

doubt, the persons having the execution of this part of the law should now account to Government for the proceeds of this seizure.

Petitioner further complains, that having broken up his establishment at his house, he was compelled, amidst these unpromising circumstances, still to pursue his object of settling in the Province; and in the winter of the same year he brought in his wife and children, and having erected a house on Yonge Street, accommodated for an Inn, he applied for a licence, which was refused, as he had not taken the oath of allegiance. He accordingly applied to the Magistrates for this purpose, but was refused, though bearing written testimonials of his fitness and good conduct. He further applied to the Honourable Samuel Smith, then administering the Government, for the same purpose, but was still refused.

That your Petitioner, having his house erected and furnished as an Inn, under the pressure of this embarrassment procured a friend, one Patterson, to take out a Tavern License for his House; and, this done, he entered on the business of Inn-Keeping. Shortly after, he was informed against by William Allan, Esq., then Inspector of the Town of York, for selling spirituous liquors without license, and was fined £20 because his license was not assigned to him by Patterson according to law.

Your Committee, having examined into the legality of the proceedings, must report to your honourable House, that they have been, as far as they can judge, legal; yet the law has been, nevertheless, oppressive, in the instance of the Petitioner, who, coming in, bona fide, as a settler, so long ago as 1815, and ever since having passed a sober, useful and industrious life, has fallen most undeservedly a victim to the unreasonable rigour of the law, contrary to the true spirit of the British Statute 30th Geo. 3d. ch. 27, "for encouraging new settlers in his Majesty's Colonies and Plantations in America."

Your Petitioner, reduced to distress, even to temporary imprisonment in jail for debt, seems to place his hopes of some relief from your Honourable House; and your Committee are induced to recommend him for a small pecuniary relief, to be proposed in the Committee of Supply, it being the only way in which the severity of the law can be mitigated in such a case, and as the recovery of the proceeds of the seizure will, at least to some extent, reimburse the public; upon which part of the subject, your Committee beg leave to report, that, by the evidence, it appears certain that the sum of £20 was paid for the boat, either to the Collector or his Deputy, but to which, in particular, does not appear. The former assures your Committee, that, to the best of his recollection and belief, he did not receive it; and the latter assures your Committee, positively, that he did not receive it. Besides these twenty pounds, the proceeds of the Goods sold, and the tackle and rigging not sold, remain also to be accounted for, but your Committee have not been able to trace the matter out.

Your Committee have, in the course of their enquiry, witnessed much inconvenience from placing the collection of duties in the hands of persons in trade, either as principals or deputies.

They forbear to report the evidence, merely as adding unnecessarily to the public expense.

(Signed) JESSE KETCHUM, *Chairman.*

Committee Room, Commons House of Assembly, }
February 26th, 1830. }