

financial year; and I do not foresee any pecuniary inconvenience from that measure.

I enclose likewise a copy of the Bill of Supply, as sent up by the House of Assembly, and rejected by the Council.

I have, &c.
(signed) *H. Prescott.*

NEWFOUND-
LAND.

No. 12.

Enclosure 1, in No. 10.

ADDRESS of the Council of *Newfoundland* to Her Majesty, on the Causes which led to the Loss of the Supply Bill during the Session of the Local Legislature in 1837. Encl. 1, in No. 10.

To the Queen's Most Excellent Majesty.

May it please Your Majesty,

WE, Your Majesty's most dutiful and loyal subjects, the Council of Newfoundland in our legislative capacity assembled, beg leave to approach Your Majesty with sentiments of the most sincere and affectionate attachment to Your Majesty's person and government, and to express our deep regret that, upon the first occasion of our assembling at the commencement of Your Majesty's auspicious reign, circumstances should have occurred to prevent the granting to Your Majesty by the General Assembly of the island the usual and necessary supplies for carrying on Your Majesty's government in this colony; but we indulge the belief, that when we shall have laid before Your Majesty the causes which have led to this untoward result of our labours during a very protracted session of more than four months, Your Majesty will not regard this branch of the Legislature as unmindful of their duty to Your Majesty in declining to become parties to an appropriation of the public revenue which in our consciences we believe would have been as unjust towards many faithful servants of Your Majesty in Newfoundland, as it would have been detrimental to Your Majesty's just prerogative, and subversive of those principles which are essential to the stability of the mixed form of government so happily established in Your Majesty's realm, and under which the dependencies of the British Crown have hitherto been governed and protected.

Without trespassing beyond those limits which our position as a branch of the Legislature would seem to prescribe to animadvert upon the present constitution of the Assembly, which many persons feared would lead to the results which all deplore, we shall confine ourselves to a succinct statement of the facts with which we have had to deal, and of our reasons for adopting the line of conduct in relation thereto, which our duty to Your Majesty and the true interests of the colony impelled us to pursue.

The General Assembly met for the despatch of business on the 3d day of July last, and has continued in session, without intermission, to the present time, although it was not until the 18th day of October, after having been three months and upwards in session, that the bill appropriating the supplies necessary for defraying the charges of administering the civil government of the colony was sent up to us by the Assembly. Upon being read a first time, it was found, that a measure for granting nearly three-fourths of the current year's revenue for making and repairing roads and bridges, which had been the subject of a former bill, but had been thrown out by us for reasons assigned to the Assembly at a conference upon the subject, was nevertheless tacked to the Supply Bill, in order to coerce the Council into its adoption; that several grants of money to individuals not recommended by the Executive Government, and of the propriety of which we were altogether uninformed, together with an appropriation for alleged contingencies of the Assembly more than double the amount which had been found sufficient upon all former occasions, and a very large share whereof was under various pretences awarded to the members themselves, were also included in this one bill; thus comprising in one general appropriation the entire expenditure proposed for the year. Such a course of proceeding we acquainted the Assembly, at a conference, we could not concur in, as it deprived the Council of all opportunity of separately rejecting such grants as we could not approve of.

On the 21st of October the Assembly sent up a new appropriation for roads, which being more in accordance with what we had represented to the Assembly to be our views upon the subject, although still liable to much objection, was nevertheless passed by us without amendment, the Assembly keeping back the Supply Bill until the Road Bill was passed.

Immediately on a message being sent, acquainting the Assembly that the Council had passed the Road Bill, they sent up a second bill, appropriating money for defraying, it is true, the greater portion of the usual charges for conducting the public service; but while some charges were not provided for, others were introduced which were not required by the Government, and several occasional grants, having no reference to the public service, together with the grant for the contingencies of the Legislature, were still included. We