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# REPORT

OF THE

## JOINT COMMITTEE

SELECTED FROM THE COMMITTEES OF THE DUCHESS OF MARLBOROUGH  
RELIEF FUND, AND THE DUBLIN MANSION HOUSE FUND  
FOR RELIEF OF DISTRESS IN IRELAND,

TO

ADMINISTER THE SUM

OF

**100,000 DOLLARS,**

VOTED BY THE

PARLIAMENT OF THE DOMINION OF CANADA,

TOWARDS THE

RELIEF OF DISTRESS IN IRELAND,

IN THE YEAR

1880.

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DUBLIN:

THE CITY PRINTING AND LITHOGRAPHING COMPANY, LIMITED,  
18 TO 21, WILLIAM STREET.

1881

Houses of the Oireachtas





With Compliments of  
the Canadian Committee.

J. W. Grimshaw.

April, 1881.



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Committee :

HER GRACE THE DUCHESS OF MARLBOROUGH.

THE RIGHT HON. E. DWYER GRAY, M.P. (Lord Mayor).

THE RIGHT HON. THE VISCOUNT MONCK, G.C.M.G.

*(Appointed to succeed the Duchess of Marlborough.)*

LIEUTENANT-COLONEL G. R. DEASE, J.P.

THOMAS PIM, ESQ., JUNIOR, J.P.

T. W. GRIMSHAW, M.D., REGISTRAR-GENERAL.

V. B. DILLON, ESQ., JUNIOR.

Treasurers :

LIEUTENANT-COLONEL G. R. DEASE, J.P.

THOMAS PIM, ESQ., JUNIOR, J.P.

Hon. Secretaries :

T. W. GRIMSHAW, M.D., REGISTRAR-GENERAL.

V. B. DILLON, ESQ., JUNIOR.

Assistant Secretary :

C. F. P. DOWSON.



## REPORT OF COMMITTEE.

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At the commencement of the year 1880, the Parliament of the Dominion of Canada, with almost unexampled generosity, voted the sum of 100,000 dollars, or in English currency £20,547 18s. 10d. sterling, towards the relief of the then existing distress in Ireland. This munificent donation was wisely left unfettered by all stipulations save one—that it should not be so expended as to deprive its recipients of the franchise.

The question, to whom should be entrusted the duty of administering in relief this large sum of money, as well as the manner and purposes of its application, being left to the decision of the Right Hon. Sir M. E. Hicks-Beach, Bart., the then Secretary to the Colonies, he, on the 13th of March, 1880, in an identical letter addressed to the Duchess of Marlborough, as President of the Fund inaugurated by Her Grace, and to the Right Honourable E. Dwyer Gray, M.P., the Lord Mayor of Dublin, as Chairman of the Mansion House Committee for the Relief of Distress in Ireland, suggested that a Special Committee, consisting of three members, selected from the Marlborough and Mansion House Committees respectively, should be chosen, and act as a distinct Committee for the disbursement of the Fund voted by the Canadian Parliament.

The following is the text of Sir M. E. Hicks-Beach's letter :—

“COLONIAL OFFICE, DOWNING STREET,

“13th March, 1880.

“MADAM,—I have the honour to acquaint your Grace that the  
“Parliament of Canada has voted the sum of 100,000 dollars as a  
“contribution towards the relief of the present distress in Ireland,  
“and that the Government of the Dominion has requested 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 dis-  
“posed 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 the distribu-  
 “ tion 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 concur-  
 “ rence. 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 reproduc-  
 “ tive character.

“ Assistance to fishermen for the purchase of boats and nets,  
 “ grants towards providing the contributions required from the  
 “ localities interested in order to secure the construction of fishing  
 “ piers and harbours, 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  
 “ consideration.

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

“ I have the honour to be, Madam,

“ Your Grace’s most obedient and humble servant,

“ M. E. HICKS-BEACH.

“ HER GRACE THE DUCHESS OF MARLBOROUGH.”

The subject was brought immediately by Her Grace, and by the Lord Mayor before their respective Committees. The Marlborough Committee requested that Her Grace, and such two members of Her Committee as she should select should represent them, and the Lord Mayor was similarly appointed by the Mansion House Committee, and a like power of selection given to him. A Joint Committee, consisting of Her Grace the Duchess of Marlborough,



Dr. Grimshaw, Registrar-General and Colonel Dease, on the part of the Marlborough Fund, and the Right Hon. the Lord Mayor, Mr. T. Pim, jun., and Mr. V. B. Dillon, jun., on the part of the Mansion House Committee, was thus formed, and held their first meeting on the 7th of April, under the presidency of Her Grace the Duchess of Marlborough, and under the title of The Canadian Committee for the Relief of Distress in Ireland.

The personal attention of Her Grace the Duchess of Marlborough did not long continue to be given to the Committee, owing to the change of Ministry, and the consequent retirement from office of the Duke of Marlborough as Lord Lieutenant.

At the last meeting at which Her Grace was present, held at the Shelbourne Hotel, Dublin, on the 17th of April, she appointed Viscount Monck as her successor, "believing that his long connection with Canada would make his appointment acceptable to the Canadian people." The subsequent meetings of the Committee were held at the Mansion House, Dublin, under the presidency of the Lord Mayor, to whom the Committee are indebted for having allocated a room in the Mansion House for the use of the Assistant Secretary, and for meetings of the Committee.

After full consideration, the Committee resolved that the Fund should, in accordance with the suggestion of Sir M. E. Hicks-Beach, be limited to the following objects:—

(1) The erection of Fishery Piers and Harbours in distressed districts.

(2) The provision of Boats and Fishing Gear for necessitous fishermen.

(3) Supply of Seed to distressed agriculturists.

(4) Other reproductive works, such as Drainage.

Of these four modes of application suggested by the Secretary to the Colonies, the Canadian Committee ultimately abandoned the 3rd and 4th, knowing that, with the sum at their disposal, it would be unwise to attempt to achieve so much. They were further influenced in this decision by the facts, that seed had already been supplied to many distressed agriculturists by the other charitable Funds and that a "Seeds Act" had been passed by Parliament, and was working satisfactorily; while, with the exception of very slight assistance to necessitous fishermen, rendered by the *New York Herald* Fund, existing organisations had been unable to afford



help to this class, though most deserving objects for relief. To the two objects, therefore—the erection of Fishery Piers and Harbours and the provision of Gear and Boats—the Committee determined to confine their assistance.

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#### I.—THE ERECTION OF FISHERY PIERS AND HARBOURS IN DISTRESSED DISTRICTS.

The deficiency of suitable Fishery Piers or Harbours on the Irish seaboard, but especially on the Western and North-Western coasts, had been long felt.

The greater number of those that had been provided were either completely dilapidated or much out of repair, so that there were few useful for fishery purposes.

The want of such shelters was especially felt by the local fishermen, whose boats have at no time been so well found or equipped as those of the fishermen of other countries who visit these coasts.

With a view to promoting the fisheries, Parliament has for some years past made an annual grant, out of which three-fourths of the cost of the erection of a Pier or Harbour was defrayed, provided the remaining one-fourth was subscribed locally.

Owing partly to the insufficiency of this annual grant, and partly to the difficulty of obtaining in the locality the necessary subscriptions of one-fourth of the required amount, the construction of these works proceeded very slowly.

The Committee, however, saw in this arrangement a favourable opportunity for utilizing the Canadian Fund by assisting the local subscriptions made for these most valuable works, or in some few cases granting the whole amount required. By this means they hoped that the generous contribution of the Dominion might be made available to secure a much larger amount of benefit than if expended in any other way. Owing to the co-operation of the Government their hopes were realised, the result being that by a contribution from the Committee of some eight thousand eight hundred pounds in aid of local subscriptions, a total expenditure of sixty thousand pounds has been secured, and works of permanent utility undertaken, the construction of which otherwise would have been indefinitely postponed.



This result the Committee hope and trust will be satisfactory to the Canadian Parliament.

The Committee being aware that, for the reasons before stated, many useful works in aid of which applications had been made for Government grants, through the Board of Public Works in Ireland (the body entrusted with the care of the harbours, and the expenditure of any moneys voted by Parliament for these purposes) had lain over, in some instances for several years, they obtained from the Board a list of all such applications, and having carefully examined into the relative merits of each case, voted such sum as they considered its needs required.

The Committee saw at an early stage that much delay would inevitably occur in the expenditure of their moneys; but this consideration was ultimately overborne by the opportunity that was presented of procuring the expenditure of such a considerable sum in works of a permanently useful character. With a view, however, to securing the greatest possible expedition, at a meeting of the Committee, held on the 26th of April, a resolution, proposed by Lord Monck and seconded by Dr. Grimshaw, was adopted—

“That all grants made, or to be made, by the Committee in aid of the erection of Piers and Harbours, be subject to the condition, that the work be actually commenced within a period of three months, from the 1st day of May next, as a maximum.”

A list of the votes so made, with a copy of the above resolution, was communicated by the Committee to the Commissioners of the Treasury, accompanied by the following letter, a copy of which was also sent to the Chief Secretary for Ireland.

“MANSION HOUSE, DUBLIN,

“3rd May, 1880.

“SIR,—The Committee appointed by Sir Michael Hicks-Beach to administer the fund voted by the Canadian Dominion Parliament for the relief of distress in Ireland, having had under consideration the most effective mode of carrying out the wishes of the donors, determined that this fund should to a large extent be given in aid of the erection of Piers and Harbours, for the use of fishermen, and the promotion of Irish fisheries, by supplementing local contributions or assessments to make up one-fourth of the cost of such works, on the balance being provided by a grant from the Treasury.



“ But while desirous of devoting the funds to these purposes,  
 “ the Committee feel that, inasmuch as the money was voted by the  
 “ Canadian Parliament for the relief of distress, it is their duty to  
 “ see that it is expended within a limited period, and consequently  
 “ the Committee have resolved that any allocation of moneys for  
 “ these purposes, should be subject to the condition, that the works  
 “ in aid of which grants are made, *shall be commenced within three*  
 “ *months from the 1st of May, 1880.*

“ The Committee have had before them, and carefully consi-  
 “ dered, the several applications made to the Board of Works for  
 “ aid in the erection of such Piers and Harbours ; and, subject to the  
 “ condition mentioned, they have allocated towards these works  
 “ the several sums set down in the Schedules herewith sent.

“ The Committee find that the only pier in Ireland for which a  
 “ grant of three-fourths of the cost had been sanctioned by the  
 “ Treasury, and for which the one-fourth required by the Act of  
 “ Parliament had not been made up, was one at Renvyle, in the  
 “ County of Galway; and for this work the Committee have  
 “ allocated the sum of money required (£566) to make up the one-  
 “ fourth; and that work can be proceeded with by the Board  
 “ of Works at once.

“ The Committee find further, by the returns received from the  
 “ Fishery Department (and laid before them), that in the cases  
 “ enumerated in Schedule A, hereto annexed, the Inspectors of  
 “ Fisheries have recommended grants to be made, but that there  
 “ do not appear to have been any steps taken by the Board of  
 “ Public Works to have surveys, or plans, and estimates made.”

“ The Committee have allocated the sums set out in said  
 “ Schedule for each of these works respectively, and having every  
 “ reason to believe that the balances will be immediately forth-  
 “ coming, would beg that instructions be given to the Board of  
 “ Works to have the necessary surveys, &c., prepared without  
 “ delay.

“ The Committee having been informed by the Board of Works,  
 “ that its officers could only make ‘two surveys in a fortnight,’  
 “ respectfully urge the necessity of authorising the Board of Works  
 “ to employ such additional engineers as may be necessary to make  
 “ these surveys and plans with much greater expedition, or other-  
 “ wise the Committee will reluctantly be obliged to abandon the



“idea of endeavouring to assist in the accomplishment of these works.

“As the funds of this Committee are to be given in aid of grants to be sanctioned by the Lords of the Treasury, the Committee further hope that you will be good enough to move their Lordships, to convey to the Board of Works their sanction of the grants in the cases referred to, as speedily as possible.

“The Committee have also had laid before them by the Board of Works a list of piers (Schedule ‘B’ herewith), in reference to which the Board of Works say, ‘surveys have been made, and that they are in a position at once, if funds are provided, to have the declarations, &c., prepared, so that when the time (about five weeks) which the other requirements of the Act occupy, has expired, the Board would be able to call for tenders for the execution of these works.’

“The Committee have allocated the respective sums of money set opposite each work in aid of the sums required to make up the balance of one-fourth of the cost, and they believe that the required local contributions will be immediately made up.

“The Committee beg to impress on the Lords Commissioners of Her Majesty’s Treasury, the urgent necessity for commencing these works as soon as the one-fourth of the estimated cost of each has been lodged with the Board of Works, and that their Lordships will be pleased to authorise the Board, pending this, to issue the declaration referred to, so that the work can be proceeded with, with expedition. The Committee beg to call attention to the observations with reference to the cases of Molraney, Inniscrone, and Scatterry Island.

“The Committee annex a 3rd Schedule, ‘C,’ showing a work applied for at Cheekpoint, County Waterford. The Committee trust their Lordships will sanction the grant in this case, in which no aid is required from them.

“In Schedule ‘D’ are contained the cases in which contributions for one-fourth the estimated cost have been made, but where no surveys or plans have as yet been prepared by the Board of Works, and to these cases the Committee would urge attention.

“The Committee annex, finally, Schedule ‘E,’ containing lists of other piers, applications for grants in aid of which have been before them. These have been recommended by the Inspectors



“of Fisheries, to the Lord Lieutenant, and the Committee are prepared to make grants in aid of local contributions in these cases, but no surveys have, however, up to the present been made.

