

NEWFOUND-
LAND.

much to the advancement and protection of the public interests; among others which the Council might cite, they desire to call the attention of the Assembly to the amendments made by the Council to the Bill granting an additional sum of money towards the erection of a lighthouse on Harbour Grace Island; which amendment had for its object a very similar end to that hoped for in the amendments now offered to the Road Bill under consideration, namely, the protecting the colony against a wasteful expenditure of the public money. The Council would likewise advert to the very extensive amendments made by them to the Bill for the relief of sick and disabled seamen, fishermen, and other persons, which, being manifestly useful, were substantially acquiesced in by the Assembly.

If positive assertion on the part of the Assembly were sufficient to constitute a right to exclude the Council from all interference with whatever they might think proper to draw within the verge of their assumed privileges, the Council might, at no distant day, be thrust out of all participation in the deliberative duties assigned them by the same authority which enables the Assembly to make so large a claim upon their forbearance.

Should these pretensions of the Assembly be acquiesced in, that House would soon be in a condition to usurp all executive as well as legislative authority in matters of finance, which one clause of the Bill now under deliberation, to a very considerable extent, has for its object, by appointing all the members of the Assembly members of the several boards of commissioners named in the Bill for the expenditure of about three-fourths of the current year's colonial revenue, which, according to their notion of privilege, no one is to presume to interfere with; a pretension quite inconsistent either with the public good or the independent discharge of the trust reposed in the Council, and one which the Council will never yield to.

The Council entertain very serious doubts of the propriety of devoting so very large a proportion of the year's income to one object; and unless all reasonable means should be taken to guard against a lavish and improvident application of it, they would prefer its remaining in the treasury; and they do consequently insist upon the amendments made by them to the Bill in question.

Enclosure 4, in No. 10.

Encl. 4, in No. 10.

Mr. Speaker,

HER Majesty's Council, considering that the extreme period to which the present session has been protracted, renders it necessary that every possible effort should be made to bring the business of the Legislature to a close; and that, to avoid as far as possible the necessity of recurring to further conferences upon the subject of the Appropriation Bill, they have adopted the following Resolutions:

Resolved, that Her Majesty's Council will concur with the Assembly in passing a Bill for granting to Her Majesty a supply of money for defraying the expense of the civil government of this colony, for the year ending the 30th day of June, in the year of our Lord 1838, upon the principles stated by the Council at their conference on Friday last.

Resolved, that Her Majesty's Council will concur with the Assembly in passing a Bill appropriating money to defray the usual contingencies of the Legislature; to wit, the stipends to the clerks and writers employed under them, to the master in chancery and solicitor, the usher and serjeant-at-arms, to the door-keepers and messengers of both Houses; all disbursements for stationery and printing of every description, and tradesmen's bills for work done by order of either House, to be paid to the persons entitled to receive the same by warrant from his Excellency the Governor, upon a certificate of the officer under whose direction the charge shall have been incurred.

Resolved, that Her Majesty's Council will concur with the Assembly in appropriating the sum of 1,500*l.* to the district of St. John's, and the further sum of 1,500*l.* for the other districts, as proposed in the last Supply Bill; to be applied by commissioners to be appointed by his Excellency towards relieving the poor, and any further sum which the Assembly may deem requisite for that purpose; the expenditure to be general throughout each district, and not to be confined to the inhabitants of any particular town or place.

Resolved, that with an earnest desire to meet the wishes of the Assembly, Her Majesty's Council will apply their best consideration to the reasons which may move the Assembly to propose any other grant, so soon as they shall be put in possession of the facts and circumstances inducing the appropriation of such further sums.

Resolved, that the Council will concur in a Bill granting to Her Majesty a sum of money for paying 42*l.* to each member of the Assembly, who shall have attended his duty for that number of days during the session, to be certified by the Speaker.