

disturbance. We humbly submit to Your Majesty that this country is not fitted for a colonial Legislature; the few years that the General Assembly has existed has proven to every dispassionate mind that it is unsuited to it.

To the existence of the House of Assembly we can trace all the evils that have been inflicted on us; and on its removal alone can we hope to return to our former state of peace and confidence. That we do not pray for its removal on selfish grounds, or to avoid the payment of those taxes which it has imposed on our trade, we beg respectfully to state that we are willing that the existing ones should be continued, in order that Your Majesty's Government may be enabled to defray the civil expenditure of the colony therefrom.

We therefore most humbly pray Your Most Gracious Majesty,

That in regard to the peace and prosperity of one of the oldest of the British colonies, and in compliance with the fervent wishes of thousands of Your Majesty's loyal subjects, who would shed their blood in defence of Your Majesty's person and rights, Your Majesty will be most graciously pleased to use Your Royal influence to procure the abolition of our present Colonial Legislature, and to substitute instead thereof a system of government better suited to the character and condition of the country, in such form and manner as to Your Majesty's wisdom may seem meet.

And Your petitioners, as in duty bound, will ever pray.

[79 Signatures.]

Conception Bay, Island of Newfoundland,
20 February 1839.

— No. 14. —

To the Most Noble the Marquis of *Normanby*, Her Majesty's Principal Secretary of State for the Colonies, &c. &c. &c.

May it please your Lordship,

WE, the undersigned merchants of Torquay, connected with the trade and fisheries of Newfoundland, beg to call your Lordship's attention to the political state of that island, and more particularly at this season, when we are about to embark our capital, and engage our fishermen for the ensuing summer, the extent of which must depend on our assurance of safety and protection in the island.

From the undoubted information we have received from Newfoundland of the state of the political feeling there, and from the gross and outrageous proceedings of the House of Assembly, we are of opinion, that the only remedy for the many evils complained of, is the abolition of the Local Legislature there, and a return to a more protecting form of government, which we humbly and earnestly recommend to your Lordship's consideration.

Torquay, 28 February 1839.

[Nine Signatures.]

— No. 15. —

To the Most Noble the Marquis of *Normanby*, Principal Secretary of State for Her Majesty's Colonies, &c. &c. &c.

The Memorial of the undersigned Merchants of *Liverpool*, trading to and connected with the Island of *Newfoundland*,

Humbly sheweth,

THAT the memorialists, during the last few months, have repeatedly addressed your Lordship's predecessor on the subject of the distracted state of the said island, and, very recently, a deputation of their body, associated with Mr. George R. Robinson and other gentlemen connected with the colony, had the honour