“The Committee desire again to impress on their Lordships, the great necessity that exists for the employment of the people in the district, in which these works are situate; that the works are of such a reproductive character that the most important results to the fishermen may be expected to follow from their institution; and that unless the works can be immediately commenced, no aid can be afforded by the Committee, and they would beg their Lordships’ help in the manner mentioned.

“We are, sir, your obedient servants,

“(Signed),

“T. W. GRIMSHAW, } *Honorary*  
“V. B. DILLON, Jun. } *Secs.*

“THE SECRETARY, TREASURY, LONDON.”

#### SCHEDULES REFERRED TO IN FOREGOING LETTER.

##### “SCHEDULE ‘A.’

“Piers recommended by Inspectors of Fisheries, to the Lord Lieutenant, pursuant to Act of Parliament, and grants voted by Canadian Committee in aid of local contributions to make up one-fourth the estimated cost, but no surveys or plans yet made by Board of Works :—

County	Pier	Amount Allocated by Committee
Donegal	... Culdaff ...	... £400
”	... Malin ...	... 100
”	... Downey’s Bay ...	... 500
”	... Portsalon ...	... 250
”	... Malinbeg ...	... 150
”	... Bundoran ...	... 250
Mayo	... Lacken ...	... 250
”	... Molraney ...	... 250
”	... Killala ...	... 1,000
Galway	... Scrahalia ...	... 50
”	... Callowfeenish ...	... 200
”	... Ardmore ...	... 100
”	... Innishlacken ...	... 150
”	... Bush Harbour ...	... 200
”	... Roundstone ...	... 150
”	... Dooleen ...	... 250
”	... Leenane ...	... 100
”	... Glenagimlagh ...	... (Liverpool Committee)

## "SCHEDULE 'A'—continued.

County	Pier	Amount Allocated by Committee
Clare	... Liscannor ...	... £500
"	... Redgap ...	... 500
"	... Glenina ...	... 100
"	... Scattery Island ...	... 50
Cork	... Ballycotton ...	... 200
"	... Sherkin Island ...	... 200
"	... Robert's Cove ...	... 50
Waterford	... Boat Strand ...	... 50
"	... Lady Elizabeth's Cove ...	... 100
"	... Ardmore, Youghal ...	... 250
		£6,500

## "SCHEDULE 'B.'

"Piers reported in Board of Works' letter dated 2nd April, 1880, to "Canadian Committee, 'that surveys are made and Board in a position at "once, if funds be provided, to have declarations prepared and works "proceeded with.'

County.	Pier.	Estimated Cost.	Voted by Cana- dian Committee towards $\frac{1}{4}$ of es- timated cost.	Observations.
Donegal	... Tawney ...	£800	£150	Remainder from locality.
"	Port of Inver	3,500	—	Deferred for the present.
Galway	... Leenane ...	900	100	Remainder from locality.
"	Bush Har- bour	2,100	200	Do.
Mayo	... Molraney	6,000	250	Plan modified to about £3,000, balance of money from locality.
				Proprietor will contribute $\frac{1}{4}$ of cost, and has so intimated to Board of Works.
Clare	... Scattery Island	850	50	Proprietor to contribute balance ; application lying over several years.
Down	... Annalong ...	—	—	Appears to have been omitted by mistake from above list. Surveys made and contributions locally guaranteed.



## "SCHEDULE 'C.'"

"COUNTY WATERFORD—PIER AT CHEEKPOINT. Proprietor of land will contribute  
 "one-fourth of cost, or advance entire amount if Board  
 "of Works will guarantee return of three-fourths.  
 "This work was applied for several years ago; no survey  
 "yet made.

## "SCHEDULE 'D.'"

"Piers for which contributions for one-fourth the estimated cost will be  
 "provided locally, but of which no surveys have yet been made by Board of  
 "Works.

County					Pier
Kerry	...	...	...	...	Gleesk.
"	...	...	...	...	Dingle.
"	...	...	...	...	Annascaul.
Cork	...	...	...	...	Knockadoon.
Wexford	...	...	...	...	Ballyhack.
"	...	...	...	...	Carnsore.
Donegal	...	...	...	...	Donegal.

## "SCHEDULE 'E.'"

"Piers recommended by Inspectors of Fisheries, to Lord Lieutenant, but not  
 "yet surveyed by Board of Works, and consideration of grants by Canadian  
 "Committee deferred until report received.

County					Pier
Donegal	...	...	...	...	Moville.
"	...	...	...	...	Greencastle.
"	...	...	...	...	Ray.
"	...	...	...	...	Newbridge.
"	...	...	...	...	Malinbeg.
"	...	...	...	...	Arranmore.
"	...	...	...	...	Ballyederlin.
"	...	...	...	...	Donegal.
Mayo	...	...	...	...	Killala.
Clare	...	...	...	...	Goleen Ross.
Cork	...	...	...	...	Millcove.
Waterford	...	...	...	...	Ardmore.
Wicklow	...	...	...	...	Greystones.
"	...	...	...	...	Bray.
Louth	...	...	...	...	Clogherhead.
Down	...	...	...	...	Kilkeel."

Several days having passed without the Committee receiving any reply to their letter, they became apprehensive that the time limited by them for the construction of the works would be allowed to lapse. As the fishing season was approaching, they also feared that the time might pass in which the money, if not expended in the manner contemplated, could be used with



immediate advantage in the purchase of Gear or Boats. The Committee therefore determined to bring the matter before the Chief Secretary for Ireland, and accordingly, on the 12th of May, they waited upon the Right Hon. W. E. Forster, M.P., the Chief Secretary, and asked him to urge on the Treasury the necessity for energetic action with regard to grants towards Fishery Piers and Harbours. The Chief Secretary expressed himself in sympathy with the objects of the deputation, and stated that the Canadian Committee had a "strong case" to go upon, and that he would "put it to the Treasury as strongly as he could." Notwithstanding Mr. Forster's good services in the matter, a reply from the Secretary to the Treasury did not reach the Committee until the 28th of May, when a letter was received from him, together with a copy of one which the Lords Commissioners had caused to be addressed to the Chief Secretary, upon the subject of an increased grant in the current financial year, towards the erection of Fishery Piers. A copy of their Lordships' letter is here given, showing the many difficulties which impeded the action, both of the Treasury and the Committee:—

"TREASURY CHAMBERS,

"25th May, 1880.

"SIR,—In reply to your letter of the 17th instant, referring  
 "to former correspondence between the Board and the Irish  
 "Government upon the subject of an increased grant in the  
 "current financial year towards the erection of Fishery Piers  
 "in the distressed parts of Ireland—in which letter you call the  
 "attention of the Treasury to the assistance which is offered from  
 "the Canadian Fund, to the statutory contributions required to  
 "meet payments from the Parliamentary vote, and in which, after  
 "dwelling upon the importance of speedy decisions, you go on to  
 "recommend that advantage should be taken of the Bill which  
 "will have to be introduced to extend in some respects the Relief  
 "of Distress (Ireland) Act, 1880, in order to modify the provisions  
 "of the Act 9 Vic., c. 3, by rendering them applicable to cases in  
 "which the requisite local contributions are forthcoming at once,  
 "without a loan or consequent charge on the country, district, or  
 "proprietors respectively interested—I am directed to propose  
 "as follows, for the consideration of His Excellency the Lord  
 "Lieutenant:—

"1. My Lords will present a Supplementary Estimate for grants  
 "to the extent of £30,000.



" 2. The Piers to which these grants are to be applied are to be exclusively in unions scheduled as distressed.

" 3. A Committee—to be composed of a member, to be named by the Treasury (Mr. Lefanu), the Vice-President of the Local Government Board (Ireland) (Mr. Robinson), and one of the Fishery Inspectors (Mr. T. F. Brady), to be named by the Lord Lieutenant—shall ascertain and report to the Lord Lieutenant for his approval, and also for that of the Treasury, which it would be for His Excellency, if he concurred in the Report, to obtain what are the stations at which a total sum of £40,000 can be expended with the best advantage, for the double purpose of providing employment for unskilled labour, where it is urgently needed, in the construction of the works and of permanently improving and extending the fisheries of the West of Ireland.

" 4. The Committee may, with the consent of this Board, employ, in addition to the establishments already at their disposal, whatever further assistance they may judge to be necessary for the purpose of inquiries, surveys, or plans.

" My Lords consider that by putting in motion a Committee which will unite the experience and powers of the various Departments concerned, time will be saved, and the best means taken to ensure effective and well-advised action.

" 4. The law has to be made applicable to cases in which one-fourth part of the estimated cost has been actually paid over to the Commissioners of Public Works. In such cases the latter will be in a position to commence the works, pursuant to sections xxv. and xxvii. of the Act 9 Vic., c. 3, as soon as the notices required by sections xi.-xv. of the same Act have been given. The minimum period allowed by the Act for these notices is two weeks, and it can hardly be said that a less amount of notice is sufficient in cases where such extensive rights of interference with private property are to be given as those contained in sections xxvii.-li. This, however, is a point for the Irish Government rather than for the Treasury to consider.

" 5. A point more immediately concerning the Treasury is the maintenance of the new Piers; for, according to the proposals thus far made, there is nothing which answers to the consent of the locality in the original cost of the works to be undertaken such as is provided in the regular course of such cases by



“section xvi. of the Act 9 Vic., c. 3, pursuant to which the  
 “county, district, and landowners, respectively, make themselves  
 “chargeable with their quotas of such original cost. Unless this  
 “point be attended to, it is to be apprehended that when the  
 “Commissioners of Public Works come to exercise their powers of  
 “transfer, under the Acts 16 and 17 Vic., c. 36, and 29 and 30  
 “Vic., c. 45, there may be objections on the part of the counties,  
 “unless they have been by some previous act on their own part  
 “irrevocably committed to approval of the work.

“My Lords require to know by what means local concurrence  
 “is to be ascertained in cases where all the money is provided at  
 “once, and no charge remains to be made.

“My Lords find in none of the papers before them any mention  
 “of such local memorialists or promoters as are the subject of  
 “sections vi. and ix. of the Act 9 Vic., c. 3.

“6. My Lords offer no objection to a Baronial Guarantee to  
 “secure whatever residue may remain of the local fourth, if the  
 “cost of the completed work (Act 9 Vic., c. 3, s. lii.) should  
 “exceed the estimate.

“Such guarantee, my Lords apprehend, will come in place of  
 “the county, district, or proprietors, who would otherwise become  
 “chargeable under section xvi. The Baronial Guarantee, my  
 “Lords further presume, will be given by an extraordinary  
 “Sessions Presentment.

“This Presentment, however, will still not cover the county  
 “when the Pier comes to be taken over. But whatever form may  
 “in practice be found to be the most convenient for covering the  
 “balance (if any) of the local fourth, my Lords must require that  
 “such balance be covered by a perfectly effectual guarantee of  
 “some kind or other before the work is begun.

“7. The whole of the Act 9 Vic., c. 3, appears to my Lords to  
 “remain necessary, except those parts of it which relate to  
 “charging; and the proper course to follow appears to them to be  
 “to proceed as nearly as possible on the lines of that Act, making  
 “no more difference than is involved in saving the money in hand  
 “instead of having to raise it. My Lords recognise the wisdom  
 “of the Canadian Fund Committee in confining their action,  
 “apparently, to the provision of the necessary fourth, and after  
 “that leaving the Government to settle with the local represen-  
 “tatives as to the application of it.



“ 8. It would have been satisfactory had my Lords been able  
 “ to find in the papers or reports within their reach, any direct  
 “ evidence that the large sum of money—approaching now, if it  
 “ does not exceed, £200,000—which has been spent during the last  
 “ thirty years on the Fishery Piers and Harbours in Ireland, had  
 “ helped to establish such trade, that results as well as hopes could  
 “ be appealed to in support of the selection of such works for  
 “ exceptional encouragements at the present time.

“ My Lords will be glad to know that His Excellency the Lord  
 “ Lieutenant concurs in these proposals, and they desire to see, as  
 “ soon as possible, a draft of the proposed legislative provisions on  
 “ the subject.

“ Considering that it is only a small portion of these works  
 “ which can be completed during the period of probable distress,  
 “ my Lords agree to so large an addition to this year’s estimate,  
 “ with the full intention of inserting no further sum unless it be  
 “ in the way of revotes in the estimates of several years to come.

“ I am, &c.,

“ (Signed), R. R. W. LINGEN.

“ THE CHIEF SECRETARY FOR IRELAND.”

It should be noticed that the foregoing letter of their Lordships was written under the impression that the Committee’s allocations towards Piers had not exceeded the sum voted up to the 3rd of May, viz., £6,500, and that the local contributions to the same object had also remained at £3,500. But on the 28th of May these figures had been increased to nearly £10,000 and £5,000, respectively, and it became necessary to request that the grant to be proposed to Parliament should be increased from £30,000 to £45,000, in order fully to utilise the votes of the Committee and the local contributions, which together amounted to £15,000. The Committee were about to write to the Treasury, urging the necessity of an increased grant, when they received the following communication from the Under Secretary for Ireland:—

“ DUBLIN CASTLE,

“ 4th June, 1880.

“ SIR,—The Lords Commissioners of Her Majesty’s Treasury  
 “ have forwarded to the Lord Lieutenant a copy of your letter to  
 “ the Secretary of the Treasury of 29th ultimo, acknowledging, on



“behalf of the Canadian Relief Fund Committee, the receipt of  
 “his letter of the 27th ultimo, enclosing a copy of a letter which  
 “their Lordships had caused to be addressed to the Chief  
 “Secretary for Ireland relative to an increased grant in the  
 “current financial year towards the erection of Fishery Piers in  
 “the distressed parts of Ireland.

