of humanity, and of every consideration connected with the safety of the maritime trade with the North American Colonies or of His Majesty's Ships employed on those Seas, for the adoption of every practical means of protecting Shipping from the dangers which attend the navigation between Cape-Breton and Newfoundland.

That the proposed Lights on St. Paul and Scattarie Islands, would most materially tend to effect this very desirable object, appears to be the concurrent opinion of all the parties conversant with the Navigation of that part of North America, who have been consulted on the subject; but although these Islands are within the jurisdiction of the Government of Nova-Scotia, my Lords cannot but admit that the allegation on the part of the House of Assembly at Nova-Scotia, that the adoption of precautions, with respect to the dangers in question, concerns the Trade with the other British Provinces in North America, fully as much as the Trade to Nova-Scotia, is well founded. My Lords are, however, not prepared to approve of the suggestion of the House of Assembly, with regard to the imposition by the Parliament of the United Kingdom of dues for defraying an expenditure for this purpose, to be levied either in the Ports of the Colonies concerned, or on Shipping clearing from British Ports for those Colonies; but it appears to my Lords that, provided the Legislatures of those Colonies can be brought to concur in making provision for the future current expense for maintaining the proposed Lights on the Islands of St. Paul and Scattarie, the important considerations to which they have adverted, would justify an application to Parliament for the grant of such sum as would defray the charge of erecting Light-Houses, and of fitting them in the first instance with the requisite Apparatus and Machinery.

Transmit Copies of the Report of the Commanding Engineer in Nova-Scotia, of the Letter from the Secretary of the Trinity House, and of this Minute, to the Secretary of the Admiralty, in order that they may be submitted for the information of that Board, and for any further suggestions the Lords of the Admiralty may see occasion to offer, with respect to the subject to which these papers relate.

HALIFAX, NOVA-SCOTIA, 27th JUNE, 1835.

SIR—

In obedience to your Order of the 2d April, No. 364, and the Board's Minute of 30th March, 1835, directing me, with reference to the Communications from the Lords Commissioners of H. M. Treasury, respecting the Light-Houses proposed to be erected on St. Paul's and Scattarie Islands, to ascertain and report in what manner the existing Light-Houses in Nova-Scotia and Cape-Breton were built, and what facilities the Province may afford, in respect of Artificers, materials or otherwise for the construction of buildings of this description. I have the honor to transmit the inclosed list of the existing Light-Houses on the Coast of Nova-Scotia and Cape-Breton, which were all originally erected, and are still kept up at the expense of the Province, under the superintendence of Commissioners appointed by Acts of the Provincial Legislature.—Of the eleven existing Light-Houses only two are of stone, viz—that at Sambro Island, erected in 1758, and the Shelburne Light-House, built in 1788, both of which, it has been found necessary for their preservation, to cover with an exterior casing of Boards and Shingles, in consequence of the effects of the severe and variable weather of this climate upon Masonry in such exposed situations.

2d. Neither St. Paul or Scattarie Islands afford any facilities in respect to materials or otherwise, and therefore, whatever may be required for the construction of buildings must be sent out framed and ready to be put up with the utmost dispatch. These Islands being uninhabited, except by the party recently stationed at each, to afford aid to those who may be Shipwrecked and happen to reach the shore, and the approach particularly to St. Paul's being difficult at all times, and during the winter months from October to May wholly impracticable.

3d. I therefore consider that buildings of Wood about 40 feet in height to the foot of the Lantern, standing upon stone foundations, of 5 feet from the ground, and 30 feet in diameter at the base, would be best adapted for such situations, and fully answer the important object in view, of speedily establishing Lights where they are so urgently required.

4th. From the enquiries I have made, as to the cost of the Light-Houses of a similar description, erected by the Provincial Commissioners, since 1831, I estimate that the expense of erecting the proposed Light-Houses, in the manner I have suggested, would not exceed £1,500 sterling each, including the Lamps and fitting up the fixed Lights; but should revolving or coloured Lights be adopted, to distinguish either the Light on St. Paul's or that on Scattarie Island, from the intermediate one on Low Point, Sydney, an additional charge of £250 sterling would be incurred for the machinery.

In the estimated amount of £1,500 is included the expense of forming Cellars or Depots, detached from the main wooden buildings, and as nearly fire and frost proof as practicable, sufficient to con-