

BOSTON, MARCH 6, 1818.

THE Committee appointed to appropriate the funds subscribed for the relief of the sufferers by the late fires at St. Johns, N. F. congratulate the contributors to that charity on the safe return of the brig *Messenger*, and beg leave briefly to report, for their information, the course and highly gratifying result of their proceedings, by the exhibition of the several documents herewith respectfully submitted.

A true copy of record.

FRED. W. INGRAHAM,

*Secretary to Committee.*

[No. I.] Instructions to Capt. PETERSON.

*Boston, December 27, 1817.*

Capt. GEORGE PETERSON,

SIR—The brig *Messenger*, of which you are master, having been chartered for the purpose of conveying a cargo of provisions to the suffering inhabitants of the town of St. Johns, in Newfoundland; we desire that you will proceed with all possible diligence to that place, and that, on your arrival, you will wait on His Excellency FRANCIS PICKMORE, Commander in Chief in and over the island, and request that he will have the goodness to receive the cargo now laden on board your vessel, and dispose of the same in the manner pointed out in our respects of this date, and which we herewith commit to your charge.

Every article on board of the *Messenger* being intended for the sole purpose of relieving the wants of the sufferers by the late conflagration, unconnected with any commercial or interested object, we have reason to presume that the utmost facility will be afforded to you in the execution of the duties which you have assumed, and that your vessel will be promptly discharged and enabled to return to this place, or pursue such other course as the interest of the owners may render expedient.