“His Excellency is gratified to learn that the Committee of  
 “the Canadian Relief Fund will be prepared at once to enter into  
 “communication with the Committee which it is proposed to  
 “appoint, and to co-operate with that body.

“His Excellency has received a further communication from  
 “the Treasury on the subject, in which their Lordships suggest  
 “that the Canadian Relief Fund Committee should be communi-  
 “cated with, respecting an extension of the time by which at  
 “present their grants are understood to be limited to works  
 “commenced before 31st July.

“Their Lordships are of opinion that this limit should be  
 “extended at least to 31st August, and possibly to 30th September,  
 “having regard to the two-fold object which the proposed works  
 “are intended to answer—viz., the permanent improvement of the  
 “Fisheries, as well as temporary employment.

“His Excellency concurs in the above opinion, and hopes that  
 “the Canadian Relief Fund Committee will be kind enough to  
 “accede to the proposal.

“I am, Sir,

“Your obedient servant,

“(Signed), T. H. BURKE.

“C. F. P. DOWSON, Esq., Assist. Sec.,

“Canadian Fund Committee,

“Mansion House.”

To this letter the Committee sent the following reply, forward-  
 ing therewith a completed list of grants towards the construction  
 of Piers made up to that date :—

“MANSION HOUSE, DUBLIN,

“7th June, 1880.

“SIR,—I am directed by the Committee of the Canadian Fund  
 “for the Relief of Distress in Ireland to acknowledge the receipt  
 “of your letter of the 4th inst., stating that the Lords Commis-



“sioners of Her Majesty’s Treasury had suggested that the  
 “Committee should be communicated with respecting an extension  
 “of the time by which their grants are understood to be limited,  
 “and that their Lordships were of opinion that the limit should  
 “be extended to the 31st August, and possibly to the 30th  
 “September.

“The Canadian Committee consider that their public state-  
 “ments, as well as their relations with the Canadian Government,  
 “render it difficult to make any relaxation of the rule; besides  
 “which, the Committee charged with the administration of the  
 “*New York Herald* Fund have agreed to contribute one-third of  
 “any expenditure which shall be voted before the date already  
 “fixed on.

“The Committee would point out that the conditions upon  
 “which they voted the money would be complied with, provided  
 “the sum which they voted should be in course of expenditure  
 “before the date named; and they trust that the Committee  
 “appointed to administer the Treasury Grant will be able to  
 “expedite matters so as to have the works commenced.

“The Canadian Committee cannot forget that the intentions of  
 “the Canadian Government in voting the money were, that it  
 “should be expended in the relief of existing distress, and they  
 “think, therefore, that they are bound to see to its expenditure  
 “within the time named.

“I am further directed to send you a complete list of the  
 “allocations which have been made by the Committee in aid of  
 “the construction of Piers in Scheduled Unions. Some of these  
 “allocations, it will be noticed, having been voted since the  
 “despatch to the Treasury of the original list, were not included  
 “in it.

“As the sum proposed to be asked from their Lordships does  
 “not amount to three-fourths of the estimated cost, it would  
 “appear that the selection of the Piers to be proceeded with must  
 “be made at once, *unless a larger vote be obtained.*

“I am, Sir,

“Your obedient servant,

“C. F. P. DOWSON, *Assist. Sec.*

T. H. BURKE, Esq., Under Secretary,

“Chief Secretary’s Office,

“Dublin Castle.”



In furtherance of this object, at a meeting of the Committee held on the 11th of June, a resolution was adopted urging the Government to obtain an increase of the proposed vote. Copies of this resolution were forwarded to the Lord Lieutenant and to the Chief Secretary.

The resolution was also telegraphed to the Lord Mayor of Dublin, then at the House of Commons, and he brought the matter under the consideration of the House the same evening, the Irish Distress Bill being then under discussion.

In the result a Bill was passed through Parliament which, amongst other things, provided a vote of £45,000 towards the erection of Fishery Piers, and a Committee, constituted as mentioned in the letter of the Secretary of the Treasury, dated 25th of May, was appointed, and called The Fishery Piers Committee. The function of this Committee mainly was to select sites for the erection of the Piers, the subsequent carrying out of the work being left with the Board of Public Works in Ireland.

A delay which occurred in the passing of the Bill through Parliament necessarily retarded the operations of the Committee, and protracted somewhat the time limited by the Committee for the expenditure of their votes; but it had the good result of procuring the outlay during a season of much distress, of money which the Committee believe would not otherwise have been expended, and of securing the erection of works which will be of lasting advantage to this country, and a permanent record of the generosity of the Canadian people.

On the 24th of June, nearly two months having elapsed of the stipulated three, within which time the Committee's grants were to be held available, the Chief Secretary for Ireland wrote to the Committee: "That the Fishery Piers Committee, lately appointed, "were using all possible expedition," and that if the Relief of Distress (Ireland) Bill, brought in by himself, did not speedily pass the House of Commons, he hoped that the Canadian Committee would "take the circumstances into account, and by some continuance of time, allow their generous intentions to be realized." A few days later, the 30th of June, Mr. T. H. Burke, Under Secretary, wrote, stating that His Excellency the Lord Lieutenant had received a communication from the Treasury Department, to the effect that their Lordships "were willing, on considering the "Resolution (of the 11th of June) forwarded to them, to increase "the amount of the grant to be proposed to Parliament, from



“£30,000 to £45,000.” And, on the 1st of July, Mr. Alan Hornsby, Secretary to the Fishery Piers Committee (Ireland), wrote to the effect that the Fishery Piers Committee “hoped to “have the working plans for some of the works ready by the next “week.” Great endeavours had been made on all sides that the votes of the Canadian Committee should not be lost, and matters looked as if a fair amount of work would be accomplished within the appointed time.

While the Committee desire to testify to the promptness with which the work of the Fishery Piers Committee was carried out, its duties having ceased with the selection of the sites, the Committee regret that more progress was not made with the several works during the period when, the distress being pressing, a larger expenditure of money would have been of great importance to the districts. The Committee, however, take credit for having contributed to accomplish, in a comparatively short time, more than would have been accomplished for many years to come if they had not directed their attention to the matter, and they are satisfied that material advantages will be obtained for the several localities, when the Piers shall have been completed.

The Committee were, in the majority of their grants, guided by the advice of Mr. T. F. Brady, Inspector of Irish Fisheries—an official whose intimate knowledge of the needs of the fishing population of every district throughout Ireland, and known enthusiasm in promoting the Irish Fisheries, caused his selection as one of the members of the Fishery Piers Commission, appointed by the Treasury to administer the Government grant. In securing Mr. Brady’s co-operation the Committee gained an invaluable adviser, and they in a great measure attribute their successful administration of the fund, to his unintermittent energy and practical knowledge.

Between the 30th of July and 19th of August the Committee lodged in the Bank of Ireland, to the credit of the Commissioners of Public Works, for Piers, the sum of £8,790 sterling. Subsequently, £25 were lodged towards Goleen Tullig. These sums, with £566 previously contributed towards Renvyle, make the total sum expended through the agency of the Board of Works.

The following table will show what the works finally selected by the Fishery Piers Committee were, their estimated cost, and the relative proportions to the Government grant (in the case of each work) of the Committee’s votes, and of the contributions raised locally from private or other sources:—



TABLE FURNISHED BY THE PIERS COMMITTEE, SHOWING  
STATE OF WORKS TO DATE.

Locality	Estimated Cost of Work, including Superintendence and Extras				From Private or other sources	From Government Grant		Total		Observations
	£	s.	d.	£	s.	d.	£	s.	d.	
Molranev	550	0	0	350	0	0	2,700	0	0	Contract entered into.
Roonagh	75	0	0	350	0	0	1,275	0	0	Handed over to Board of Works for execution, no satisfactory tenders having been received.
Tonatonvalley	255	0	0	250	0	0	1,515	0	0	Contract entered into.
Lecanvey	600	0	0	400	0	0	3,000	0	0	Handed over to Board of Works for execution, no satisfactory tenders having been received.
Lacken	310	0	0	300	0	0	1,830	0	0	Ditto
Bush Harbour	550	0	0	200	0	0	2,250	0	0	Contract entered into.
Leenane	200	0	0	...	...	...	600	0	0	Handed over to Board of Works for execution, no satisfactory tenders having been received.
Glenagimlagh	62	10	0	100	0	0	487	10	0	Contract entered into.
Innishlacken	150	0	0	...	...	...	450	0	0	Handed over to Board of Works for execution, no satisfactory tenders having been received.
Roundstone	150	0	0	350	0	0	1,500	0	0	Ditto
Ardmore	350	0	0	...	...	...	1,050	0	0	Ditto
Dooleen	350	0	0	150	0	0	1,500	0	0	Ditto
Tawney	135	0	0	80	0	0	645	0	0	Contract entered into.
Downey's Bay	900	0	0	550	0	0	4,350	0	0	Ditto.
Teelin	1,000	0	0	1,000	0	0	6,000	0	0	Ditto.
Arranmore (Rannagh)	200	0	0	100	0	0	900	0	0	Ditto.
Enniscrone	215	0	0	312	10	0	1,582	10	0	Ditto.
Pullendiva	1,050	0	0	250	0	0	3,900	0	0	Ditto.
Goleen Tullig	62	10	0	...	...	...	187	10	0	Handed over to Board of Works for execution, no satisfactory tenders having been received.
Goleen Ross	...	...	...	150	0	0	450	0	0	Ditto
Glenina	300	0	0	...	...	...	900	0	0	Ditto
Baltimore	200	0	0	800	0	0	3,000	0	0	Contract entered into.
Gerahies	...	...	...	55	0	0	165	0	0	Handed over to Board of Works for execution, no satisfactory tenders having been received.
Gleesk	150	0	0	187	10	0	1,012	10	0	Contract entered into.
	7,815	0	0	5,935	0	0	41,250	0	0	

Dated 2nd day of December, 1880.

(Signed), ALAN HORNSBY,  
Secretary Piers Committee.

The sum of £5,000 (including £1,000 from the Canadian Committee) remains to be disposed of: this had been allocated to Killala, but a difficulty has arisen in regard to carrying out the works there.



These 25 Piers—to 23 of which the Committee made grants—are in Unions scheduled as distressed under the Relief of Distress (Ireland) Act, 1880.

The following return, furnished by the Board of Public Works, shows the progress made in these works up to the end of the year 1880 :—

FISHERY PIERS AND HARBOURS: CANADIAN COMMITTEE.

A return of the amount of money actually paid in respect of the Fishery Piers, now in course of construction under the Board of Public Works, and the average number of men employed on each work :—

No.	Piers.	Disbursements up to date.	Number of Men employ'd	How Works are being carried out.	Observations.
		£ s. d.			
1	Tawney ...	401 0 0	35	Contract	
2	Teelin ...	1 0 0	11	do.	
3	Enniscrone ...	283 0 0	31	do.	
4	Molraney ...	633 0 0	18	do.	
5	Tonatonvalley ...	251 0 0	24	do.	
6	Lacken ...	470 0 0	34	Day's labour	
7	Lecanvey ...	273 0 0	41	do.	
8	Dooleen ...	44 0 0	13	do.	
9	Bush-Harbour ...	520 0 0	35	Contract	
10	Glenagimlagh ...	1 0 0	50	do.	
11	Leenane ...	65 0 0	23	Day's labour	
12	Downey's Bay ...	26 0 0	19	Contract	
13	Baltimore ...	428 0 0	24	do.	
14	Roonagh ...	477 0 0	25	Day's labour	
15	Pullendiva ...	19 0 0	10	Contract	
16	Killala ...	1 0 0	—	—	Abandoned.
17	Gleesk ...	16 0 0	41	Contract	
18	Arranmore ...	4 0 0	8	do.	
19	Ardmore ...	1 0 0	10	Day's labour	
20	Innishlacken* ...	1 0 0	—	do.	* The Board has been un- able as yet to select a suit- able person as overseer.
21	Roundstone ...	26 0 0	6	do.	
22	Glenina ...	64 0 0	27	do.	
23	Goleen Tullig ...	3 0 0	5	do.	
		4,008 0 0	490		

NOTE.

Actual amount of money disbursed to date	...	...	£4,008
Number of Piers on which works are in progress, and to which contribution has been made by the Canadian Committee	...	...	21
Number abandoned	...	...	1
Number not yet commenced	...	...	1
Number contributed to	...	...	23

Average number of men daily employed ... 490

The amount disbursed does not represent the actual expenditure. In cases where there are contracts, payments are made in accordance therewith, and, of course, the expenditure on works done between the issues of the instalments cannot be given; and these cases constitute the majority of the Piers.

The Piers in course of construction are in various states of progress. A description of the state of the works at each Pier would involve references to the three engineers in charge, and probably a visit to the works themselves.



The Committee regret the construction of the Killala Pier may have to be abandoned, owing to causes which the Committee cannot enter into. In that case, the money contributed for that Pier will be allocated to works elsewhere, of perhaps equal utility, there unfortunately being very many places where such works are still much required.

In addition to these Piers, the Committee contributed, on the 21st of May, £566 towards the erection of a Pier at Renvyle, in the County of Galway. This work, which is one of considerable magnitude, is in a forward state. The total cost will be about £4,000, and, when completed, it will supply a long felt want on that coast.

The Government Grant in aid of this work having been sanctioned previously to the formation of the Piers Committee, it is not returned in the table supplied by that body.

