

Committee, on the evening of the 4th of February, the result of their researches.

The report of the Visitors, on meeting your Committee at the above named period, was such as satisfied them that the necessities of the poor, particularly for the article of Fire-Wood, had really demanded that promptitude with which your Committee wished them to be relieved, as the weather at the time was severe in the extreme.

At this meeting your Committee were informed by the Secretary, that the heavy draught upon the Society's depôt of Wood to meet the exigencies of the Poor, had left a quantity not more than sufficient to meet the demands of the ensuing fortnight; and they therefore felt it to be their duty to communicate to His Excellency the Governor, the situation of the poor of the town; and accordingly nominated three gentlemen of their number to wait upon His Excellency for this purpose, and to ascertain if the Society could be accommodated with the loan of One Hundred Cords of Wood, from His Majesty's Fuel-Yard, as there was only a trifling quantity to be purchased at the wharves, and that at an exorbitant price. In answer to this communication, His Excellency, with his usual feeling for the poor, was pleased, in the most obliging manner, to permit One Hundred Cords, if wanted, to be placed at the disposal of your Committee, to be returned to the Fuel-Yard in the ensuing summer, or paid for at the contract price, at the option of your Committee.

Seventy-five Cords were accordingly drawn for by the directions of your Committee; when a quantity having been brought to market, and the price fallen considerably, they were enabled to purchase it in such parcels as became necessary. The wants of the poor being very urgent, and many of the individuals seeking relief not actually the poor of the town, although thrown by misfortune upon the charity of its inhabitants, your Committee conceived it but just to apply to the Legislature, when sitting, for such assistance as in their wisdom they might think proper to bestow; and they have the pleasure to state that the liberal sum of Sixty Pounds was voted in aid of the benevolent intentions of the Society, without which your Committee would not have been enabled to replace the Wood which had been obtained from His Majesty's Fuel-Yard, unless by purchasing it with their own individual means: the private subscriptions to the Funds of the Society having fallen off far beyond the reasonable expectation of your Committee.

The Secretary having informed your Committee of the facilities afforded by the kindness of F. W. Haden, Esq. Deputy Commissary General, in issuing and returning the above quantity of Wood, they cannot refrain from expressing their high