

Lib. J. R. Sterling. By this two hundred and twenty Families are  
& U. S. turned out of Doors, the greatest part of whom being by this  
Misfortune rendered incapable of Subsisting themselves are  
become the proper Objects of Charity. And although I have  
at the Desire of both Houses of the Legislature sent Briefs  
throughout the Province to procure Relief for the unhappy  
Sufferers, yet the Calamity is so great and extensive that the  
means of Relief from among Ourselves & the Contributions  
of our own Inhabitants must be greatly inadequate to the  
Loss. I would therefore (as has been practised on the like  
Occasions) desire your Excellency would be so good as to  
recommend it to the People under your Government to assist  
in relieving their Distressed Fellow Subjects, and that you  
would cause what may be Collected on this Occasion to be  
remitted to the Select men and Overseers of the Poor of the  
Town of Boston, with whom will be lodged the Collections  
made in this Government to be distributed among the Suffer-  
ers as they in their Discretion shall judge proper. I have  
the Honour to be

Sir

Your Excellencys most Obedient hum<sup>l</sup> Serv<sup>t</sup>

J Pownall

Sir

The Secretary tells me He is uncertain whether he sent  
forward the foregoing Letter to your Excellency at the Time  
of its Date. If it has been already forwarded you will please  
to receive this as a Copy, and Excuse my troubling you with  
a Duplicate to prevent any further uncertainty about it.

Your most Obedient humble Serv<sup>t</sup>

J Pownall

Which being Read Ordered with the Advice of this Bord  
that the following Brief be issued together with Letters to  
the several Sheriffs of this Province.

p. 251 By his Excellency Horatio Sharpe Esq<sup>f</sup> Governor and  
Commander in Chief in and over the Province of Maryland

A Brief.

It having been represented to me, by his Majesty's Gov-  
ernor of the Massachusetts Bay in New England, That on  
the twentieth of March last, a Fire broke out in the Town  
of Boston, in such Manner as to elude all Means for Sup-  
pressing the same, untill it had (according to the best In-  
formation that could be obtained) destroyed One hundred  
and seventy four Dwelling Houses and as many Warehouses,  
Shops, and other Buildings, which with the Furniture and