In addition to their votes in aid of Piers, the Committee undertook, and carried out, without assistance, local or Parliamentary, except in the case of Carntullagh, the following works:—

- A Clearing at Ballygarry, County Mayo,
- A Boat Slip at Carntullagh, County Donegal, and
- The Excavation of Seafield Harbour, County Clare.

The first work was expeditiously executed, at the trifling cost of £65; the second for the sum of £100, to which the Committee contributed £55; and the third has been completed for the sum of £202 11s. 3d.

The Committee (having discovered the utility of works on this small scale, and the expedition with which it is possible to execute them,) are of opinion that a number of small works of this character along the wild coast of the West of Ireland would, at a comparatively small outlay, be of the greatest benefit to the poorest class of fishermen.

Heretofore the selection of the sites and description of Piers erected lay with the Commissioners of Public Works, who were appointed to carry out the provisions of the Piers and Harbours Acts. Complaints were frequently made that those erected did not suit either the requirements of the place, or of the fishermen. It has been asserted and not contradicted, that a great number of those round the coast were constructed in positions that could only have been intended for the benefit of the property adjoining, and



of no use whatever to fishermen ; under such circumstance it would be difficult to show from them much practical results in the promotion of the fisheries. The Government, however, adopted a different course this year, and appointed the Special Committee, already referred to, to investigate all applications for Piers or improvements of Harbours, and to select only such as could be constructed for the benefit of the fisheries and in distressed unions.

The Canadian Committee are aware that precaution has been used to select none but points of vantage along the coast, and such as will permanently help to promote the fisheries, and thus prove to be of lasting benefit. As there is now a more thorough and extended supervision of these works than formerly, the Committee trust that the Piers will not be allowed to fall out of repair.

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## II.—THE PROVISION OF BOATS AND GEAR FOR NECESSITOUS FISHERMEN.

It did not need any enquiry on the part of the Committee to ascertain that the condition of the fishermen, on the Western and North-Western coasts, was most deplorable. Indeed, it was a matter of not unfrequent occurrence to find many miles of coast frequented by fishermen who were totally unprovided with Fishing Gear, and whose boats were fast falling to decay, while fish abounded within, in many cases, a gunshot of the shore. The fishing seasons of 1877, 1878 and 1879 had not been good, and the people were at last so steeped in poverty that but for this favourable opportunity of supplying their wants as far as the Fund permitted, they would have been unable to repair their boats, or to obtain gear. Money to purchase it they had none, and their credit was gone. It has been stated, and the Committee believe truly, that the decline was going on in some localities at so rapid a rate as to threaten the extinction of this branch of industry.

The Committee seeing the wide area over which their relief under this heading could be applied, caused a notice to be published in the newspapers, and posted at various places along the coasts of the Counties of Donegal, Sligo, Mayo, Galway, Clare, Kerry and Cork, stating that applications for grants for



fishing material would be received from *bonâ fide* fishermen, who were in a necessitous condition.

From the enormous number of applications, it was seen, with regret, that the portion of the Fund devoted to the supply of these materials would be inadequate by many thousands of pounds, to provide for the needs of a tithe of the applicants. For months the Committee were deluged with appeals for assistance, and it was as difficult, as it was unpleasant, to apportion fairly the available sum of £11,000 to applications numbering some thousands, and embracing an approximate expenditure of upwards of £100,000. The applications appeared in nearly all instances to be vouched by persons of position, whose discretion might be taken for granted, but upon investigation many of them turned out to be improperly recommended. The referees were either over-persuaded, or had not acted with sufficient caution and impartiality. It became necessary, therefore, to lay down as a general rule that every applicant should be known to the Officer of the Coastguard Station within whose district he resided, and that his application should bear that officer's endorsement before it was brought under the Committee's consideration. By this means the first responsibility of reporting fell on those, whose intimate knowledge of the men amongst whom they lived would be the Committee's best guarantee that they were not imposed upon. Besides which, when deemed desirable, other reports were required by the Committee, from local clergymen and others. To be poor, and a genuine fisherman, one who fished for sale during some portion of the year, industrious and orderly, but without suitable gear, entitled a man to a grant, so far as the funds of the Committee permitted, of all such fishing appliances as would enable him to gain bread for his family.

The materials or boats, when supplied, were examined by the Coastguard Officers, and in nearly all cases delivered by them to the fishermen, whose receipts were taken, and subsequently transmitted to and are preserved by the Committee.

The gear that has been supplied is of a very complete kind, even to the minutest particular. It had to be manufactured not only to suit the seasons, but the various modes of fishing pursued round a coast where the customs differed considerably. The detailed requirements, necessary or imaginary, of the applicants had strictly



to be complied with, as the Committee found that, unless the particular description of tackle asked for was given, it might as well be not given at all. The fishermen are conservative of old modes of fishing. To supply such gear as would satisfy each man, it was necessary to give special orders to leading firms. By subjecting the various firms to a competition of prices, the Committee have been enabled to supply the best gear at a large reduction on current rates.

The Committee are gratified at the good results. From several localities reports have reached them of very large captures of fish after the people had been supplied with gear. In one instance the nets arrived on a Thursday: they were in the water on Saturday, and many canoes returned laden with mackerel. So great a capture had not been remembered for many years. In another case, it is stated, "The men load their boats regularly every night "with mackerel. They have not had such success for thirty years, "and are enriched, and never shall forget what has been done for "them." In another locality, where the nets given were value for under £200, it was proved that in four weeks the boats had brought in over £1,200 worth of mackerel. In another case, one poor man, who was so reduced by poverty that he and his wife were about going into the workhouse, obtained from the Committee a boat and net, which cost under £12, and in three nights his crew realised over £60 from the herrings caught. Again, the class of boats built for the fishermen on some parts of the coast was so superior to any they heretofore had, that they were enabled to go out miles beyond the headlands, and have been most successful in their cod and ling fishing. These instances of success might, from the reports received by the Committee, be multiplied to a very large extent. And when it is considered that most of the recipients of aid from this Fund, were on the Relief Lists during the year, some idea may be had of the great boon this assistance was to these poor people, and what an inestimable source of value it must prove to them during the next Spring and Summer fishing seasons, besides bringing into the country an enormously increased quantity of valuable food for general use.

Details of the quantities and descriptions of gear given by the Committee in the several Counties will be found in the Appendix.

While these results are gratifying to the Committee, they cannot help expressing great regret that they were obliged to



refuse aid in many localities where equal profit would have followed.

In the year 1836 the Commissioners of enquiry into the state of the Irish Fisheries reported that "the information they received "was enough to satisfy the inquirer that the miserable and "depressed state of the fisheries was not a consequence of defective "natural resources, but that, on the contrary, Ireland is a decidedly "favoured country as to the richness of its waters. With this fact "foreign nations were early acquainted, and their fishermen were "long accustomed to approach the Irish coasts, for the purpose of "fishing on ground superior to any near their own country." Again in the same report, writing of the coast from the Shannon to Donegal, the Commissioners report:—"It is in this "district that poverty especially prevails, that famines are of "ordinary recurrence, and that the means of the fishermen are the "most completely inadequate to a profitable pursuit of their "avocation."

After the lapse of nearly half a century, this state of things, as nearly as possible, still exists, particularly on the West coast, where there is a good, strong, honest, well-conducted, hardy race of a coast population, anxious to earn a livelihood for themselves and their families, were means forthcoming to enable them to do so.

Mr. T. F. Brady's intimate knowledge of the fishermen and their needs—obtained both in connection with the Irish Reproductive Loan Fund, and as one of the Commissioners of Fisheries—was of the greatest advantage to the Committee in their work under this head. The applications, upon arrival from the Coastguard Officers, were examined and reported on by Mr. Brady, and his recommendations guided the Committee in fixing their grants. Contracts were then entered into with the best fishing tackle manufacturers in the United Kingdom, for the supply of gear, and with the local boatwrights, for the building of new boats or for the refitment of old ones.

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#### GENERAL OBSERVATIONS.

A short analysis of the work done in each county, under the foregoing two headings will not fail to be interesting.



## Co. DONEGAL.

The sum of £2,145 13s. 0d. has been expended in the purchase of fishing gear, £1,008 7s. 6d. for new boats, and £333 8s. 1d. for repairs of old ones. Freight, £53 6s. 10d.

The fishing population of this county is among the poorest and largest on the Western coast, the seaboard being extensive. The fisheries in this county have shown no improvement for a considerable time. The stormy weather that prevails on this coast prevents the fishermen from following deep-sea fishing, their boats not being suitable for going any considerable distance from land.

The Committee have subscribed for Piers at :—\*

Tawney, ...	...	...	...	
Downey's Bay, ...	...	...	...	
Teelin, ...	...	...	...	1,000
Arranmore, ...	...	...	...	200

Though only four sites were selected by the Fishery Piers Commission in this county, applications for the erection of a much greater number of Piers were made. Special results are looked for from the erection of the Pier at Teelin, which ought to be a considerable fishing station. It is expected that steamers trading between Liverpool and Glasgow, will call here regularly when the Pier is built. This, it is hoped, will have the effect of developing the resources of a large district of country, that has been hitherto without proper accommodation for either the import, or export of produce.

On reference to pages 10-12, it will be seen that the Committee had proposed grants for a number of other Piers in this county, but from a variety of reasons—mainly, the insufficiency of the public grant—they were unable to carry out their intentions. Two of the works selected by the Piers Committee were estimated to cost about £14,000. There cannot be a doubt, that had there been sufficient funds to carry out the original intentions of the Committee, the fisheries of this county would have been further improved, and the great wants of the fishermen would have been supplied. In Culdaff, Malin Head, Malinbeg, Bundoran, and other places, the want of accommodation is most severely felt by the fishermen, whose boats and gear are often lost on this wild, tempestuous coast.

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\* For estimated cost, see Table, page 21.



## Co. LEITRIM.

Gear, £8 7s. 9d. Repairs of Boats, £3 17s. Freight, 3s. 2d.  
The seaboard of this county is only two miles in extent.

## Co. SLIGO.

The sum of £414 10s. 1d. has been expended on gear, £141 13s. 6d. on new boats, and £18 5s. 0d. on repairs of old ones. Freight, £8 14s. 10d. The seaboard of this county is comparatively small.

Here, as in Co. Donegal, the fishermen have neither craft nor gear suitable for deep-sea fishing. The long and much-felt want of Piers in this county is about to be partially supplied, the Committee having contributed £1,050 towards a Pier at Pullendiva, the estimated cost of which is £5,200, and £215 towards a breakwater and slip at Enniscrone, the estimated cost of which is £2,050. This is one of the best fishing stations in the county. Both these sites were selected by the Piers Committee out of the many in aid of which grants were applied for, as being best calculated to meet the wants of the fishermen. There are, however, several other places in this county where harbour accommodation would be of prime importance, in developing not merely the fisheries, but other local resources. The means of transit in this county are, however, considerably better than in Donegal.

## Co. MAYO.

The sum of £2,180 6s. 6d. has been expended on gear, £186 5s. 0d. on new boats, and £162 9s. 6d. on repairs of old ones. Freight, £24 10s. 4d.

It was reported that the fisheries in some parts of this county had improved, but that the craft and gear—the usual tale—were wanting; the means of transit to the markets of fish for sale bad and expensive. The Committee have contributed towards Piers, and the improvement of Harbours in this county, as follows:—

Molranev	...	...	...	£550
Roonagh	...	...	...	75
Tonatonvalley	...	...	...	255
Lecanvey	...	...	...	600
Lacken	...	...	...	310
				<hr/>
				£1,790

Shortly after the distribution of the gear, herrings appeared in large shoals in Clew Bay, and numbers of the fishermen, who had been supplied by the Committee with fishing gear, made abundant hauls.

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Co. GALWAY.

The sum of £964 1s. 1d. has been expended on gear, £64 0s. 0d. on new boats, and £113 16s. 7d. on the repairs of old ones. Freight, £17 1s. 10d.

There is excellent trawling ground in Galway Bay, which is much availed of. The Piers in this county towards which the Committee have contributed are :—

Renvyle	...	...	...	£566
Ardmore	...	...	...	350
Innishlacken	...	...	...	150
Roundstone	...	...	...	150
Dooleen	...	...	...	350
Bush Harbour	...	...	...	550
Leenane	...	...	...	200
Glenagimlagh	...	...	...	62 10s.
				<hr/>
				£2,378 10s.

The fisheries on this coast are principally worked by persons who hold small farms or patches of land along the coast. Except in Galway Bay, there are hardly any regular fishermen, who make fishing an exclusive means of livelihood. As, but for the small gains drawn from the ocean, the miserable holdings occupied by these poor people would be insufficient to afford them even a meagre maintenance, it would be disastrous if they were allowed for want of gear to altogether abandon the fishing. The Connemara men, engaged in lobster-fishing, may often be met with off the coasts of Mayo and Sligo, hundreds of miles from their homes, living for weeks at a time in an open boat, huddling together under the shelter of an old sail. The Committee are well-assured that the Canadian vote could not be better expended than in aiding men of such independence, hardihood, and industry.

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Co. CLARE.

In this county, the sum of £1,201 16s. 6d. was expended on gear, £356 7s. 6d. on new boats, and £304 3s. 11d. on repairs of old ones. Freight, £26 6s. 8d.



It was found that there was hardly a good net available along a great part of this coast—all had been worn out, and the people were too poor to replace them. The Committee are glad to be able to state that on parts of the coast the fishermen were briskly at work, and large captures were made within two days after the arrival of the nets, which had been sent ready for use.

The Committee have contributed to one Pier, viz., Glenina, £300, and to the improvement of the Harbour of Goleen-Tullig, £62 10s. On this iron-bound coast there are several indentations running far into the land, which are frequented by a large number of canoes or canvas-covered boats. Not much to look at, they are, however, the most suitable craft for the coast.

