

In reply to this communication, I beg leave to acquaint you for His Honor's information that the claims in question were brought forward by me on the receipt of my Commission and the copy of my instructions under which as Deputy Receiver I am authorized to act; and that I can admit of no person's interference as to when these claims should be made but my superiors, by whom I am appointed.

I must also beg leave to observe, that I cannot perceive what the Legislature of this Province has to do with the business. A certain sum of money is voted by the Provincial Legislature as wages to the Crews of the Cutters, and an Act of the Imperial Parliament enacts that Sixpence Sterling per Man per month, the Masters included, shall be paid to the Receiver General of Greenwich Hospital and his Deputies for the use of that Establishment.

This sum having been voted as above by the Provincial Legislature, what further have they to do with the matter? They are not called upon to vote a further sum, the money being at this moment in the Treasury, as will appear from the accompanying copy of a letter from the Deputy Provincial Treasurer.

I also beg leave to state that immediately upon receiving my Commission as Deputy Receiver, I applied, in the first instance to the late Captains of the Cutters, and that being informed by them that upon drawing the wages of themselves and Crews from the Treasury they had always left the Greenwich Hospital money in the Treasurer's hands not knowing to whom they should have paid it; it was upon receiving this information, and Mr. Robinson's acquainting me that the statement was correct, that I applied to His Honor on the subject.

I beg also to observe that your letter makes no mention of the Revenue Cutter "Elizabeth," saying only that "Captain Baxter did give the Province credit for something of the kind." I have therefore the honor to request you will acquaint me at your earliest convenience whether the account of that vessel is acknowledged or not.

In conclusion I beg leave to acquaint you, that by my Instructions I have the power of detaining all vessels till the Hospital money is paid, and that I should certainly have detained the "Defiance" till I had received the money instead of allowing her to proceed to Saint John to be sold, had I not understood from Mr. Robinson, that he had no doubt that the subject only required representation. You will also have the goodness to acquaint me whether His Honor wishes your letter of the 28th ult. to be sent Home as his final reply to my application.

I have the honor, &c.

(Signed) J. M. SPEARMAN.

JOHN BLACK, Esquire, Private Secretary, &c.

(COPY.)

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*Secretary's Office, Fredericton, 18th July, 1831.*

SIR,

By direction of His Honor the President, I have the honor to state to you in answer to your letter of the 4th instant addressed to John Black, Esquire, on the subject of Greenwich Hospital money stated to be due from the Crews of the Revenue Cutters