

to accede without a previous communication with you, and I have therefore to desire that you will inform me whether in your opinion Mr. Brenton can be allowed this extended leave of absence without injury to public interests.

You will at their next meeting bring Mr. Brenton's case under the consideration of the Legislature, and recommend it in the strongest manner to their favourable notice.

I have, &c.

(Signed)

NORMANBY.

Capt. Prescott, R. N.
C. B.

Memorial from Mr. Archibald, Clerk of the Supreme and Central Courts.

*To His Excellency Henry Prescott, Esq.,
Companion of the Most Honorable
Military Order of the Bath, Governor
and Commander-in-Chief in and over
the Island of Newfoundland and its
Dependencies, &c. &c.*

The memorial of Edward Mortimer Archibald, most humbly sheweth—

That by an act of the Legislature of the colony, passed in the fifth year of the reign of his late Majesty, the office of Clerk of the Central Circuit Court was combined with that of Chief Clerk and Registrar of the Supreme Court, then held by your memorialist, and the duties of the two offices were thrown upon him. That the salary previously paid and allowed to your memorialist was £400, with £100 out of the fees—in all £500; and that paid to the person holding the office of Clerk of the Central Circuit Court was £250—making in the whole the sum of £750; but that upon the combination of the two offices, the sum so paid for salary was reduced from £650 to £300, with an allowance of £200 out of the fees.

Your Memorialist further sheweth, that he hath accounted for all the fees so received by him in virtue of his office, up to the 1st day of April last, and hath paid over the excess into the hands of the Treasurer of the colony.

And your memorialist further sheweth, that on entering upon the duties of the united offices, he found it absolutely necessary to employ the services of an assistant, if not for the whole, at least for the greater part of the year; and that to ensure a competent and confidential one, he must necessarily be engaged for the whole of the year, and that your memorialist has consequently paid for the services of such an assistant for the 4 years ending on the first day of April last, the actual sum of £200 sterling.

That to any one acquainted with the practice of the Courts—the throng of suitors and others at your memorialists' office during term times, and for some considerable time before and after them, and the greatly increased duties at those seasons thrown upon the Clerk, compared with those under the former system of practice—it cannot but be obvious that it is impossible for one individual to despatch the business which falls to be performed by the person holding the office in question; and in support of this statement, your memorialist begs leave to refer