The following quotation from a memorial presented for grants in aid of the improvement of this coast graphically describes it. The memorialists say—

“That along the coast the sea has made immense encroachments  
“into the land in several places, forming, as it were, natural  
“harbours.

“That it would seem as if Providence directed the course of  
“the sea designedly to form these harbours, so that the rich produce  
“of the sea might be availed of by men living on these high cliffs,  
“who without them could not fish this coast, nor could any boat  
“be launched.

“That while Providence, as it were, effected this much for man,  
“man has never yet done anything towards improving these places,  
“which remain in the same rude, wild shape in which the sea  
“formed them.”

It is gratifying to know that three of these Harbours are to be improved this year, by clearing away rocks and making excavations. When this has been accomplished, the fishermen will be enabled during the season to bring in, with comparative safety, several loads of fish, whereas, hitherto they could seldom bring in more than one, being obliged to return to the Harbour, when the tide suited, to float over the rocks. If they missed the tide, they were in danger of losing their lives, and often obliged to run a distance of ten miles on this stormy, wild, and unprotected coast to obtain a shelter, and then return home by land, leaving their boats till the weather moderated sufficiently to enable them to bring them back. This, it is



expected, will be mitigated, and the fishermen be enabled to work with a feeling of some degree of safety.

At certain seasons mackerel frequent this part of the coast in immense shoals.

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#### Co. KERRY.

The Committee's vote for this county was limited, it being understood that there was another fund, chiefly available for the fishermen of Kerry. Mr. Lane Joynt kindly undertook to purchase and distribute gear in portions of the county, and £150 was allocated for the purpose. Details of his distribution of £124 15s. 9d. of this sum will be found in the analysis of the expenditure upon Gear,—pages 50 and 51.

The Committee have contributed £150 towards a Pier at Gleesk. The total cost of this work, with a suitable approach, is estimated at £1,350.

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#### Co. CORK.

The sum expended in this county was £1,174 17s. 7d., being £958 18s. 3d. for gear, £120 16s. 8d. for new boats, and £91 9s. 0d. for repairs of old ones. Freight, £3 13s. 8d.

The boats employed in mackerel fishing on the South-Eastern coast are generally well fitted and well found. The Baroness Burdett-Coutts has, with her usual liberality, contributed on a princely scale to the improvement of the fisheries on the west of the county.

The Piers are often unfavourably situated, and boats have no suitable landing-place, and, as a consequence, the packing of fish for sale is done in an imperfect manner.

The Committee contributed £200 towards Baltimore Pier, the owners of the property having subscribed £800. The total cost of this work is estimated at £4,000.

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The Committee did not feel justified in making grants further round the coast, as they would be travelling out of the limits of the distressed Unions. They would gladly have contributed—and, indeed, had voted the sum of £200 towards the enlargement and improvement of Ballycotton Pier—a much required and most useful work—and also made allocations for various other places, as appears by the letter from the Committee to the Secretary of the Treasury (page 7), but the Act of Parliament providing grants from the Public Funds limited such grants to distressed Unions.



CONNECTION WITH "NEW YORK HERALD" RELIEF COMMITTEE.

The Committee, at its first meeting, believing that there might be some community of action with the *New York Herald* Committee, invited the co-operation of the latter. The invitation was accepted, and three of the members of the *New York Herald* Committee were deputed to represent it, namely—Col. King-Harman, the Rev. George H. Hepworth, D.D., and Professor Baldwin. These gentlemen were associated with the Committee on the express understanding that the *New York Herald* Committee should contribute towards the expenditure on all votes passed by the Committee, in the proportion of one-third of the amount. Had this arrangement been adhered to, it would have brought to the Committee's use a sum of about £3,000; but the *New York Herald* Relief Committee terminated the arrangement. The following letter states the reasons of the *New York Herald* Committee for determining the connection, and it is, therefore, given in full.

"NEW YORK HERALD RELIEF COMMITTEE,

"*Dublin, 28th May, 1880.*

"SIR,—As the Government appear to limit their grants for Piers  
"and Harbours to £30,000, when one-fourth of the sum is forth-  
"coming, it appears to us that the sum which can be appropriated  
"from the Canadian Fund will be sufficient to make up the required  
"amount.

"We, therefore, do not see that there is any necessity for the  
"*New York Herald* Fund contributing towards this subscription.

"As the Rev. Dr. Hepworth is obliged to give up his work on  
"the *Herald* Committee for the present, and as the other members  
"are widely scattered, it will be impossible that this Committee  
"can be properly represented at the meetings of the Canadian  
"Fund Committee.

"Under these circumstances, we deem it advisable to withdraw  
"from any further official connection with the Canadian Fund.

"We are, of course, willing to take our share in all sums which  
"have been allocated from the Canadian Fund for boats and fishing  
"gear up to this date, and also for piers and harbours begun, and to  
"which we have given our adhesion; and we shall feel obliged if you  
"will let us know, at your earliest convenience, the amount which  
"the Canadian Committee claim from this Fund under these  
"heads.

"The sum which you owe us for portion of £500 allocated to



“ Dr. Hepworth, for fishing gear, &c., for the West coast, North of Galway, can be written off against your claim.\*

“ We are anxious to close this account, as until this is done we shall be unable to know the extent of our resources available for other purposes.

“ Your obedient servants,

“ ✠ EDWARD, Dublin.

“ E. R. KING-HARMAN.

“ GEORGE H. HEPWORTH.

“ To the SECRETARY, CANADIAN FUND COMMITTEE.”

On a settlement of the account, a sum of £455 6s. 8d. was found to be due from the *New York Herald* Committee for its contribution to grants for Gear and Boats, and that sum, having been received by the Committee, appears in the final Balance Sheet of the Fund.

In addition, a sum of £188 13s. 4d., being one-third of the grant in aid of the Renvyle Pier, was also received, and likewise appears in the Balance Sheet.

#### COST OF DISTRIBUTION.

The total cost of distribution amounts to £527 12s. 10d. The Committee attribute the exceptional economy with which they have been enabled to carry out their trust, to the assistance of Mr. Brady, and of the officers and the men of the Coastguard, as well as to absence of expenses for rent, &c., the use of offices at the Mansion House having been accorded by the Lord Mayor.

#### VOTES OF THANKS.

At the meeting of the Committee, held on the 16th December, the following resolution was proposed by Lord Monck, seconded by Mr. Thomas Pim, jun., and passed unanimously :—

“ That this Committee cannot conclude its labours without recording their warm thanks to Mr. T. F. Brady, Inspector of Fisheries, for the constant services he has rendered to the work with which they were entrusted. The Committee feel that without the assistance of his knowledge and personal investigation of the claims of the fishermen made in the various localities, it would have been impossible for the Committee to have succeeded in carrying out with satisfaction the details of the distribution.”

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\* During the period of the joint arrangement, Dr. Hepworth visited the Western coast, and the Canadian Committee authorised him to expend any sum, not exceeding in the whole £500, on the purchase of fishing gear.



The warm thanks of the Committee are also due to the officers and men of the Coastguard for their disinterested assistance. Their duties were often most laborious and irksome.

The following resolution, proposed by Mr. Dillon, seconded by Colonel Dease, was also passed :—

“That the Committee desire to express their satisfaction at the manner in which the duties of Assistant Secretary were discharged by Mr. C. F. Parry Dowson. To his indefatigable exertions much of the success of the administration of the Fund is to be attributed.”

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#### CONCLUSION.

Having now had experience of the good results arising from the judicious supply of fishing gear, &c., to distressed fishermen, the Committee do not consider it will be out of place for them to offer a few remarks on this subject, and on the importance of a still further outlay on the building of Slips or Piers, and the Improvement of the Harbours, for the benefit of the fisheries.

Abundant evidence is forthcoming that the outlay of even this comparatively small sum of £11,000 on fishing gear has been productive of the most important results. Taking it on the whole, the value of the fish produced, and already brought to market, has been at least treble the entire amount of this outlay. When it is remembered that the people on whom this bounty has been bestowed were in many cases wholly without gear—in other cases, with gear so bad and worn out as to be useless—and that they were unable to procure it on credit, but were dependent for support on Charitable Relief Committees—it will be seen what benefits have been conferred on the poor fishermen, and what a vast loss had previously been sustained by the country, in the non-production of this large quantity of valuable food. The fishermen have been enabled by means of this Fund not only to keep away poverty, but to provide a good support for themselves and their families, and are well supplied with gear for the coming season.

These observations apply to the persons to whom this Fund reached. But there are hundreds—nay, thousands—particularly round the West, North-West and South-West coasts—for whom nothing could be done, in consequence of the insufficiency of the Fund to meet the wants of all.

With regard to Piers, Slips, and Harbours, the Committee have already stated (page 6) that their condition was lamentable.



They have been unable to contribute to more than twenty-four\* Piers altogether—twenty-three as detailed in the Schedule (page 21), with Renvyle, to which the contribution was given earlier. There were seventy-nine other applications for Piers, Slips, or Improvements of Harbours, for many of which sums from local and other sources were available, and to which the Committee would have contributed, and had actually allocated, sums of money (pp. 10 & 11); but these works could not be undertaken in consequence of the insufficiency of the Government grant.

Next to the supply of fishing gear, the most important element in endeavouring to develop the fisheries of the country is, to provide safety and shelter for the fishermen, on returning from their hazardous and arduous occupation. Without such shelters the fishermen cannot be expected to run the constant risk of losing, not only their boats and gear, but their lives.

The Committee desire to record their views on these two questions, in the hope that they may receive that consideration which they think is due to so important a branch of national industry as the fisheries of Ireland.

Appended is a valuable report from Mr. Brady, in which interesting details of the administration of that portion of the Fund distributed under his guidance will be found.

The Committee, in concluding their Report, desire once more to express, on their own behalf and on behalf of the poor fishermen whom they have been the means of relieving, their gratitude to the Parliament of the Canadian Dominion, and to the Canadian people, for their munificent aid.

The Committee have endeavoured in the foregoing pages to convey to the Canadian Parliament some idea of the amount of good effected. With the same object, and to show the gratitude of the people relieved, extracts from a few of many letters received are printed in the Appendix.

Signed,

E. DWYER GRAY, Lord Mayor, *Chairman.*

T. W. GRIMSHAW,  
V. B. DILLON, junr., } *Hon. Secretaries.*

MANSION HOUSE, DUBLIN,

December, 1880.

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\* This number, by the substitution of the seven smaller works for the more important one at Killala, was subsequently increased to thirty-one. See Addendum.



## APPENDIX No. 1.

## REPORT OF MR. T. F. BRADY, H.M. INSPECTOR OF FISHERIES.

TO THE COMMITTEE APPOINTED TO ADMINISTER THE SUM VOTED BY THE DOMINION OF CANADA FOR THE RELIEF OF DISTRESS IN IRELAND, 1880.

MY LORDS AND GENTLEMEN,

Having been honoured with an invitation to advise in the execution of the important trust imposed on you of distributing the princely gift of the Dominion for the benefit of distressed fishermen round the Coast of Ireland, and the Fund committed to your charge having been now expended, I beg to submit for your information the following observations.

It is quite unnecessary for me to say a word on the subject of the great distress that existed, particularly over the West of Ireland, during the past year, of which I had ocular demonstration in many places in the discharge of my official duties; but until I examined closely the state of the fishermen on that coast, for the purpose of offering my advice in the administration of this Fund, I had not the slightest conception that the fishermen were in such a pitiable condition. I am now over thirty years in the public service, and during that time have had constant intercourse with these people, but my official duties did not involve minute inquiry into their particular state. I had, however, general ideas of their great poverty, and want of proper fishing gear, and had brought the matter, long ago, under the attention of the Government who were pleased to pass an Act granting loans to fishermen in certain counties in Ireland for the purchase of Boats and Fishing Gear. The operations of that Act had a most salutary effect on those to whom they could be extended; but there were hundreds of persons—I might safely say thousands—who could not avail of it, from their inability to obtain the necessary security for the repayment of loans. The Fund, again, was too small to meet the requirements of some of the counties to which it extended—and there were maritime counties which were not included in the Act.



This, together with the succession of bad harvests and the total withdrawal of credit, caused the fishermen generally, to be reduced this year to the lowest ebb.

The fishing gear, as a rule,—with those who could not get security for loans—with those to whom the loans under the Irish Reproductive Loan Fund Act, from insufficiency in the amount of the Fund, could not be extended—with those in counties such as Donegal, to which the provisions of the Act did not apply—and with those who could no longer obtain it on credit, was completely run out, and the consequences were deplorable.

You wisely required at the outset that all applications for grants should be vouched by persons of respectability ; and when the form of certificate, which was appended to your printed forms of application, is considered, one would have thought it would have been a sufficient guarantee that none but the names of persons fairly and justly entitled to relief would have been sent forward. You required that each application should be signed by two referees, who should certify that “they had known for years the persons named in the application ; that they knew them to be sober, honest, and “industrious, and to be *bonâ fide* fishermen ; that they were poor, “and fit objects of charity, and would employ the fishing gear “granted to them to the best advantage ; that they were *bonâ fide* “fishermen, who fished for sale, and were of good character ; and that “they recommended the application for favourable consideration.”

On notices being published that you were prepared to consider applications for aid, there was a perfect flood of requests for forms, followed by applications for grants from almost every quarter.

