

me to decide in what manner this munificent donation, amounting to £20,547 sterling, should be applied; making only this stipulation, that the money shall not be so expended as to deprive its recipients of the franchise.

After much consideration, I am disposed to think that the benevolent intentions of the Dominion Parliament might be most effectively carried out and the greatest advantages secured to those whom it is desired to benefit, if a special committee could be appointed to undertake this distribution of this fund, subject to certain general rules which their local experience would enable them to frame, and which they would doubtless be willing to submit for my previous concurrence. Such a committee might, it appears to me, consist of six members, three selected from the committee appointed to advise with Your Grace, in the distribution of the fund over which you preside, and three from the committee which co-operates with the Lord Mayor of Dublin, in the disposal of the Mansion House Fund.

I do not desire in any way to limit the proposals which, after full consideration of the circumstances, a body constituted as I have suggested might be disposed to make; but I may observe generally, that I think it would be satisfactory to Canada, as well as to Ireland, if this money were so applied as not only to relieve the immediate necessities of the moment, but also to secure some lasting benefit to the people by works of a reproductive character; assistance to fishermen for the purchase of boats and nets; grants towards providing the contributions required for the localities interested in order to secure the construction of fishing piers or harbors; or gifts of seed to distressed persons who may be unable to obtain it under the provisions of the recent Act; are instances of the mode in which it occurs to me that this donation might be expended, and which I mention for Your Grace's and Your Lordship's consideration.

I have addressed a similar letter to the Lord Mayor of Dublin and Her Grace the Duchess of Marlborough, and I shall be obliged by your early reply, as the Canadian donation is now ready for expenditure.

I have, &c.,

(Signed) M. E. HICKS-BEACH.

Her Grace the Duchess of MARLBOROUGH.

The Rt. Hon. the Lord Mayor of DUBLIN.

(Copy)

The Lord Mayor of Dublin to Sir M. E. Hicks-Beach.

MANSSION HOUSE FUND FOR THE RELIEF OF DISTRESS IN IRELAND,
DUBLIN, 16th March, 1880.

SIR,—I have the honor to inform you that I this day laid before the Committee of the Dublin Mansion House Fund for the Relief of the Distress in Ireland, your letter of the 13th instant, relative to the allocation of the munificent grant made by the Dominion Government of Canada for relief of the distress, and that the Committee unanimously resolve to accept the proposal contained in your letter to nominate three members who should form, with three of Her Grace the Duchess of Marlborough's Committee, a Joint Committee for the disposal of the fund.

The Committee have elected me one of these three, and have authorized me to nominate the other two. I shall do so and communicate their names to you without delay.

I shall also communicate with Her Grace the Duchess of Marlborough's Committee, and the Joint Committee will, no doubt, communicate with you at an early date.