

shortly after the large amount of Crown Monies now in hand may have been paid over to, and perhaps actually disposed of by the Colonial Legislature; and it would then be equally optional with that body, as it would be with the Ministers of the Crown of that day, whether or not they would renew the Act again upon the same terms. This difficulty, if it is one, does not appear to have been noticed either in the House of Assembly or Legislative Council in their discussions on the Bill, but I respectfully submit for Your Lordship's consideration the propriety of its being brought under their notice in the future proceedings.

Fourthly. In any measure that may be adopted on the subject for securing to the Crown a provision for the Civil List of the Province, it is for Your Lordship to consider the risk His Majesty's Government incurs, by not insisting upon that provision being made a permanent one, for if only made for a limited period, and the Casual and Territorial Revenues should at the expiration of that time be much reduced in amount, which may happen, the Colonial Assembly may not be disposed to renew the Act except upon such a scale of salaries for the officers on the Civil List as they may themselves dictate, in which case the Government might meet with the same difficulty in New Brunswick on that head as has occurred in Lower Canada; and although the surrender of the Casual and Territorial Revenues may not be held valid for any longer period than the present reign, yet the Bill might be so framed as to make the Grant to the Crown so far permanent as to be dependent upon His Majesty's Heirs and Successors not resuming the Royal right to the Revenues in question, and for so long a period as they should respectively continue to surrender the same to the disposal of the Legislature of the Province.

In addition to the foregoing remarks upon the general principle of the Bill, I beg leave now to call Your Lordship's attention to some amendments, which appears to me, it requires in minor points, to prevent difficulty hereafter in carrying the measure into effect.

The first section of the Bill as it now stands, directs that all the Revenues as well what are in hand as also what may hereafter be received (except what may be expended in the collection and protection thereof as authorized by that Act) shall immediately be paid to the Provincial Treasurer. By this the money would not go through the hands of the Receiver General, but the Commissioner of Crown Lands and other officers who collect the same, would be compelled by the Act to pay them over immediately to the Provincial Treasurer, and when once there, the money by the third section of the Act cannot be touched until appropriated by Act of the General Assembly. But Your Lordship perhaps is not aware that the different accounts of the various expenses incurred by Deputy Surveyors and other persons employed in the surveying and laying out of the lands and timber berths in distant parts of the Province cannot be got in, adjusted and paid, or the correct amounts ascertained, until long after the purchase money or tonnage on the timber has been received, and those expenses cannot be paid out of the gross proceeds until the accounts are examined and passed by the proper authorities. I would therefore suggest that an amendment should be made in this section, directing that the accounts should be made up at the end of every quarter by the Receiver General or other proper officer appointed for that purpose, of all monies then in hand, and also of all expenses that have been properly incurred during