To examine into all these would have been a work of such magnitude as to have occupied a large staff and a great length of time. With the local knowledge I possessed and the information I received confidentially from the Coastguard and private friends who had not signed the applications, and in many instances from the police, I soon discovered that the certificates could not be depended on. So indiscriminately did they appear to have been signed that, after a great deal of labour and correspondence, I had at one time almost despaired of being able to separate the chaff from the wheat, and had resolved on abandoning the trust, and reporting to you that I could not within any reasonable time attempt to recommend grants, further than those I had already recommended, to be made. A friend said to me : “If you abandon



“this work now, and the Committee act on your suggestion, and “give up the idea of being able to discriminate between the “deserving and the undeserving, how many poor will suffer?”

This good counsel prevailed, and I resolved to combat the difficulties and endeavour to find out, if possible, those people in different localities who were really entitled to relief.

Many of the applications received, and signed by most respectable people—clergymen and others—contained the names of persons who were found, on investigation, to be neither *sober—industrious—bonâ fide fishermen—poor—fit objects of charity, nor at all likely to use fishing gear to the best advantage*. In fact, one can hardly imagine that many of the certificates could have been read when being signed.

When remonstrating with some persons who had signed such, they admitted they knew nothing of the persons for whom they had done so, but “as the relief was going, they thought the poor “fellows might get a share.” On one occasion in the country, speaking to a clergyman, I asked if he knew such a person, mentioning his name, and what his character and circumstances were, he replied that he did not know him. I said, “Are you “sure,” and described him; but he persisted that he did not know him. “Why,” I said, “the Committee have received a very “pressing appeal from him, and it is signed by you and several “others,” naming them. He thereupon said, “Oh, now I recollect, “I did sign his application the other day, when I saw it signed by “Mr. — and Mr. —.” This will give some idea of the manner in which signatures to the certificates were obtained.

A Coastguard officer informed me that in his locality no one would refuse to sign applications when the first name was appended to them, and it was always easy to get that. I mention this matter to show the great difficulties that beset the work from the beginning. I have, however, reason to believe, after personal investigation since made in places whence some complaints came of undeserving people having obtained gear, that there was little, if any, foundation for such statements, and that none but *bonâ fide* distressed fishermen were participators in this bounty. Of course, many people have said, and will again say—Why did not William Jones get it, as he was as deserving as Tom Robinson? This may be, and no doubt is quite correct; but some persons should be sufferers, for you could not, with the funds at your disposal, meet the wants of every case, and you never pretended to do so.



This observation is equally applicable to *localities*, from some of which I have received communications complaining that they had been wholly neglected.

This could not possibly be avoided. To such complaints I answer, that no exertion of mine was spared to make the Fund go as far as possible through the most distressed localities, and from which the most important results were likely to follow, and that I was guided solely by this view in every recommendation I laid before you. It was as painful to me to be obliged to overlook many localities, where I knew there were distressed fishermen, as it could have been to those who make such complaints. In relieving distress you may divide a sack of meal amongst a large number, and so partially feed or keep from starvation the masses. Not so with fishing gear. No use dividing a net or a spillet; if you do, you render it useless to all.

After the applications received had been carefully examined, the first step was to ascertain the special wants of the applicants. In nearly all cases the Coastguard officers were called on for reports, and they had sometimes to travel long distances, and to visit the coast at different parts; to examine boats that were said to require repairs, or were too old to be repaired; to visit the cabins and see for themselves what gear each person actually had. This was a work of great labour; and when the faithful and independent manner in which the Coastguard perform any duty entrusted to them is considered, their exertions on this duty cannot be over-rated. Indeed, I must candidly say that, were it not for the cordiality with which they undertook it, it would have been next to impossible to prevent mistakes being made. The full schedules they furnished would have been, and are, sufficient to enable you to dispense with great advantage a much larger amount than that at your disposal.

Before closing this report, I purpose bringing under your notice the names of some of the officers to whom you are specially indebted. As regards myself personally, I cannot adequately express my acknowledgments to the force for the kind and cordial spirit with which they entered into my own feelings, determining that only those who were really deserving should get relief. No one but those who had visible proof, as I had, of the result of their investigations could have the most remote idea of the labour they involved.



There were hardly two localities where the same description of gear would suit the fishermen; and to give them gear they did not approve of would have been waste. Instances of this came to my knowledge, where, with the best intentions, another charitable Committee had given nets and other gear, which I found, late in the year, had never been used, the fishermen alleging that it did not suit them, and was therefore useless. Whether this arose from prejudices, or from the alleged fact that it was unsuitable, I cannot say; but it showed the importance of giving to each locality that description of nets, lines, and hooks, the people desired, so as to be useful to them. This was done by you in every instance—samples from the first manufacturers in England, Scotland, and Ireland were sent, as occasion required, and from them the fishermen were allowed to select for themselves. The same observations may be made with regard to boats. I have heard it urged before you that it was absurd to build curraghs or canoes (*boats made with wicker-work and covered with tarred canvas or calico*) instead of good boats—and that even if the canoes were to be built, they might be got for £1 to £2, instead of £6, which you were paying. Had this advice been followed, boats would have been perfectly useless to the fishermen in some localities where canoes are used. Take, for example, the whole coast of the County of Clare round to Galway Bay. Canoes are the description of craft suitable for fishing that part of the coast, and they cannot be built under £6. In other places square-sterned boats are required in preference to the fine seaworthy Greencastle or Drontheim yawls; and here again, within a few miles of where these latter are eagerly sought after, there is a difference, the fishermen stating that on their part of the coast they would not be suitable, and should have yawls of their own fashion. All this may, on the part of the fishermen who know their own coasts, be perfectly correct or altogether incorrect; but if the difference arose from prejudice, this was not a time, when fishermen were in a state of abject poverty, and abundance of fish on the coast, to try and conquer prejudices, even were it possible, by endeavouring to force on them new modes of fishing, or different classes of boats.

Having ascertained the wants of each locality, the next step was to send specifications to the best manufacturers and merchants in England, Scotland, and Ireland, and to call for tenders for the supply. In many cases these tenders for the same articles and on the same specifications showed a difference of fully forty



per cent. in prices. From them I made the best selections consistent not only with economy, but the supply of the best materials, and, I do not think I exaggerate when I say, that, by this means, a saving of at least twenty-five per cent. or more on the whole amount expended on gear was effected.

All the nets supplied were made, ready for putting into the water. There was no use in supplying materials for nets, as I found that which had been supplied by the Committee, to which I have before referred, some months previously, to the St. John's Point fishermen, had not been made up into nets, the people being too poor to pay for doing so, and that it was still lying in their houses. I was obliged, therefore, to send this material back to Scotland, whence it came, to be manufactured into nets, and for which you have paid.

With few exceptions, all the gear and boats supplied were delivered by the Coastguard to the fishermen, and their receipts taken, duly witnessed. These receipts are now among your records. The only exceptions to this rule were where the Coastguard was not available, being stationed at too great a distance from the scene of operations.

In one instance only had I to employ an agent, and I have the satisfaction of feeling that I could not have carried out the work myself with a more earnest desire to see that everything was done correctly than was done by the person who gave me this assistance.

In a few other cases where the Coastguard were not available, the Constabulary, in the kindest manner, witnessed the delivery and signatures. By this means precaution was taken that the gear reached the proper hands; and I am gratified in being able to state that I do not believe a single thread went astray. When the quantity of material delivered over the West and North-West coasts—the number of people that received it—the distances from which it had come—and the almost inaccessible places at which much of it had to be delivered—are considered, I think this must be a matter of no small gratification. The only mishap that occurred was damage to a new boat during the storm of the 24th November last, when it was lying at the station of the Great Northern Railway waiting for the fishermen to take it away. It had been left by the company's servants on the platform, and during the night the wind blew it over on to the



line, by which it received considerable damage. The company have agreed to pay half the expense of repairing her.

The *new* boats supplied numbered 192. These are manned by from two to eight men each. Taking an average of four men to each, which is considerably under the mark, they have given, and will give employment to at least 768 people. The cost of these boats amounted to £1,877 10s. 2d., thus averaging under £10 each. The price varied from £2 for the small two-men curragh, used in some parts of the coast of the County Donegal, to £25.

The boats *repaired* numbered 437, and the cost of repairs amounted to £1,027 9s. 1d. The number of persons employed by these boats may be taken on an average at four to each boat. This will give an additional number of 1,848; so that between new boats and repairs of old ones an industry has been fostered, employing at least 2,616 persons, few of whom would, from their poverty, have been able this year, or perhaps ever again, to have fished were it not for this bounty.

But this is not all. The number of persons who received nets, lines and other gear amounted to nearly 4,000. By far the greater number of these could not have fished this year but for the supply of fishing gear given to them; and not one of the whole could have carried it on successfully with any old gear they had in their hands. It came to my knowledge that in some localities the poor people, while using their old nets before the new ones were supplied, lost large captures of fish by the old nets bursting.

It may, therefore, be safely stated that with this fund you have been enabled to give lucrative employment to over 4,000 persons, and it is not too much to estimate that two persons are dependent on each one of these, thus providing the means of obtaining food for about 8,000 souls.

In addition to this, which was so much needed in this country, this year, these people are provided with good fishing gear for the next season.

These calculations do not embrace the County of Kerry, Mr. William Lane Joynt having undertaken the cases in this county, on which I was not to report.

I am sorry to be obliged to say that in the transmission of this large quantity of goods, or of the boats, no allowance was made from the ordinary charges by the Steamboat or Railway Companies, the only exceptions being, that the Messrs. Russell, of



Limerick, kindly volunteered to carry a large canoe from Dingle to Limerick, and the Clyde Steamship Company thence to Dunfanaghy, free of all expense. Your best thanks are due to both these Companies.

You will, naturally, desire now to know what are the practical results that have followed all this. I am enabled to state this, not only from personal inquiries on the spot, but from the report of credible witnesses, and, in one case, sworn testimony.

In some localities the nets had hardly arrived till they were in the water, and each canoe returned nightly laden with mackerel, from 50 to 80 dozen in each; and this successful fishing has continued save during the time the heavy gales prevailed. There has not been so heavy a fishing for many years in some localities, and for miles on one part of the coast of the County Clare, there were, it may be said, no nets among the fishermen until those supplied from this Fund had arrived. In another locality a very heavy herring fishing set in, and continued for several nights, till a storm came, when the herrings disappeared. While they remained heavy captures were made, one boat's crew, for three nights, realizing £60. The cost of the boat and nets in this case was only £12, and the man to whom they were given was so reduced in circumstances that he was about going into the Workhouse when this timely aid arrived. In another locality, where nets were given to 50 fishermen, costing under £200, I have it on sworn testimony that in four weeks over £1,200 worth of mackerel were sold by these people. I could go on multiplying instances of the important results that have followed your operations, which have not only materially benefited the poor fishermen, and absolutely enriched them, but have been the means of bringing into the country a very large amount of valuable food, which otherwise must have remained uncaptured. Another gratifying result is, that owing to the superior class of boats supplied in some localities the fishermen are enabled to venture out to the deep far beyond the Heads, which they dare not previously attempt. They have thus been enabled to take a large quantity of cod and other round fish on their lines during a tide. A great impetus has, in consequence, been given to the fishing trade, which had been falling, for the last two or three years, on the West and North-West coasts into a sad state of decay. I have not the slightest doubt in my mind that if correct statistics of the quantity of fish taken by the gear and boats provided by this Fund could be obtained from the fishermen, it



would be found that treble or four times the amount of the entire Fund has already been realized ; and, save in cases where some of the gear has been lost in the late heavy gales, the fishermen who were the fortunate participators in this bounty are well supplied with gear for the coming season, and, if only sufficiently provident, ought to be able from their earnings to keep it renewed.

These observations have reference only to the localities in which boats and gear have been supplied ; and, undoubtedly, but for this the capture in such places would have been very small indeed, and the country would have suffered to that extent.

There are, I may say, thousands of poor people on this West and North-West coast who are, for the most part, utterly deficient of proper appliances to fish. Their appeals through me to you for assistance have been most painful, as you have no longer any funds to meet their wants. They look on, as they say themselves, at their neighbours, who have been supplied, fishing successfully, while they are standing idle. As a rule, the people along this extensive sea-board combine fishing with farming. It has been urged that neither can be well carried out by this divided attention ; but if anyone will go through this district carefully, these views will soon dissipate. They will find, firstly, that the small and unprofitable patches of land held along this coast, without the adjunct of fishing, would not maintain a family ; and, secondly, that the variable, tempestuous weather prevailing during the greater part of the year is sufficient to prevent fishing being exclusively carried on profitably. For weeks no fishing craft could stand out. The importance of persons living on this coast, and holding these small patches of land, being supplied with proper appliances to enable them to seize the opportunities of fishing when they offer, is of vast consequence, not only to them but to the country at large.

When weather prevents fishing operations, they may be cultivating their land, and so the one avocation will not interfere with the other. I take this opportunity of stating, from my long experience amongst them, that the coast population who follow fishing are quiet, peaceable, and orderly, and industrious when they get the slightest chance of being able to fish. Often may the Connemara men be found on the coast of Mayo, hundreds of miles away from their homes, prosecuting the lobster fishing, and living in their open boats for weeks together, having no covering at night but an old sail, huddling together to keep themselves warm, and



sheltering in some crevice of the rocks of this iron-bound coast when the weather gets bad. They return home when their cargo is complete, and are off again cheerfully when it is disposed of.

There are a few places on this coast where the people follow fishing exclusively. They are, as a rule, miserably poor, and this year have been wholly unable to keep renewed their boats or gear.

To me the pain of knowing that you have been unable to help many of these poor people, and the disappointments they have felt at seeing some of their neighbours successful, has more than counterbalanced the pleasure it afforded me of knowing that so many were relieved, and with such good results in a fishing point of view.

