

and experience may devise some prompt measure for averting the ruinous consequences which must inevitably be the result to all classes of this Community if the present abundant crop, now nearly ready for the harvest is lost through the want of sufficient machinery for its manufacture.

This appears to me to be the subject most worthy of your earliest attention for it is one which equally affects the interests and requires the unanimity, of the Planter, the Merchant, the Shipowner and the Labourer. I therefore recommend you in the first instance to ascertain what effective steps can be taken to re-construct, if only temporarily, yet immediately, the various Mills and Works which have been overthrown. For this purpose I feel convinced that you will not hesitate to pledge the credit of the Island to the utmost extent.

I beg also to call your serious and immediate attention to the necessity of providing a place of security for the Prisoners and an Asylum for the Lunatics.

These in my opinion are the primary points which require your attention, but I cannot conclude this message without assuring your Honorable Board and House, and through you the Inhabitants of the Island in general, how deeply and sincerely I sympathize in their afflictions—nor can I withhold the tribute of my admiration of the manly spirit of resignation displayed by those who have been the greatest sufferers by this sudden and fearful calamity—and of the praiseworthy conduct of the labouring population in the towns and country—both of which have fallen under my personal observation—I need not assure you of my ready and zealous co-operation in any measures which may be calculated to alleviate the existing distress.

(Signed) CHAS. A. FITZROY.
Gov't. House, Antigua, Feb. 13, 1843.

To which the following Reply was immediately framed and sent to His Excellency.

Antigua, Government House, 13th Feb. 1843.

The two Houses of Legislature most gratefully tender their warmest acknowledgments to His Excellency the Governor for his benevolent and sympathizing address.

They have no time at such a moment to enter into details, but they earnestly entreat His Excellency to forward to Her Majesty's Government by the opportunity so providentially offered to-day, the most urgent application for pecuniary assistance by loan, to enable the almost ruined inhabitants to extricate themselves even partially from their present fearful position—and the two Houses pledge themselves to provide by suitable enactments the most ample security that the Colony can offer for the repayment of such sum or sums of money as may be found on careful investigation to be required for so indispensable a purpose.

M. H. DANIELL, President of Council,
T. SANDERSON, Speaker of Assembly.

To His Excellency The Governor in Chief.

The Speaker addressed the House acknowledging the inefficacy of the efforts or exertions of man unless aided by the divine blessing—He urged upon the House therefore the necessity of soliciting the assistance of the Almighty, and his guidance in the adoption of such measures as would be most beneficial to the Island. He commented on the feelings which presented themselves to his mind on reflecting on the present unfortunate position of this once happy isle, and the immediate necessity for Legislative assistance. His Honor in adverting to the primary object, i. e., the salvation of the crops, proposed for adoption a series of Resolutions which advised the sending for an immediate supply of building materials from the sister Colonies—a demand for masons and Carpenters from the same source—a restriction on the tradesmen, compelling them in the first instance, to restrict their labor to the repairs on Estates—a loan of money to such Proprietors of Estates and also Buildings in the City, as may not really possess the means of repairing them—the appointment of necessary Committees, and the raising of a loan to meet present exigencies.

On motion made by Mr. Sheriff, a grant of £500 was placed at the disposal of a Committee, for the purpose of supporting the Plate and Roof of the Cathedral and rendering it in some measure safe for the performance of divine worship.

The House finally adopted the following Resolutions which were sent up to the Governor,

The Gentlemen of the Assembly

To His Honor the President and Council,

The following Resolutions having been adopted in this House, are submitted for the consideration and concurrence of your Board, viz:

Resolved,—That a Committee be appointed to raise by Loan such sum or sums of money as the present pressing emergency may be found to require—this House pledging itself to provide for the repayment of the same in such manner as may hereafter be considered satisfactory and that the said Committee be authorized to procure the necessary supplies of materials and labour from our sister Colonies, should such a course be deemed proper.

Resolved,—That a Committee be appointed to ascertain the extent of damages, with authority to call to their aid Civil or Military Engineers with a view to a Loan from Her Majesty's Government.

Resolved, That a Committee be appointed to prepare such Legislative enactments as our unhappy position may render necessary.

