



Gibraltar Point lighthouse (Toronto Public Library)

Four years later, the restless legislators in the Assembly presented an address to Hunter's successor, Francis Gore, requesting that a lighthouse on Gibraltar Point at the entrance to the harbour at York be built, promising that "this House will make good the expenses thereof out of any of the unappropriated moneys in the hands of the Receiver General" ... at least until there were sufficient funds from the lighthouse duties to pay the money back.¹⁸ Acting on those assurances the collector of customs at York, William Allen, was authorized to arrange for the construction of this second light. Again, the artisans of the local regiment, by this time the 41st, were recruited to do the construction.¹⁹ With the financially careful General Hunter gone, Gore's letter of authorization merely told Allan to organize construction and submit his bills for auditing. There were no plans, no estimates and no injunctions to economize. Nor had there been from the legislature. When the light was first shown in 1808, the bills amounted to £946, just under a five-fold increase in costs.

just how much the company masons were to be paid for a civilian project. The details in Bush, *Canadian Lighthouse* 60-62 are less than complete. See also Lillian Rea Benson, "The First Lighthouse on the Great Lakes," *Inland Seas* 2:2 (April 1945), 14-17.

¹⁸ *JHA*, 9 March 1808, 261; 10 March 1808, 262.

¹⁹ Bush, *Canadian Lighthouse*, 62-63.