I trust you will pardon this digression, and that the cause of these people, which I advocate, and whose welfare is of such importance to the nation, will form a sufficient excuse for having done so.

I have now to bring under your notice the names of the Coastguard Officers from whom I received the most cordial assistance, whose exertions have been untiring, and whose services have been a most important element towards the success which has followed your administration of this Fund. I name them in the order and extent of their labours—

- Mr. Scott, Chief Officer at Moville, County Donegal.
- Mr. MacDonald, Divisional Officer at Pulleniva, County Sligo.
- Mr. Jago, Chief Officer; Station—Ballyvaughan, County Clare.
- Mr. Gibbons, Divisional Officer; Station—Achill Island, Co. Mayo.
- Mr. Roberts, Chief Officer; Station—Tribane, County Donegal.
- Mr. M'Kinley, Chief Officer; Station—Burton Port, Co. Donegal.
- Mr. Searle, Chief Officer; Station—Kilcredane, Co. Clare.
- Mr. Churcher, Chief Officer; Station—Liscannor, County Clare.
- Mr. Croake, Chief Officer; Station—Buncrana, Co. Donegal.
- Mr. Howley, Chief Officer; Station—Culdaff, County Donegal.
- Mr. Mutton, Chief Officer; Station—Malin Head, Co. Donegal.
- Mr. Murphy, Chief Officer; Station—Dunfanaghy, Co. Donegal.
- Mr. Everard, Chief Officer; Station—Teelin, County Donegal.
- Mr. Beckerley, Chief Officer; Station—Malinmore, Co. Donegal.
- Mr. Regan, Chief Officer; Station—Ball Hill, County Donegal.
- Mr. Neil, Chief Officer; Station—Kilrush, County Clare.
- Mr. Elliott, Chief Officer; Station—Rathmullen, Co. Donegal.
- Mr. Davies, Chief Officer; Station—Seafeld, County Clare.



Indeed, it becomes an invidious task to name these officers specially, when I know how much all have contributed towards the work; but, from the great amount that was thrown on those I have just mentioned, I would not feel justified in withholding their names from you.

In conclusion, permit me to return my best thanks for the uniform courtesy and attention with which all my recommendations have been received by you from time to time, and the cordial spirit evinced by each and every member of the Committee to meet any suggestions I took the liberty of making. I shall ever consider it the brightest spot in my official career to have been enabled, through your kindness, to have been even the humblest instrument of affording relief to my poor distressed fellow-countrymen, and shall watch the still further development of a work from which already there have been such satisfactory results.

I have the honour to be,

My Lords and Gentlemen,

Your faithful Servant,

THOS. F. BRADY,

*H.M. Inspector of Irish Fisheries.*

11, PERCY PLACE,  
DUBLIN, *December, 1880.*

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## APPENDIX

## BALANCE

OF

## CANADIAN FUND FOR RELIEF

	£	s.
To DOMINION PARLIAMENT OF CANADA—		
Amount Granted                      ...                      ...		20,547 18
„ NEW YORK HERALD FUND—		
Contribution towards Boats,		
Gear, &c.                      ...                      ...	£455	6 8
„ Ditto for one-third share of Grant		
for Renvyle Pier                      ...                      ...	188	13 4
		<hr/> 644 0
„ NATIONAL BANK—		
Interest on Current Account                      ...                      ...		76 10

---

£21,268 9

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We have carefully examined the details for above Balance correct and to exhibit a true statement of the disbursement

35, DAME STREET, DUBLIN,  
26th February, 1881.

No. 2.

## SHEET

THE

## OF DISTRESS IN IRELAND.

			£	s.	d.
GRANTS FOR PIERS	...	...	9,703	11	3
Surveys of ditto	...	...	23	19	5
			9,727	10	8
GRANTS FOR BOATS, GEAR, &c.	...	...	11,037	5	6
Charges on ditto, including					
Coastguards' expenses,					
reporting on applications,					
distributing gear, in-					
specting boats, &c.	...	...	100	9	6
			11,137	15	0
EXPENSES—					
Salaries	...	...	207	14	0
Printing, Postage, Telegrams					
and Stationery	...	...	100	14	2
Incidentals	...	...	91	17	5
Bank Charges	...	...	2	18	4
			403	3	11
			£21,268	9	7

G. R. DEASE,  
THOMAS PIM, JUN., } *Treasurers.*

meet in the original Books and Vouchers. We certify it to be  
the Fund by the Committee.

KEVANS & KEAN, *Chartered Accountants.*



# APPENDIX

## ANALYSIS OF EXPENDITURE

COUNTIES And Localities in which Gear and Boats provided.	FISHING GEAR.										
	Nets, with Ropes, Corks, &c.				Lobster Pots		Lines				
	No.	Cost			Cost	No.	Cost				
		£	s.	d.			£	s.	d.		
DONEGAL ... .. Bunnatroohan, Mulinasole, Bundoran, Donegal, Moville, Greencastle, Culdaff, Inish- boffin, Mount Charles, Port- noo, Rathmullen, Inver, St. John's Point, Malinmore, Malinbeg, Glencolumbkille, Teelin, Downeys, Arranmore Island, Dunfanaghy, Malin Head, Buncrana.	1,088	1,542	14	8	41	2	4	3,312	513	2	1
LEITRIM ... .. Tullaghan	1	8	7	9	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
SLIGO ... .. Enniscrone, Aughris, Easkey, Mullaghmore, Pullocheeney, Pullendiva, Innismurray.	205	354	11	4	...	...	...	54	52	0	...
MAYO ... .. Achill Island, Iniskea Islands, Belmullet, Barrackcleggan, Ballyglass, Portacloy, Por- turlin, Belderrig, Ross, Killala, Ballymote, Kilcumin, Mur- risk, Roslave and Islands, Murevagh, Westport, Clare Island, Bundorragha and Louisburgh.	953	1,880	11	8	...	...	...	66	279	8	...
GALWAY ... .. Spiddal, Kilroe, Innishlacken and Innishnee Islands, Arran, Barna, Weir, Stradbally, Oran- more, Ballinamana, Ballina- courty, Leenane, Glenagim- lagh, Killerries, Kilkerrin, Maumeen, Kinvarra, Erris- more.	406	681	16	3	...	...	...	4,318	260	0	...
CLARE ... .. Moveen, Carrigaholt, Bally- vaughan, Kilrush, Fintra, Kil- kee, Quilty, Seatfield, Liscannor, Querrin, Knock, Kilbaha, Ballyhaline, Murroughn, Gle- nina, Miltown-Malbay, Lackyle, Clare Castle, Muckinish.	569	928	1	5	23	1	5	1,101	237	10	...
KERRY ... .. Dunquin, Castlemaine, and Dingle Bays.	102	119	10	1	...	...	...	...	2	3	...
CORK ... .. Baltimore, Clonakilty, White- gate, Leap, Glandore, Youghal.	586	771	3	6	...	...	...	1,695	179	18	...
TOTALS ...	3,910	6,286	16	8	64	3	9	10,546	1,524	3	1

No. 3.

## PON FISHING GEAR AND BOATS.

Hooks				B O A T S								FREIGHT			TOTAL Expenditure		
				New				Repaired									
No.	Cost			No.	Cost			No.	Cost			£	s.	d.	£	s.	d.
	£	s.	d.		£	s.	d.		£	s.	d.						
505	48	13	2	78	1,008	7	6	127	333	8	1	53	6	10	3,540	15	5
...	...			...	...			1	3	17	0	0	3	2	12	7	11
600	7	18	5	13	141	13	6	5	18	5	0	8	14	10	583	3	5
000	20	6	9	23	186	5	0	160	162	9	6	24	10	4	2,553	11	4
575	22	4	6	8	64	0	0	38	113	16	7	17	1	10	1,158	19	6
850	13	3	8	61	356	7	6	83	304	3	11	26	6	8	1,888	14	7
000	1	0	0	...	...			...	...			2	2	2	124	15	9
000	7	16	0	9	120	16	8	23	91	9	0	3	13	8	1,174	17	7
530	121	2	6	192	1,877	10	2	437	1,027	9	1	135	19	6	11,037	5	6



APPENDIX No. 3.—*Continued.*

SUMMARY OF FOREGOING ANALYSIS,  
 Showing Expenditure in each County under the  
 several Headings.

(Pages 52 and 53.)

Counties	Gear			Boats			Freight			Totals		
	£	s.	d.	£	s.	d.	£	s.	d.	£	s.	d.
DONEGAL	2,145	13	0	1,341	15	7	53	6	10	3,540	15	5
LEITRIM	8	7	9	3	17	0	0	3	2	12	7	11
SLIGO	414	10	1	159	18	6	8	14	10	583	3	5
MAYO	2,180	6	6	348	14	6	24	10	4	2,553	11	4
GALWAY	964	1	1	177	16	7	17	1	10	1,158	19	6
CLARE	1,201	16	6	660	11	5	26	6	8	1,888	14	7
KERRY	122	13	7	...			2	2	2	124	15	9
CORK ...	958	18	3	212	5	8	3	13	8	1,174	17	7
TOTAL, £	7,996	6	9	2,904	19	3	135	19	6	11,037	5	6

## APPENDIX No. 4.

## EXTRACTS FROM LETTERS

The following are extracts from letters received from Correspondents in various parts of the Country, testifying to the good effects produced by the distribution of the Gear, and provision of Boats by the Committee.

*From a Correspondent, County Donegal, dated 14th November, 1880.*

“All the fishermen are now supplied, and seem well satisfied, and are very thankful. I am glad to be able to acquaint you that we have a good proof of their willingness to work for the improvement of the fishing. Four of the boats are to-day outside the Heads. The cod fishing is very good, and those that have been supplied with the lines are making a good living. At present the herrings are slack, but we are in hopes they will come in again shortly.

“Four or five more applicants for lines in great need. In all other cases perfect satisfaction prevails.”

*Another, County Donegal.*

“You will be glad to hear that the cod fishing is doing well. D. had three dozen yesterday in one shot; another boat had five dozen in two shots; another, four and a-half dozen in two shots; some other boats, up to five dozen. Good fish selling at 8s. per dozen.”

*From another Correspondent, County Donegal, dated 2nd July, 1880.*

“The men are very thankful, and using their best endeavours to get all the good they can out of their boat. With many thanks for your attention to our neighbourhood,” &c., &c.

*From another Correspondent, County Donegal.*

“It would be superfluous on my part to say a word in reference to the great trouble you have taken in the interests of the poor fishermen on the several coasts. I beg to thank you on behalf of the fishermen of this district for your philanthropic efforts in trying to better their condition so materially,” &c., &c.

*From Fishermen, County Donegal, 7th December, 1880.*

“The boats pleased us very well, and we hope the Lord will reward you for what you have done for us, and accept our warmest thanks and blessings also, and may God prosper you is the sincere prayer of your humble servants.”



*From another Fisherman, County Donegal.*

"The boat you gave me is the best boat that came to this country for these twenty years. She is able to stand inspection at any exhibition, and this day I would not take £20 for her hull alone. I expect, while life is in my body, to keep her in good repair, for she is worthy of it. I have done well at the fishing. I return you my sincere thanks, and hope God will reward you for your goodness to us poor fishermen. I will now and evermore remember you in my prayers," &c., &c.

*From a Fisherman, County Leitrim, dated 10th July, 1880.*

"I am now fitted out for sea. You have repaired my boat and supplied me with a net. Only you did so, I or my crew could not go on the water this year, and our hearts would break when we would see the fish in the sea and have no way to catch them. Such being the case, you will see how impossible it is for me to thank you as my heart would wish. But you may be sure our hearts will be always filled with gratitude towards you, and our prayers will be that you may be long spared to be the benefactor of the poor fishermen, and may God reward you for all the trouble you have taken for the poor fishermen."

*From a Correspondent, County Sligo, 11th August, 1880.*

"The two boats were landed here last evening. They are both very good boats; could not be better. The fishermen desire me to express their very grateful thanks to you for your goodness to them, and will, I am sure, remember you as long as they live with gratitude. They are doing very well at the fishing now."

*From another Correspondent, County Sligo, dated 11th August, 1880.*

"I am deeply grateful to you for your very great kindness and attention to myself, personally; and it affords me very sincere pleasure to have to convey to you, on the part of our Harbour Committee, a cordial and unanimous vote of thanks, passed at our meeting on yesterday, for your persevering and unvarying attention to, and advocacy in favour of, the interests and requirements of our poor fishermen. Our ultimate success is due to your kind and humane efforts on our behalf, and our earnest prayers and wishes are for your happiness and welfare," &c., &c.

*From a Correspondent, County Mayo, dated 30th August, 1880.*

"All the parties who have now received the nets were in great need of them. While their neighbours were taking and earning £5 to £6 a week with the gear supplied by the Canadian Committee, they were on the beach looking on, and could do nothing but mourn, and could not get a single net on credit. Now, by getting a net each, they can earn the price of plenty of gear. There are about fifteen more poor fishermen who would require a net each. That might earn them the price of other nets, and help them to get a boat. There can be no greater service done than put nets first in the fishermen's hands, by which they can earn the price of other gear and boats."



*Another, from County Mayo, dated 4th September.*

"I wish to inform you and the Charitable Committee that are doing so much to help our poor fishermen, of some details concerning the boats and nets given to them.

"One man got £31 worth of herrings in one week.

"Another man got, in one night, £11 worth of herrings.

"Another got £7 worth.

"I had a conversation with about thirty of the fishermen, and asked them how much had they earned up to this by the nets given by the Canadian Committee, and the first answer was a prayer for Mr. Brady and the good Canadian Committee who assisted them out of their poverty, and that they had earned, each man, from £7 to £8.

