

MEMORIAL

TO THE RIGHT HON. EARL GREY, HER MAJESTY'S
PRINCIPAL SECRETARY OF STATE FOR THE COLONIES.

*The Memorial of the Committee at St. John's, Newfoundland,
for the distribution of the Funds raised for the relief of
the sufferers by the fire which laid waste the principal
part of the Town on the 9th June, 1846,*

HUMBLY SHEWETH—

That your Memorialists have learnt with deep concern that your Lordship has acceded to a recommendation from the Executive Government here that a considerable portion of the monies granted by the Imperial Parliament and by the Local Governments of our neighbouring Colonies, as well as what was collected in England under the sanction of the Queen's letter, shall be expended in the erection of public buildings in this town, and your Memorialists feel assured, from the tenor of your Lordship's communication of the 3rd September last, to the Administrator of the Government here, that your Lordship would never have sanctioned such an appropriation had your Lordship been made acquainted with the real condition of a great number of the sufferers by whom the loss has been, and still continues to be, felt most severely.

Your Memorialists lament exceedingly their not having been made acquainted with the views your Lordship entertained and expressed in the communication above referred to—views in every way consonant with those of your Memorialists; and the valuable suggestions offered by your Lordship would, doubtless, have been acted upon had your Memorialists been aware of them at the time; but it was not until it appeared in the public prints here some ten days or a fortnight since, that your Memorialists had the slightest information upon the subject.

Your Memorialists have carefully reviewed the correspondence and documents having reference to the sufferers by the fire here, published by order of the House of Lords, and they most respectfully solicit your Lordship's perusal of their report upon the same, feeling assured that your Lordship will approve of the sentiments therein set forth; and they therefore pray that your Lordship will be pleased to cause the benevolent intentions of Her Majesty's Government and those who subscribed to the relief fund, to be carried into effect by directing the monies to be applied for relief of the sufferers instead of to the erection of public buildings. And, as in duty bound, your Memorialists will ever pray.

(On behalf of the Committee),

ROBERT PROWSE, *Chairman.*

St. John's, Newfoundland, August 2nd, 1847.