

posal.

A great deal had been said about His Excellency having garbled the documents sent to the Council. It appeared that, through a clerical error, the word "these" had been omitted, and on this ground his Excellency is charged with a laxity of moral principle. To say nothing of the unjustifiable grossness of this charge, it was really astonishing that hon. gentlemen could not discover, that, if his Excellency had designed to garble his extracts, it would have been as easy a matter for him to have done so the second time as the first, and thus not have exposed himself. Such accusations were no credit to those who made them. Such charges might, with much stronger semblance of truth, be brought against the authors of the Report under discussion. A most labored effort had been put forth by the Committee to impeach the character of His Excellency in reference to the arrangements which had been made between two of the Councilors, concerning the administration of the government in case of the death of his Excellency. As it respected the arrangement itself, it was altogether unnecessary. It appeared to have been made under the impression that the senior councillor must otherwise become the administrator of the Government in the case supposed. But that was a mistake. When Mr. Smith was sworn into office there were two older councillors than himself, Mr. Baby and Chief Justice Powell; neither of whom was forbidden by the Constitution to administer the Government. But no man is obliged to assume the office. He would now state the facts of this case, and leave every honest mind to judge whether there was any foundation for the abuse which had been heaped upon his Excellency. One of the Councillors, *before they were sworn into office*, (let that be remembered), suggested, that in case of His Excellency's death, the administration of the government should devolve on the hon. Mr. Allan. To this Mr. Sullivan readily assented, being anxious to be free from so great responsibility. And to place his wish beyond doubt, it was suggested by Mr. Sullivan that a writing should be drawn and signed by him, declaring that, in the event of the Government devolving on a Councillor, he would resign and make way for Mr. Allan. This conversation took place in presence of His Excellency, who was requested to draw an instrument to that effect. He did so, and it was signed by Mr. Sullivan; and Mr. Allan received it, and there the mat-

ter rested. It was no official document,—it was not done *in Council*, nor was any record made of it. It was a *private arrangement* between two gentlemen, with respect to which the Lieutenant Governor was perfectly indifferent. [Hear, hear!] Now, what does the Report state? It states that when His Excellency was addressed by the House for information, he intimated—(mark the expression)—he "intimated that he knew of no such agreement, and that in fact no document of such a nature *existed*." Now this was plainly a misrepresentation. His Excellency *intimated* no such thing; and, to prove this, it will be most satisfactory to read the answer his Excellency did give to the Address of the House for information on the subject. It is as follows:—

"GENTLEMEN—I herewith transmit as much of the information desired by the House as I possess.

"I have entered into no bond or agreement of any sort, with my present Executive Council, and I do not possess, nor does there exist in Council, any document of such a nature, between two or more of the said Council."

This answer was in the possession of the committee at the time they made the unfounded assertion contained in their Report. Any man of ingenuous disposition—any man who was not desirous of perverting the truth, would have at once seen that His Excellency merely wished to inform the House, that *officially* he had *no control over* any document such as was referred to, but that he by no means intended to convey the idea, that "no document of such a nature existed;" on the contrary, he very plainly intimated the reverse, and to prove that he had no objection to its being made public and that he was ready to assist in its disclosure, he permitted Mr. Sullivan to appear before the committee and state everything he knew respecting the matter.—Had his Excellency desired a concealment he could have prevented this: and the committee would then have been left without this new topic, upon which to assail the Lieutenant Governor. But, as an honest man, he had no desire to conceal truth—all he asked was, that the truth should be plainly told, and no false interpretations placed upon it. Much stress was laid upon Mr. Sullivan having expressed an unwillingness, at first, to state who drew up the document. But why was he unwilling? Undoubtedly, because he suspected the dishonorable use that would be made by the committee of that information. [Hear,

hear.] But for him to impossible fairly cast cy with re had said h ing the Co dy determin the slander the country which had for party p He had d he hoped th ect would f He had felt question bef had no doub ority would avail for him which had b that regard eel for the p the interests take, render ay less than iting one, b himself to a discussion of and of those which, from question, see he hoped th roposed at t ions. He ha tive Council intimate func ce was ide fe had shew nial Govern that the syste nd in the Re system, wou nsibility fro est, and wou ideal respon rests of the very vestige nd now he w ressing his de und occupy dished places eople, who c o them, and a entary privi and misrepres