

former occasion, to defray the expenses of His Majesty's provincial government, with a liberality which did you honour."

Thus your committee perceive that the House of Assembly had offered, in 1810, to charge itself with all the civil expenses of the government, without exception, and without restriction, and they also find from the speech above cited, that this offer was accepted in its full extent. They perceive also that, in consequence of this new order of things, the House of Assembly was forthwith called upon to provide for all "the civil expenses of the government," which in fact they did, so far as depended on them.

The same principles, and a demand altogether similar, are found in the speech of his grace the Duke of Richmond, at the opening of the session, in 1819, and also in the message of the 3d of March in the same year, by which his grace calls upon this house to make *sufficient appropriation for defraying the regular and contingent expenses of the province*

If your committee have entered into these details, it is only on account of the difficulties which, for some time past, have arisen in this province. It has been pretended that the provincial legislature, charged with all the expenses of the civil government of this province, had not at its disposal the whole revenue of the province, to meet those expenses, and especially that of the revenue arising from the act of the 14th Geo. III. cap. 88, which it was pretended remained at the disposal of His Majesty's executive government of this province, as well as the casual and territorial revenues.

Your committee will rather examine than refute this opinion, against which arguments and facts equally militate. In fact, the act of the 14th Geo. III. cap. 88, among other things, provided "a fund towards defraying the charges of the administration of justice and support of the civil government within the province of Quebec," at a time when no other means for defraying those necessary expenses were established. But in charging the provincial legislature, in 1818, with the payment of all the expenses of the civil government of the province, without exception, doubtless its entire means must have been placed in the hands of the legislature. In fact, the executive government being, by the new order of things, exonerated from the charge of defraying the expenses of the administration of justice, and the support of the civil government, has no longer any pretext for levying and disposing of the imposts specially established for defraying the expenses of the administration of justice, and the support of the civil government.

It may here further be remarked, that it is only since the year 1818, that the public accounts annually laid before the legislature, by order of the several governors of this province, have invariably mingled His Majesty's casual and territorial