

nearly one half these Duties to the maintenance of its own Officers, who were neither accountable to nor under the controul of the Assembly, it became an imperative duty to oppose the innovation. Entrusted with Rights of too high and sacred a character to be surrendered by silence, the House conveyed, in firm and respectful terms, to His Majesty's Government, their complaint against the intended *infringement of the Constitutional Rights of the Assembly*---and asserted, in distinct terms, *that no other Authority than this Legislature can legally direct the Collector of His Majesty's Customs to pay over the duties levied under the new Statutes to any Person but the Treasurer of the Province.* The Address, on this subject, was answered by a proposal, on the part of the Lords of the Treasury, communicated to the present Assembly in 1827. In this, after referring to the opinion of His Majesty's Law Officers, *that the changes of collecting the Duties might legally be deducted from their gross Produce*, and after stating that the rates of Salary then payable were only fixed *provisionally*, until a fuller Report on the subject---their Lordships proposed, as a temporary arrangement, that three-fourths of the average amount of duties for three years should be paid to the Colonial Treasury, and the remaining produce be applied in payment of the assigned Salaries. That proposition was deliberately discussed in this House, and answered by an Address---wherein---after testifying in warm terms their gratitude for the removal of the former restrictions, and for the benefits produced by the abolition of Fees on the Coasting and Foreign Trade---this House declared that *the removal of the Restrictions and Abolition of the Fees, ought not to impose any additional burthen on the Mother Country*; yet asserted, with all deference and respect, but firmly and distinctly, *that the Duties imposed by the Imperial Parliament do of right belong to, and are by the Statutes placed at the sole disposal of the Colonial Legislature, and that their appropriation can originate only in this House.* The House further represented---that a deep sense of the important trust committed to them, precluded their assent