

Mr. Speaker laid before the House a Letter from the Honourable Mr. Secretary CROWDY, stating that he was commanded by His Excellency the Governor to call the attention of the House to the necessity for a Fire Break between Church Hill and Fort William, in the Town of St. John's.

Ordered,—That the said Letter do lie on the Table.

Mr. HOYLES moved that leave be granted him to bring in a Bill for opening a Fire Break in the eastern part of the Town of St. John's; which,

being seconded and put, and the House dividing thereon, there appeared for the motion, four, against it, three.

For the Motion.	Against the Motion.
Mr. KENT	Mr. BENNETT
— THOMAS	— W. BROWN
— HOYLES	— CARTER.
— KOUGH.	

So it passed in the affirmative.

Then the House adjourned until to-morrow, at twelve of the clock.

SATURDAY, MAY 25, 1833.

MR. HOYLES, pursuant to leave given, presented a Bill for opening a Public Street and Fire Break in the Town of St. John's; and the same was read a first time.

Resolved,—That the Bill be read a second time.

A Message from the Council by Mr. AYRE.

Mr. Speaker,—The Legislative Council agree to the Conference asked by the House of Assembly on the Amendments proposed to the Marriage Bill, and to the Bill in amendment of the Judicature Act; and have appointed two Managers to meet the Managers on the part of the House, immediately in the Committee-Room.

And then the Messenger withdrew.

Ordered,—That Mr. THOMAS, Mr. KOUGH, Mr. HOYLES, and Mr. CARTER do manage the said conference.

On motion of Mr. CARTER,

Resolved,—That the Committee appointed to manage the conference with the Legislative Council, on the subject of the Amendments proposed to the Bill in amendment of the Judicature Act, be instructed to state to the Committee of the Council that the House of Assembly cannot agree to the amendment numbered five, by which it is proposed that an attachment shall in no case issue for any sum below five pounds, as the House conceive that the enactment authorising the issue of attachments for sums of two pounds and upwards is much wanted, and will be found highly beneficial to all classes of persons concerned in trade, but more particularly to small traders and poor persons, to whom sums of trifling amount, but of great importance to them, are due from strangers and others whose residence is not fixed in the Island, and that without the aid of such process these small traders and poor persons must in most cases suffer the loss of their just debts. That for a period of more than thirty years, the laws of the colony authorized the issuing of attachments for debts of the amount of five pounds and upwards, until by the Act of the 5th Geo. 4, chap. 67, the sum was raised to ten pounds, and, during that period, the operation of this law was found highly advantageous, and no complaints were made against it. That the House have been in some measure influenced in fixing the sum for which an attachment may issue at two pounds, by

the almost unanimous opinion of the Commercial Body (who are well able to judge of the effects of such a regulation) in favour of the measure.

That the House of Assembly cannot agree to the amendments numbered nine, ten, and eleven, by which it is proposed that there shall be an appeal from the decisions of the Courts of Sessions in all cases exceeding five pounds, as the House are of opinion that the granting such power of appeal would, in most cases, operate in favour of the merchants and planters, and most severely against the poor labourers and servants. It is of the utmost importance that servants and labourers in the outports of the Island should have a final and speedy decision upon their claims and disputes. That in most cases of appeal from the decisions of the Courts of Sessions in the outports, the poor man must suffer very great want and inconvenience before the appeal can be decided, and the House are fearful such a measure, instead of affording any advantages to the poorer classes, would only give the rich and powerful the means of oppressing them. The House having, by the tenth section of the Bill, allowed the intervention of a Jury at the option of either party, conceive that this would be a sufficient safeguard in such cases, against any supposed partiality on the part of the said Courts of Sessions. And lastly, that the House have been induced to extend the powers of the Courts of Sessions in these cases from the beneficial operation of the old laws, which, for a great length of time, gave to Justices of the Peace and to the Courts of Sessions, more extensive powers than are contemplated by this Bill.

On motion of Mr. THOMAS,

Resolved,—That the Committee appointed to manage the conference with the Legislative Council on the amendments proposed to the Bill for regulating the celebration of Marriages, be instructed to state to the Committee of the Council, that it is the opinion of this House that it would be more desirable that the conviction mentioned in the amendment numbered five, should take place in the Supreme or Circuit Courts of this Island, than privately before a single Judge, and they suggest the propriety of such an alteration of the amendment being made. That this amendment does not apply to His Majesty's Roman Catholic subjects,