This House proposes to your Board that a Committee be appointed to ascertain what private buildings in the City are so much injured as to be beyond the reach of repair, and to cause such of them as in their present state are dangerous to Passengers to be pulled down at the public expense.

We promised details of the dreadful visitation of the 8th instant, but find they would extend far beyond the limits of a paper; all accounts received since our last number only show that the injuries to property are worse than we supposed. The following are statements which will serve for nearly all the rest of the hundred and fifty Estates in this Island, particulars of which would fill a volume. We only notice in addition to the two following, the total prostration of the Sugar Works and Buildings of four large and valuable properties in the vicinity of this City—Belmont, the Wood Estate, Green Castle and Bath Lodge.

Loss sustained by the Earthquake, on the 8th February, 1843, on "Upper Freeman's" Estate, the property of Thomas I. W. Freeman Esq:—

Mill, so shattered as to require the greater part of the wall to be rebuilt before it can be used.

Boiling House Walls all destroyed, Roof very much injured, Chimneys all down, Coppers standing.

Curing House and Loft, totally destroyed.

Still-House and Rum-Cellar, very much injured, the greater part to be rebuilt.

Stable and Carriage-House totally destroyed.

Managers' House, Roof standing but still require to be rebuilt, Out-Offices all down.

Smith Shop, totally destroyed.

Dwelling House, (Wooden Building) standing, Out-Offices all down, Foundation of Dwelling House very much injured.

Laborers' Houses all destroyed.

M'KINNON'S ESTATE.

The Works have suffered severely.

The Windmill in such a shattered condition that it is dangerous to approach it.—The Steam Engine buried in the ruins of the building which contained it. The Boiling House level with the ground—the Curing House and Still House very much injured, and must be immediately taken down—and the dwelling house almost uninhabitable.

There is one thing that should be borne in mind. The Island must want bread and every other aliment if Sugar is not made, and we think that in cases, where instant repairs are not absolutely indispensable, the towns should not draw the Tradesmen from the country, for it is to be feared that mechanical labor even under the dreadful circumstances will with unfeeling avarice be carried to an intolerable height.—We learn that some of the large vessels waiting for their lading have been chartered to go to Porto Rico for hardwood for the repairs of the mills and works of the plantations.

The subjoined is from a Clerical correspondent of St. George's Parish:—

"St. Mark's Chapel is level with the ground. The village at St. Mark's is a scene of desolation, hardly a house tenable. The sugar works throughout the parish have suffered more or less. The laborers houses have suffered in common with other parishes."

The great fire in this city in 1841 did much injury and inflicted much loss, but it was partial. In this visitation none have escaped, and those especially who were the greatest sufferers have been plunged into an accumulation of ruin by the loss of those buildings which it cost them so much money and labor to restore: we need only point to the ruins of Messrs. Masons, Athills, Wardle, Crawford, Winter and others in that street. By the crash of the fire proof liquor stores of Messrs. Gordon, but more especially Mr. Coltart, Mr. Jack and Mr. Geddes, a loss which cannot yet be guessed at has been sustained. Mr. Peter Walter's premises and extensive Bakery, Mr. McDowal's, and Mr. Allaway's Stores all seriously injured. Of private dwellings we will only mention that fine large house belonging to the late Mr. Wood, recently occupied by H. M's. Customs, Mr. Jacob Walter's brick building of four stories, and the delightful residence of Sir Robert Horsford called *De Witts* without the town—all these present a melancholy spectacle.—The Antigua Library has also suffered to a great extent.

Among the most serious injuries not only of a local and personal nature but inclusive of other Islands and interests, is the destruction of the just completed IRON and BRASS FOUNDRY of Messrs. Andrew and James Gardner. It was intended not only to be useful to all works in this, but in the other Islands in affording instant supplies of metal and workmen to Steamers and Shipping of all descriptions coming to this Island. An Establishment so comprehensive and general in its plan was perhaps not to be found this side of Jamaica, and in its loss we do not only condole with the Founders but with the public. It was erected upon the most approved examples of similar Foundries in Great Britain.

A report prevailed respecting the entrance to English Harbour, upon which we sought information from the Officer in charge. The following is his reply:—

"I am glad it is in my power to say, that the report is incorrect, which states that 'the entrance to English Harbor has been rendered impassable by ships of any considerable burthen, by the falling in of considerable portions of the two hills which protect the