

Fort Townshend.

4th. October 1810.

Gentlemen,

I am to acknowledge the receipt of your letter dated the 2nd. instant accompanying the copy of a representation which you acquire me, the Society of Merchants for improving the Trade and Fisheries of Newfoundland were under the painful necessity of making last Year to His Excellency the late Governor relative to the improper conduct of the Chief Justice of this Island and stating that as the Society had been advised that it was submitted to the consideration of the Lords of the Committee of Council for Trade and Foreign Plantations, as appears from the extract of Mr Fawkeners letter, it was but reasonable that I should have instructed to institute an enquiry whether the charges there stated were founded on facts or not expressing at the same time the regret of the Society that an opportunity has not  
been

been afforded them to prove to the fullest extent  
the truth of their assertions, and requesting to be  
informed whether any communication was made, or any  
instructions given to me upon this subject.

I have not received any communication from His Majesty's Ministers on this subject,  
nor instructions of any kind relating thereto.

I am &c.

The Committee of Merchants.

(sd) J.T. Duckworth.

St John's.