

"Resolved, as the opinion of this Committee, that it is not expedient to make provision for the payment of the expenses of the Legislative Council as recommended by the Message of His Excellency the Lieutenant Governor, of the 13th instant."

We see that *prompt attention* was paid by the House to the *opinion and recommendation*, but they could not concur in the one nor comply with the other. The reasons for this decision of the House are unanswerable. Let us examine them:—The Members of the Council hold their office "during pleasure," (i. e.) so long as the King is pleased with their conduct. They are invested by the Executive with the *power, influence and honour* of their office, and, as they must value such investment, they would at all times, in all their official acts, be watchful of preserving it. Holding "during pleasure," the first and leading object with them would be, to regulate all their deliberations and proceedings with a view to conform with the wishes and interests of him by whom they were spoken into official existence; as any act adverse to those wishes and interests, by incurring displeasure, would be a breach of the condition of tenure, and render them liable to the immediate forfeiture of their office. Then it appears that the Legislative Council is not an *independent* branch of the Legislature, but *dependent* on the *pleasure* of the Government. But it is said, that they stand in the same relation to the first and third branches of the Legislature as do the Peers of England. Now every student of the British Constitution must have observed, that the *Lords* are intended, on the *one* hand to prevent the too great encroachment of the people on the rights and prerogatives of the Crown; and on the *other* hand to restrain the injurious exercise of the Royal prerogative against the interests of the people. The *Lords*, holding *for life*, can feel no apprehension of being divested of their office from having repelled the aggressions of a despotic and rapacious King, and therefore they are adapted to their constitutional position, and are always *free* to effect that for which they were obviously designed. Here