

October, 1835, stated it to be their intention to waive the privilege then claimed for the present Session, provided the Bill of Appropriation contained no other items of expenditure than those to which His Majesty's Council would have been inclined to have given their assent had they been submitted separately for their consideration; but at the same time that His Majesty's Council would have been disposed to concede minor points of difference, from their anxious desire to promote the public welfare, they conceived that their situation in the Government involved a duty the departure from which would have been a sacrifice of principle, and that they could not assent to.

"In the first place, His Majesty's Council, although they claimed no right of originating, considered it to be incumbent on them to guard against any appropriations, however desirable, which may exceed the disposable funds of the Colony, and thereby lead to Public embarrassments. And secondly, His Majesty's Council considered it equally their duty to prevent, if possible, an improvident expenditure.

"In support of the necessity of the first assumption, the committee were directed to lay before the House of Assembly, a statement of the net Revenue raised by the Bills of Supply passed last year, together with the appropriation of the monies arising from these bills, from which it would appear, that the former amounted to £1428, and the latter to £2161, leaving a deficiency of Revenue to meet the appropriation of £733, for which no provision is made in the present bill.

"The Committee were further directed to state, that the items of appropriation included in the bill then before the Council amounted in the aggregate to about £2823, which the House of Assembly proposed realizing by a Duty of Impost similar to that which was comprehended in the two bills passed last Session, with the exception of the Duty on Foreign Spirits and Wines, which were 7d. per gallon less, and Rum imported direct from the West Indies, which was reduced 1d. per gallon: To these bills was added an ad-valorem Duty Bill of £2½ per cent on all Goods, Wares, and Merchandizes imported into this Island, with certain exceptions; but the latter had yet to receive the Royal Assent, being a tax on British manufactures; from the average of last year, and the present depressed state of commerce, would not admit of a higher calculation, the utmost Revenue that could be expected from the first two mentioned bills would not exceed £1270, the reduction of duty being equal to about £200: supposing the ad-valorem duty bill to be in operation, this would cause an addition, at the most sanguine calculation, of not more than £600, which would make the Revenue to be raised under the bills which had passed this Session to amount to £1870, being a less sum by nearly £1000 than the House of Assembly had appropriated.

"His Majesty's Council had directed the above statement to be made in conference, under the impression that the House of Assembly would have been induced to have limited and amended the Bill of Appropriation in such a way as to have brought it within the funds at the disposal of the Legislature, and to have met the views of each branch, so that the bill might not be perilled; in furtherance of which, the Committee were directed to state, for the information of the House of Assembly, those items of expenditure included in the Appropriation Bill which appeared to His Majesty's Council the most objectionable, and to which they would not have been inclined to have given their assent.

"The Committee, on their return from the conference, reported, that they had proceeded thus far in delivering the Message of His Majesty's Council, and were about to explain the Objectionable Items, when they were interrupted by the Attorney General, who although not named as one of the Committee in the message delivered at the bar of His Majesty's Council granting a conference, acted as chairman, and produced a written order from the House of Assembly, inhibiting their Committee from entering into any discussion on the items of expenditure, an interference in which, in any way, on the part of the Council, being considered an infringement on their rights and privileges; and he further stated, that the committee were not authorised to receive any message in which any observations were made on the different appropriations.

"His Majesty's Council were thus precluded from offering any exception to the bill, on its merits; although there were many of the 14 items of which it was composed, which His Majesty's Council deemed very exceptionable, and to which the funds at the disposal of the Legislature were very inadequate.

"His Majesty's Council, aware that they could not amend, and having been refused in conference to be heard on their exceptions, conceived it to be their indispensable duty, and conducive to the real interest of the Colony, to return the Bill of Appropriation sent up to them, not concurred in.

J. E. CARMICHAEL, C. C.

A message from the House of Assembly, by Mr. McNeill:

"Mr. President,

"The House of Assembly have passed a bill intituled "an act to alter, amend, and in part repeal an act intituled an act to repeal an act made and passed in the 41st year of his present Majesty's reign, intituled an act for the better regulation of Elections, and to regulate Elections for Members