

TO THE
RIGHT HONOURABLE SIR GEORGE GREY,

Her Majesty's Principal Secretary of State for the Colonies.

SIR,

THE Roman Catholic majority of the Assembly of Newfoundland, having, in the session which has just terminated, refused to exercise their legislative functions, and thus produced a crisis in the political condition of the island, which will, it is presumed, render necessary the interference of the Imperial Government—the Protestant minority of the Assembly, in conjunction with a very large number of the most influential Protestant inhabitants of St. John's, desirous that in any change which may take place, their interests may not be overlooked, have deputed me respectfully to lay before you their views on this important subject, as expressed in the resolutions of the Protestant Committee of St. John's, which are herewith submitted.

From the time of the first agitation by the Assembly of the subject of responsible government, in 1851, the Protestant inhabitants of the Colony have always been strongly opposed to its unqualified concession; because they felt assured that with our existing constitution, the concession of responsible government would in effect be the establishment