

sume it should, on the ground of the preponderance of benefits, the burthen will have this further alleviation, that—by assuming it *now*—an important discussion is quieted, and any future increase in the expense of the Customs effectually prevented.

On the whole subject, the Committee have agreed in accordance with the Address of 1827, to recommend, as follows—

1st, That an Act of the Assembly be passed for granting to His Majesty, in lieu of all Fees, &c. at the Customs, the sum of £6430 9s. sterling, annually, to defray the expense of the whole Establishment. This sum to be paid out of the Treasury quarterly, in such monies as are usually paid thereat, and to the persons appointed to receive it—and out of the proceeds of all Duties levied on Foreign Imports under the Imperial Acts, but *not* from any other portion of our Revenue. That the balance retained by the Custom-House Officers be granted as a free gift to His Majesty.

2d. That the Bill contain the most express Declaration of the Right of this Assembly to the sole disposal of the Duties; and also Provisoes to compel the due payment of the Produce, and the rendering of the Accounts; also to secure the accountability of the Officers for the Duties, in the same way as Officers of the Provincial Revenue are liable thereto.

3d. That a suspending clause be added till His Majesty's Assent be obtained.

In the method thus recommended, the Committee perceive a fair and reasonable acquiescence with the proposals of their Lordships, and a due adherence to the Principles on which the Addresses from this House proceeded:—a great saving on the present salaries is effected—and the rights and privileges of the House preserved unimpaired. At the same time, there will be manifested, on the part of this Colony, a deep and gratefully expressed sense of the benefits derived from His Majesty's Paternal Government;—and full confidence in its Justice.

The Committee further suggest, that a scale of Salaries and Allowances should accompany the Bill, if pas-