

[No. III.] Answer of Gov. PICKMORE.

Fort Townshend, St. Johns, Newfoundland,

20th January, 1818.

GENTLEMEN—I have the honour to acknowledge the receipt of your letter of the 27th ult. acquainting me that a subscription had been entered into at Boston for the purpose of affording immediate aid to the sufferers by the recent conflagrations at St. Johns, and that a cargo of such articles as were considered best adapted to the exigencies of the moment had been purchased and forwarded by the American brig Messenger, Capt. PETERSON, consigned to me as President of the Society for improving the condition of the poor of St. Johns.

I have the satisfaction to acquaint you that the Messenger arrived here on the evening of the 16th inst. and having discharged the cargo agreeably to the bill of lading, is now ready to return to Boston.

I beg to assure the Committee that I shall use my best endeavours in the distribution of this bounty to fulfil their benevolent intentions; but I confess myself unable to express, in adequate terms, on the part of those whose relief has been the object of the humane consideration of the inhabitants of Boston, the feelings which their generous act has excited. Individually, I desire to offer my warmest acknowledgments to them; and shall not fail to communicate to His Majesty's Government this spontaneous act of liberality, which in its effects I trust will tend to increase and cement more firmly the relations of friendship which now so happily subsists between the two nations.

I have the honour to be, Gentlemen, your most obedient humble servant,

FRANCIS PICKMORE,

Vice-Admiral, and Governor of Newfoundland.

TO JAMES PERKINS, ARNOLD WELLES, JONA. AMORY, jun.
BENJAMIN RICH, TRISTRAM BARNARD & JOHN HOUS-
TON, Esquires.