"They then told me what service this gear had done them. About twenty said they had bought two young pigs each, and that they could feed them with the small or blighted potatoes that would be of no use to them, but would have to throw them away, and they hoped these pigs would be value for £7 or £8 coming on December or January.

"Others redeemed articles they had in pawn and paid shop bills for which they would have been processed, and they could now keep the only cow they had to give milk for the children.

"They are in great hopes of a good year's fishing and intend to give every attention to it. All these poor people say—now, the next thing is to earn the rent, and keep our little homes. Not one of them could have purchased a net or boat," &c., &c.

*Another, County Mayo, 30th August, 1880.*

"Boats loaded again last night with herrings. J.'s seems to be the luckiest. He had £14 worth—price 6s. the hundred.

*From another Correspondent, County Mayo, 31st August, 1880.*

"I am intensely grateful to you for giving our poor people the nets, ropes, &c.

"The people are all gratitude for your noble kindness to them."

*From another Correspondent, County Mayo, 30th December, 1880.*

"The Belderrig fishermen load their boats with mackerel every night. They have not had such success at fishing for thirty years. They are, thanks to God, and you after Him, all enriched, and they never shall forget what has been done for them."

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*From a Correspondent in County Galway.*

"I cannot find words to express my gratitude to you for all you have done for the poor fishermen on this coast. Were it not for the timely aid afforded by the Canadian Committee, I do not know what should have been the consequence. Nothing but misery and destitution, ending probably in the workhouse. You have not only supplied their present wants, by giving



"them the means of earning a livelihood for themselves and their families at the present time, but have provided them with the opportunity of averting probably famine from their doors next year, and they are truly grateful.

"We could have done with a much larger quantity of fishing gear than you have been able to supply, as the poor fishermen are completely run out of all, and can obtain none on credit; but we are thankful for what you have sent, and it is the greatest charity that has ever been bestowed on the people."

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*From a Correspondent in County Clare, dated 6th September, 1880.*

"It may be interesting to you to be in a position to state to those benevolent gentlemen who guide the operations of the Canadian Committee the results which have attended their labours in this locality.

[Here follow the names of thirteen persons who had earned from £5 to £16 each by canoes and nets given to them up to this date. The cost of providing nets for some of the people came to only £6, and the amounts stated above up to date were earned in about a month's fishing.]

"The canoes and nets issued on the N. and N.W. coast of this county have not as yet been made much use of, the mackerel season not having yet set in. But foregoing figures will show what these men have earned up to the present; and were it not for the continued easterly wind and thunder, the Fishermen of the Lower Shannon would have a rich harvest of fish, as they were never in such a position to participate in takes of fish as they now are.

"When I can certify to you that every man in these canoes have been during the year on our Relief Lists, you will have some idea what a boon these canoes and nets are to them, and what an inestimable source of value they will prove to them during the ensuing mackerel season, when every canoe that has been made will be at work. At the end of the season I will have much pleasure in forwarding such a report of the results of their labours as I can glean from the fishermen."

*From another Correspondent, County Clare, dated 11th September, 1880.*

"I am very happy to inform you that we had as plentiful a night's fishing last night on the Shannon as there has been for the past ten years. Some of the canoes supplied by the Canadian Committee had as many as 3,000 herrings."

*From another Correspondent, County Clare, dated 24th October.*

"You will be glad, I know, to learn that the nets supplied by the Canadian Committee were just in time for one of the largest takes of mackerel made for many years. I sincerely hope to meet you before long among the people whom you have raised up from poverty."

*From another Correspondent, County Clare, dated 14th August, 1880.*

"I was delighted this morning in getting your letter saying you had ordered the net for the poor fisherman M'Mahon. I know of no more industrious, honest man, and it always grieved me to see him when hard up



“for a net. I think he and his family could not have been prouder if I told them they had come in for an estate. I have to thank you for your kind attention to my letter, and to send you M'Mahon's simple, honest message, that, 'if his prayers are any use, you will never be in want.'”

*From another Correspondent, County Clare, 3rd November, 1880.*

“I believe, in all sincerity, that you are the greatest benefactor this part of Ireland has seen for the last generation, and I only hope that the people of Clare, and the people of the other counties whom you have served so much, will get some opportunity of showing how they appreciate such services.”

*From another Correspondent, County Clare, dated 5th September, 1880.*

“Very many thanks for the nets, spillets, canoes and boats, given to the fishermen of this locality. They are first-class. Three men got a fine haul of herrings last week, and for two nights each man made over £6. Three others got a large lot of mullet, and made equally as much.

“The gear given to these people is of the greatest service. In fact I don't know what would have become of them. There was no employment from any source in this locality, but now they can keep themselves well employed every day at fishing, as there is plenty of fish, if only looked for. These people had neither the ways or means of fishing for the past ten years, which has kept them so miserably poor. They have great hopes now, as every prospect of a good fishing season now in the bay, and the great advantage to those people being so near the fishing grounds.

“When you see the canoes and boats you will be highly pleased, as they are very strong and seaworthy. At a meeting of the Board of Guardians here, a vote of thanks was passed to the Canadian Committee for the liberal supply of fishing gear given by them to the district, and also for their grant for a pier.

“Again thanking you and the Canadian Committee for the grants to those poor fishermen,” &c., &c.

*From Board of Guardians, Ballyvaughan Union.*

“Resolved—That having learned the Canadian Committee have allocated a sum of £300 towards the construction of a Fishery Pier at Glenina, thereby insuring an expenditure of £1,200, this Board, on its own part as well as on the part of the fishermen, hereby return their warmest thanks to the above Committee for this grant, and also for the very liberal supply of fishing materials given to the district.

“The Board is also desirous of tendering their warmest thanks to Thomas F. Brady, Esq., Inspector of Fisheries, for his kind exertions in obtaining these valuable grants for the fishermen, and for the friendly interest he always takes in fishermen in general.”



## ADDENDUM.

After the adoption of the foregoing Report, the following letter was received from the Piers Committee :—

“ FISHERY PIERS COMMITTEE (IRELAND),

“ LOCAL GOVERNMENT BOARD OFFICE, CUSTOM HOUSE,

“ *Dublin, 9th February, 1881.*

“ SIR,—I am desired by the Fishery Piers Committee (Ireland) “ to state, for the information of the Committee of the Canadian “ Fund for the Relief of the Distress in Ireland, that, not having “ been able to get a contractor for the works at Killala, County “ Mayo, with the approval of His Excellency the Lord Lieutenant, “ they have been obliged finally to abandon that work.

“ The Committee, therefore, now requests the authority of the “ Canadian Relief Fund Committee to allocate this sum towards “ the one-fourth of the cost of construction of Piers at the following “ places :—

Bunnatroohan	...	...	Co. Donegal.
Malin Beg	...	...	Co. Donegal.
Bush Harbour (extra works)	...	...	Co. Galway.
Glenlara	...	...	Co. Mayo.
Oranmore	...	...	Co. Galway.
Dunmanus	...	...	Co. Cork.
Millcove	...	...	Co. Cork.

“ I am also desired to state that if it is not found necessary to “ allocate the entire £1,000 by reason of this Committee obtaining “ subscriptions from private sources, the balance remaining over “ will be refunded.

“ I am, Sir,

“ Your obedient servant,

“ ALAN HORNSBY.

“ C. F. P. DOWSON, Esq.,

“ The Assistant Secretary to the

“ Committee of the Canadian Relief Fund,

“ Mansion House, Dublin.”

A Special Meeting of the Committee, convened to consider this communication, was held on the 14th February.

The Committee, while expressing their very great regret that the contemplated works at Killala, which would be of the greatest

importance to the locality, would not be carried out, assented to the transfer of the £1,000 asked for. The Committee accordingly voted the following sums :—

Bunnatrohan	...	...	£117	10	0
Malinbeg	...	...	237	10	0
Bush Harbour, (extra works)	...	...	32	10	0
Glenlara	...	...	250	0	0
Oranmore	...	...	100	0	0
Dunmanus	...	...	162	10	0
Millcove	...	...	100	0	0
			<hr/>		
			£1,000	0	0

There is no doubt that the improvements which will be here effected will be of the utmost utility.

Mr. T. F. Brady attended this Meeting of the Committee, and having, at the request of the Committee, kindly undertaken to distribute, in the purchase of gear for distressed fishermen, any sum that might be returned from the Piers Committee, if they received contributions from private sources in aid of any of the works, the Piers Committee were authorised to pay over any such sum to Mr. Brady for that purpose.

The Committee, feeling much indebted to the officers and men of the Coastguard Service, for the valuable assistance rendered by them in the distribution of the Gear, considered they could best express their gratitude by bringing the matter under the consideration of the Admiral Superintendent of Naval Reserves, which they accordingly did. The letter of the Committee to His Royal Highness the Duke of Edinburgh, and his reply, follow this addendum.

The works to which the Committee contributed, the amount contributed, and the works executed under the superintendence of the Committee, are as follow :—

			£	s.	d.	£	s.	d.
Co. DONEGAL—	Tawney	...	...	135	0	0		
"	Teelin	...	...	1,000	0	0		
"	Arranmore	...	...	200	0	0		
"	Downey's Bay	...	...	900	0	0		
"	Malinbeg	...	...	237	10	0		
"	Bunnatroohan	...	...	117	10	0		
			<hr/>			2,590	0	0
			Total for Co. Donegal					



			£	s.	d.	£	s.	d.
	<i>Carried forward</i>	...				2,590	0	0
Co. SLIGO	—Enniscrone	...	215	0	0			
„	Pullendiva	...	1,050	0	0			
	Total for Co. Sligo					1,265	0	0
Co. MAYO	—Molraney	...	55	0	0			
„	Tonatonvalley	...	255	0	0			
„	Lacken	...	310	0	0			
„	Lecanvey	...	600	0	0			
„	Roonagh	...	75	0	0			
„	Glenlara	...	250	0	0			
	Total for Co. Mayo					2,040	0	0
Co. GALWAY	—Doleen	...	350	0	0			
„	Bush Harbour	...	582	10	0			
„	Glenagimlagh	...	62	10	0			
„	Leenane	...	200	0	0			
„	Ardmore	...	350	0	0			
„	Innishlacken	...	150	0	0			
„	Roundstone	...	150	0	0			
„	Renvyle	...	566	0	0*			
„	Oranmore	...	100	0	0			
	Total for Co. Galway					2,511	0	0
Co. CLARE	—Glenina	...	300	0	0			
„	Goleen Tullig	...	62	10	0			
	Total for Co. Clare					362	10	0
Co. KERRY	—Gleesk	...	150	0	0			
	Total for Co. Kerry					150	0	0
Co. CORK	—Baltimore	...	200	0	0			
„	Millcove	...	100	0	0			
„	Dunmanus	...	162	10	0			
	Total for Co. Cork					462	10	0

Works executed under the superintendence  
of the Canadian Committee:—

Co. DONEGAL	—Carntullagh	...	55	0	0			
Co. MAYO	—Ballygarry	...	65	0	0			
Co. CLARE	—Seafield	...	202	11	3			
						322	11	3
	Total expended on Piers and Slips	...				£9,703	11	3

1st March, 1881.

\* Of this sum the *New York Herald* Committee contributed one-third—viz., £188 13s. 4d.

## APPENDIX No. 5.

Letter from the Committee to His Royal Highness the Duke of Edinburgh, Admiral Superintendent Naval Reserves, and His Royal Highness's reply.

" TO H.R.H. THE DUKE OF EDINBURGH,  
" ADMIRAL SUPERINTENDENT NAVAL RESERVES.

" February, 1881.

" SIR,

" In the course of administering the grant, amounting to £20,547 18s. 10d.,  
" voted by the Dominion Parliament of Canada towards the Relief of Distress  
" in Ireland, the Committee appointed by the Secretary of State to the Colonies  
" deemed it prudent, owing to the difficulties connected with this undertaking,  
" to ask the services of the Coastguard officers in the South and West coasts of  
" Ireland.

" The Committee, having now concluded their work of charity, desire me  
" to express to your Royal Highness their cordial thanks for and appreciation  
" of the valuable services rendered, not alone by the officers, but the men of  
" the Coastguard service in Ireland. These services were in many cases  
" most laborious, and have been in all most cordially and zealously given.

" The Committee desire to bring specially under the notice of your Royal  
" Highness the names of the following Coastguard Officers, whose duties in  
" distributing to the fishermen the boats and gear awarded by the Committee  
" have been of great and exceptional value.

" The Committee desire me further to express the hope that your Royal  
" Highness will be pleased to take these services, given at a very trying and  
" distressing period, into your gracious consideration.

" I have the honor to be, Sir,

" Your Royal Highness's most dutiful, most obedient, humble servant,

" C. F. P. DOWSON,

" Assistant Secretary."

(Here follows list of names, for which see page 46.)

" 1, NEW STREET, SPRING GARDENS, S.W.,

" 23rd February, 1881.

" SIR,

" With reference to your letter dated February, 1881, I request you  
" will convey to the Committee of the Canadian Fund for the Relief of Distress



"in Ireland that it has given me much pleasure to communicate to the officers  
"and men of Her Majesty's Coastguard stationed in Ireland the expression of  
"the Committee's appreciation of and thanks for the services rendered by those  
"officers and men in furthering the objects of the Committee.

"The names of the officers mentioned in the list enclosed with your letter  
"have been noted.

"I am, Sir,

"Your obedient servant,

"ALFRED,

"Admiral Superintendent.

"To the Assistant Secretary,

"Canadian Fund for Relief of Distress in Ireland,

"Dublin."

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Houses of the Oireachtas



