

TUESDAY, 10th. FEBRUARY, 1829.

[COPY—No. 2.]

Custom House, Halifax, 9th February, 1829.

SIR,

In obedience to the commands of His Excellency the Lieutenant-Governor, by your Note of this date, we have the honour to state, for His information, that it is with much surprize we observe by a Statement, made by the Lords Commissioners of His Majesty's Treasury, of the reduction in the amount of the total charge for the new Salaries, proposed to be paid out of the Colonial Revenue, compared with the amount which was levied in the shape of Custom-House Fees, in the several Colonies, previous to the passing of the Acts of the Imperial Parliament in the 6th year of His present Majesty.

From causes to be explained, their Lordships illustration appears unsupported as regards this Province ;—

The great and increasing trade of this Colony, under the new Acts, has required many new Officers and much additional increase in the Incidental Charges of this Department, and it will bear hard on the old Officers if the amount of fees formerly received by them should now be shared by the new and indispensable addition, when the great increase in the responsibility of the Officers is also considered, whereby the Colony derives a revenue of upwards of 18,000*l.* currency per annum, after the payment of the new Establishment, even in many branches of it with a paucity of salary inadequate to enable them to obtain other than the common necessities of life.

We beg briefly to state also, for His Excellency's information, that had the Principal Officers of H.M. Customs, since the year 1803, when the present Collector came into Office, considered themselves authorized to place the same construction on the Table of Fees bearing date 23d Dec. 1769, which those of the other North American Colonies did, we have no hesitation in stating, that the Officers of this Colony would have derived an income, equal in amount, if not exceeding, that of any other; and had they received the Fees on the Trade which the Law Officers of England considered other than Coasting, and even on the Coaster that which by Law they had a right to demand, the old Officers would not at this hour, as is apparent, be liable to a deduction in their Incomes, which, on the score of Justice, ought not to be invaded.

With these views of the case, which we beg with the utmost deference to submit to His Excellency for his pleasure thereon,

We have the honour to be, Sir, your obedient Servants.

(Signed)

T. N. JEFFERY, Collector.
J. WALLACE, Comptroller.

A true Copy. RUPERT D. GEORGE.

[—No. 3.]

COLONY.	Fees paid prior to 1826.	Salaries paid by the Crown, prior to 1826.	Incidental Charges paid by the Crown, 1826.	Total paid in 1826.		Salaries to be paid out of the Colonial Duties.	Salaries to be paid by the Crown.	Compensation paid by the Crown.	Incidental Charge to be borne by the Crown	Total to be defrayed.	
				By the Colony.	By the Crown.					By the Colony.	By the Crown.
Nova-Scotia.	£5800 19 1	912	358 14 8	5800 19 1	1270 14 8	6430 9 0	912	600	358 14 8	6430 9 0	1870 14 8

NOTE.—The Lords of the Treasury have been pleased to explain in their Communication to the Secretary of State, "that the Salaries are to be considered Sterling Money,—that they are to be paid at the rate of 4*s.* and 4*d.* per Dollar—and that this arrangement is to be carried into execution from the 5th January 1829."

A true Copy, RUPERT D. GEORGE.