

1st August, 1833.

SIR THOMAS JOHN COCHRANE, KNIGHT, *Governor.*

THURSDAY, 1st AUGUST, 1833.

Present,

His Honor Acting Chief Judge SIMMS, President,
The Honorable Lieutenant Colonel SALL, Commandant,
 „ „ JAMES CROWDY, Esquire, *Colonial Secretary.*
 „ „ W. HALY, Esquire,
 „ „ H. P. THOMAS, Esquire,
 „ „ J. B. BLAND, Esquire.

The Council having assembled at the Council Chamber, at the Court House, the Serjeant-at-Arms was directed to summon the attendance of the Speaker and House of Assembly.

His Excellency the Governor arrived at one o'clock, and shortly afterwards the Speaker and Members of the Assembly were admitted to the Bar of the Council, when His Excellency was pleased to give his assent to the Bills entitled—

“An Act to annex Broad Cove and other places therein-mentioned to the District of St. John's;”

“An Act to prevent dangerous quantities of Gunpowder being kept within the Town of Carbonear;”

“An Act to regulate the Building of Houses in Water Street in the Town of St. John's;”

“An Act to amend an Act of the General Assembly of this Island, passed in the Third Year of His present Majesty's Reign, entitled ‘an Act to establish and regulate Fire Companies in the Town of Harbor Grace;’”

“An Act to amend an Act of the General Assembly, entitled ‘An Act to regulate the Streets of the Town of Harbor Grace.’”

His Excellency then addressed the Council and Assembly as follows :

Mr. President, and Gentlemen of His Majesty's Council,
Mr. Speaker and Gentlemen of the House of Assembly,—

I am happy to have it in my power to release you from your Parliamentary duties, which have from various circumstances been extended to a period which I fear must have proved inconvenient to you, and to which you have devoted yourselves with a zeal and attention which cannot but reflect much credit upon you, and convey to the people an assurance that their Representatives have been anxious to fulfil the trust confided to them.

Mr. Speaker and Gentlemen of the House of Assembly,

It is satisfactory to think that the question as to your powers to levy Local Duties is now finally set at rest; and I thank you for the promptitude with which you have devoted your attention to the improvement of the Revenue; and I will not omit this opportunity to reiterate the sense I entertain of the anxiety you evinced to obviate any inconvenience that might arise from the loss of the Revenue Bill, in placing the growing duties at my disposal; and I trust you will not upon this, or any other occasion, find reason to regret the confidence you have reposed in me.

Mr. President and Gentlemen of His Majesty's Council,
Mr. Speaker and Gentlemen of the House of Assembly,

It has afforded me much gratification to perceive, that neither on the difference which occurred between the two Branches of the Legislature, on the subject of the Revenue Bill, nor on any different view taken by them in the course of the Session, on points of minor importance, has there been any interruption to that harmony and good understanding which ought at all times to exist between two such important bodies.

It is only by collision of opinion that truth is elicited; and were one or other branch of the Legislature implicitly to follow the views of the other, the great advantage to a sound decision, derived from separate discussion, would be entirely lost.

Though it may be said that your labours have not been in proportion to the length of time you have been in Session, yet it is neither a proof of a want of exertion or of the exercise of a sound discretion on your parts. On the first establishment of a new institution like the