

occasioned the loss of those sent up in former years to the Legislative Council, nor was any mention or allusion made in it to the reductions intended by the Assembly. It was, however, understood and insisted upon in debate in the Assembly, that the Executive were bound to look to the Journals of that House and to be guided by its votes, in the application of the sum mentioned in the Bill, and that a failure strictly to comply with these would be a sufficient and legitimate reason wholly to refuse a supply the ensuing year. No formal address upon the subject of the reductions intended, or with respect to the application of the sum voted for the year, was, however, sent to the Lieutenant Governor. He consequently by assenting to the Bill was in no respect pledged to the observance of any understanding which the Assembly may have thought proper to imply in the passing of it, although he might as matter of policy deem it expedient to look into the Journals of that House in order to take its sense and be guided in the application of the sum mentioned in the Bill, and at his disposition but without any other restriction than that it should be applied to defray the expenses of the Civil Government and administration of Justice for the current year.

Some debates occurred in the Assembly on the form of the Bill, which it was observed would if passed as proposed, be considered as a relinquishment by the Assembly of their pretensions to the controul and disposal of the whole revenue, and of the restrictions under which certain *items* had been voted by the House. This objection and others in connection with the subject, particularly that the Executive might not think it necessary to pay attention to the proposed reductions as unnoticed in the Bill, were met by the new doctrine that the votes of the House on the Civil Expenditure, as placed on the Journals of the Assembly, were tantamount to a law to which the Executive were to look and be bound at the hazard of a refusal of the Supply at the next Session. The majority taking the matter in this light, the Bill met with little opposition, (twenty for, and three against it) and being sent up to the Legislative Council, met with the concurrence of a great majority (two only voting against it) of that Branch. The Honorable John Richardson strongly expressed his dissatisfaction at the Bill, declaring it pregnant with still greater mis-

Debates in the
Assembly on
the Bill of
Supply.