

improved plan, and of such materials as to afford the greatest practicable security against the recurrence of the calamities lately suffered, such loan to be effected by the corporation under the guarantee of the Legislature, and applied under their direction.

(Attested.)

(signed) *F. X. Garneau,*
City Clerk.

Quebec, 30 June 1845.

Provincial Secretary's Office,
Montreal, 4 July 1845.

Sir,

I HAVE the honour, by command of the Governor-general, to inform you that his Excellency has had under consideration in Council your letter of the 30th ultimo, reporting the second disastrous fire at Quebec, which took place during the night of the 28th ultimo and also the resolutions on the subject adopted at the public meeting of the citizens of Quebec, held on the 30th.

His Excellency commands me now in reply to assure you, and through you the citizens of Quebec, that he most deeply sympathises with them in the magnitude and distressing circumstances of this calamity, in the individual loss and suffering it has caused, and in the general injury it is calculated further to inflict. With this feeling he has anxiously considered in what manner public aid can be legitimately afforded, and what steps can be taken for the prevention of such fearful disasters hereafter.

To aid in the erection of temporary buildings (having in view the impossibility of a sufficient number of permanent buildings being prepared before next winter), and also in the affording of necessary relief to persons otherwise destitute, his Excellency has been pleased in Council to direct that advances may be made from the public chest, as required from time to time by yourself as Mayor of the city, or by the committee of relief, to the extent of 5,000*l.* currency, to be submitted for the approval of the Provincial Parliament at the next Session.

For the permanent rebuilding of the destroyed suburbs, his Excellency will be prepared to recommend to Parliament to authorize the negotiation of a loan in England, on the security of the province, for the sum of 100,000*l.* currency, payable with interest in a fixed number of years; the monies so to be raised to be employed in granting to owners of land within the limits of the fires, to aid them in building thereon, loans on as favourable terms as may be found practicable, without ultimate loss to the province; the sums so loaned to be secured on the lands of the borrowers, and perhaps made a privileged claim thereon, and further security where required to be taken; each loan to any individual, and the security offered by him, to be approved by the Attorney-general for Lower Canada; and all other necessary precautions taken to secure the expenditure of all monies so loaned on the erection of buildings of specified materials and character.

For the prevention of such disasters hereafter, his Excellency will further be prepared to recommend to Parliament to confer on the corporation of the city very extensive powers for the regulation of the mode of building within the city limits, and for the widening of streets, on making compensation for land taken.

Upon the many details of the measures above suggested, his Excellency is desirous to receive suggestions from yourself and the corporation; and I am accordingly to assure you, that any representations which that body or yourself may make in regard to them, will not fail to receive his most attentive consideration.

I have, &c.
(signed) *D. Daly.*

Hon. R. E. Caron, Mayor, Quebec.

TREASURY MINUTE, dated 5 August 1845.

THE Chancellor of the Exchequer states to the Board, that Her Majesty having been graciously pleased to accede to the Address of the House of Commons, relating to the relief of the sufferers by the late calamitous fire at Quebec, has expressed Her desire that such relief should be afforded without delay; and he suggests that the amount contemplated by the House of Commons should be forthwith placed at the disposal of the Governor-general of Canada, in order that it may be applied to the purpose in question.

Write to Mr. Stephen, requesting he will state to Lord Stanley that the communication above mentioned has been made to this Board, and that, in compliance with Her Majesty's desire, my Lords have thought it advisable that the amount contemplated by the House of Commons should be placed at the immediate disposal of the Governor-general of Canada, in order that it may be applied for the relief and assistance of the sufferers in such manner as the Governor-general may see fit.

And Mr. Stephen will further acquaint Lord Stanley, that my Lords will accordingly forthwith instruct the officer in charge of the Commissariat in Canada to make such issue from the chest of his department for the purpose in question, to the extent of 20,000*l.*, as the Governor-general may require and direct; and he will move Lord Stanley to cause the Governor-general to be apprized of these instructions, and to authorize the Governor-general