

NEWFOUNDLAND.

4th. I have addressed a circular letter to the Governor-general and the Lieutenant-governors of all the British American Colonies, and to Her Majesty's Consul at New York, of which copies are enclosed.

5th. I have authorized the chartering of two vessels, one to Halifax and the other to New York, for provisions.

6th. I called a meeting this day in this house, at which I presided, of all the heads of the mercantile establishments, as well as of the principal inhabitants, the clergy, judges and officers of the government. Copies of the resolutions adopted at this meeting, as well as of other resolutions adopted at a meeting of the inhabitants previously held, are enclosed; the whole of which, it will be perceived, I had anticipated.

Friday, 12th June.

I have now the satisfaction to report, that through the operations of the Committee of Relief, appointed at the meeting of Wednesday, all the houseless have been placed under shelter, in aid of which I have placed fifty (all) the tents in the Ordnance store at its disposal; and an adequate supply of provisions, particularly bread, has been and will be continued to be issued to them for the present. They (the recipients) are, however, I understand, gradually dispersing in the colony or emigrating. Fortunately, the weather is fine.

For the details of the progress of the fire, and of the measures used for its suppression, I beg permission to refer to the accompanying extract of a report addressed by the Commanding Officer of the Royal Engineers to the head of his department on the subject, and to the general order which I have issued upon this melancholy occasion, and to express my hope that you will be pleased to receive the details contained in these documents in lieu of a more lengthened despatch at the present hurried moment, until I am enabled to enter more fully into the sadly altered circumstances of this lately prosperous and happy colony, which I shall scarcely be in a position to do until after the meeting of the legislature.

I have, &c.
(signed) *J. Harvey.*

P.S.—With the exception of the two soldiers of the Royal Artillery, the injuries of one of whom are not dangerous, I believe very few accidents to have occurred during the awful conflagration; only one has as yet been made known to me from any authentic source.

The sketches of the town which accompany my despatches, though hurriedly prepared, show, with sufficient precision, the extent of the ravages of this destructive fire.

J. H.

Enclosure 1, in No. 1.

PROCLAMATION:

Encl. 1, in No. 1.

J. Harvey,
(L.S.)

By his Excellency Major-General Sir *John Harvey*, Knight Commander of the Most honourable Military Order of the Bath, Knight Commander of the Royal Hanoverian Guelphic Order, Governor and Commander-in-Chief in and over the Island of Newfoundland and its Dependencies, &c. &c.

WHEREAS the General Assembly of this Island stands prorogued until Tuesday the 23d day of June instant:

And whereas divers weighty causes and considerations render it expedient and necessary that the said General Assembly should be called together with as little delay as possible: I, the Governor, do therefore by these presents direct and appoint, that the said General Assembly shall meet, for the despatch of important and urgent business, on Tuesday the 16th day of this instant June; of which all persons are required and commanded to take due notice and govern themselves accordingly.

Given under my hand and seal, at the Government House at St. John's, in the aforesaid Island, the 10th day of June 1846, in the ninth year of Her Majesty's reign.

By his Excellency's Command,
(signed) *J. Templeman*, Pro. Secretary.